



SERMON NOTES

July 23, 2017

Scripture: John 9:13-23 (NAS)

"Portrait of A Self-Righteous Man"

Rev. Bruce Gardner

- 13 They brought to the Pharisees him who was formerly blind.
14 Now it was a Sabbath on the day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes.
15 Again, therefore, the Pharisees also were asking him how he received his sight. And he said to them, "He applied clay to my eyes, and I washed, and I see."
16 Therefore some of the Pharisees were saying, "This man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." But others were saying, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And there was a division among them.
17 They said therefore to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him, since He opened your eyes?" And he said, "He is a prophet."
18 The Jews therefore did not believe it of him, that he had been blind, and had received sight, until they called the parents of the very one who had received his sight,
19 and questioned them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? Then how does he now see?"
20 His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind;
21 but how he now sees, we do not know; or who opened his eyes, we do not know. Ask him; he is of age, he shall speak for himself."
22 His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed, that if anyone should confess Him to be Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue.
23 For this reason his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

I. A SABBATH MIRACLE

- A. Caused A Flurry Or Debate
- B. Pharisees Became Aware
- C. Pharisees Moved From Debate To Inquisition

II. JESUS' ACTIONS

- A. Jesus Did Not Break The Sabbath *Hebrews 4:15*
- B. God's Command Concerning The Sabbath *Exodus 20:8-10; Isaiah 58:13*

III. PHARISEES RESTRUCTURED THE LAW CONCERNING THE SABBATH

- A. They Had 39 Categories Of Work
- B. Under Their Code Jesus Had Broken Several Rabbinic Laws
 - 1. Making mud was work
 - 2. Giving medical attention when a person was not dying prohibited
 - 3. It was prohibited to put spittle on a person's eye

IV. JESUS STOOD AGAINST SELF- RIGHTEOUS LEGALISM

- A. The Pharisees Made Rules For Self-Aggrandizement
- B. We, Too, Can Be Guilty Of Making Rules In Self-Righteousness
 - 1. They are designed to bolster pride in self-righteousness
 - 2. They may give us a pedestal from which to look down on others
- C. Jesus Also Showed Compassion
 - 1. Absent in the Pharisees
 - 2. Is it absent in us?