



SERMON NOTES

December 4, 2011

Scripture: Luke 18:35-43 (NAS)

Topic: "Taking Hold of the Opportunity"

Rev. Bruce Gardner

35 As Jesus was approaching Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the road begging.
36 Now hearing a crowd going by, he began to inquire what this was.
37 They told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by.
38 And he called out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"
39 Those who led the way were sternly telling him to be quiet; but he kept crying out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"
40 And Jesus stopped and commanded that he be brought to Him; and when he came near, He questioned him,
41 "What do you want Me to do for you?" And he said, "Lord, I want to regain my sight!"
42 And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well."
43 Immediately he regained his sight and began following Him, glorifying God; and when all the people saw it, they gave praise to God.

I. OPPORTUNITIES

- A. There Are Many Missed Opportunities In Life
- B. This Blind Man Was Not About To Miss His Opportunity

II. HARMONIC ISSUES

- A. Two Blind Men Or Only One?
- B. Entering Jericho Or Leaving The City?
- C. Different Individuals See The Same Events Differently

III. THE BLIND MAN GIVEN SIGHT

- A. Only Jesus In Scripture Gives Sight To The Blind
- B. This Is Evidence Of His Messiahship *Isaiah 35:4,5; Luke 7:20-22*

IV. THE CHARACTER OF BARIMAEUS' FAITH

- A. It Was Properly Placed In The Messiah, The Son Of David I
Samuel 7:12-13; Luke 1:27; 2:4
- B. The Second Key Ingredient Was His Plea For Mercy
- C. His Faith Was Confident He Would Not Be Hindered *James 1:6-8*
- D. His Faith Was Specific In His Request For Sight
- E. His Faith Was Not His Own But From The Lord *Ephesians 2:8*
- F. His Faith Placed The Glory Where It Was Properly Due *James 3:5; II Corinthians 10:17*
- G. His Faith Lead Others To Glorify God