

## Healing A Blind and Deaf Man

"But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you" (Luke 11:20).

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Jesus in His compassionate ministry continued to help the helpless, even though His good works were not always appreciated by all. He however used every development as opportunity to proclaim the eternal truth of the Gospel.

"Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw. 23 And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the son of David? 24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils. 25 And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation: and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand: 26 And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand? 27 And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your children cast them out? therefore they shall be your judges. 28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you. 29 Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house. 30 He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad" (Matthew 12:22-30; see also Luke 11:14-23).

- This man had multiple problems demon possessed, blind and dumb. It is probable that
  the demonic possession either caused or sustained the other physical conditions. Similarly, demonic influence can hinder a person
  from "seeing" and "speaking" the truth of God.
- Jesus healed the man of all his problems. He is still the same today and willing to heal any condition brought to Him.
- 3) Reactions to divine interventions in human affairs reveal the nature of mankind. Note the three kinds of reactions here:
  - Amazement with perplexity: "And all the people were amazed, and said, is not this

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- Scepticism with despiteful curiousity: "And others, tempting him, sought of him a sign from heaven" (Luke 11:16).
- Opposition and false accusation: "But some of them said, He casted out devils through Beelzebub the chief of the devils" (Luke 11:15).
- 4) Jesus knew their thoughts. He does yours too! He was not deterred from their negative attitudes and criticisms; neither did He ignore their thoughts and comments, but rather used them as opportunity to teach them these vital scriptural principles:
  - The damaging effects of division and internal conflicts: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand" (Matthew 12:25).
  - The fallacy of their criticism: "And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand?" (Matthew 12:26).
  - The true source of His power and implications: "But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you..." (Luke 11:20).
  - It takes God's greater power to defeat satan's lower power and demolish his strongholds, thereby setting the captives free (Luke 11:21-22).
  - Our attitude, actions and words determine which of the two camps we belong to. There is no middle ground and we cannot "sit on a fence". "He that is not with me is against me: and he that gathereth not with me scattereth" (Luke 11:23).

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