



## **SERMON NOTES**

July 2, 2017

Scripture: John 9:1-5 (NAS)

"Ministering to Those Who Are Hurting"

Rev. Bruce Gardner

- 1 And as He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth.
- 2 And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he should be born blind?"
- 3 Jesus answered, "It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents; but it was in order that the works of God might be displayed in him.
- 4 "We must work the works of Him who sent Me, as long as it is day; night is coming, when no man can work.
- 5 "While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

### **I. THE BEGINNING OF MINISTRY**

A. Jesus Saw A Man Born Blind

B. He Addressed The Needs Of That Man *Matthew 9:12-13*

### **II. THE DISCIPLES QUESTION**

A. Why Was This Man Born Blind?

1. Did he sin?
  - a. False. New age views—karma
  - b. Did he sin in the womb?
2. Did his parents sin?
  - a. Some biblical grounds *Exodus 20:5*
  - b. This idea is negated *Ezekiel 18:20*
3. Does God punish all sin immediately?
  - a. What did he do to deserve this is a wrong focus
    1. Jobs, counselors
    2. Jesus' command not to judge *Matthew 7:1*

B. Purpose In Suffering

1. Because we live in a sinful broken world
2. For our improvement *James 1:2-4*
3. God's discipline *Hebrews 12:7-10*
4. Trials draw us closer to God
5. Strengthens our faith
6. That God might be glorified *II Corinthians 12:7*

### **III. SUFFERING LEADS TO OPPORTUNITIES OF MINISTRY**

A. Disciples Had Wrong Response

B. We Must Work The Works Of God

1. Called to be a light
2. To serve
3. To worship
4. To evangelize