



The Double Touch For Perfect Vision

“After that He put his hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly” (Mark 8:25).

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“And he cometh to Bethsaida; and they bring a blind man unto him, and besought him to touch him. 23 And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes, and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought. 24 And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking. 25 After that he put his hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly. 26 And he sent him away to his house, saying, Neither go into the town, nor tell it to any in the town” (Mark 8:22-26).

The miracle of the opening of the eye of the blind man of Bethsaida provides us with valuable insights and lessons that can benefit our spiritual lives if we pay attention to them.

- 1) This was not the first, and probably not the last time that Jesus visited Bethsaida. In fact three of his disciples - Philip, Peter and Andrew were from Bethsaida. Therefore, this town was not a stranger to Jesus, His ministry or of the power of God. This is probably the reason why the citizens brought “a blind man unto him, and besought him to touch him” (vs 22) on hearing of His arrival in the town.
- 2) “And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him ...” (vs 23). By doing this personally reveals to us that Jesus treated every body with value and respect irrespective of their status in society or peculiar circumstances. He did not ask the people who brought the man to him or his disciples to do this, but personally did so by himself. Every body was created in the image and likeness of God and deserve to be well treated and with respect.
- 3) “And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the town” (vs 23). This is interesting and begs the question as to why Jesus had to lead this man out of the town before performing the miracle. Would the impact of the miracle not have made other residents to believe in him? Well, Bethsaida was a peculi-

“I see men as trees, walking” (Mark 8:24).

ar place, in that despite the many manifestations of God’s power that they had seen, they chose to live in doubt and unbelief. How do we know this? Because in Matthew 11:21 Jesus rebuked them for unbelief: “... woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes”. Jesus was not going to cast pearls before swines (Matthew 7:6), neither did he want the culture of doubt and unbelief in the town to negatively hinder this man from getting his miracle. As God led Abraham out of Ur of the Chaldees before fulfilling his promises to him, sometimes God may chose to lead us away from certain places and people before blessing us. At another time, when the disciples came back with testimonies of a successful ministry, Jesus “... took them, and went aside privately into a desert place belonging to the city called Bethsaida” (Luke 9:10). A life of faith will open doors to divine privileges, miracles and blessings; but that of doubt will shut the door. Note that after the miracle, Jesus instructed the man “Neither go into the town, nor tell it o any in the town” (vs 26).

- 4) On the first touch, the man received partial healing as he saw men as trees walking. Some miracles can be instantaneous and others may be progressive. Whichever, we must appreciate them and give glory to God. This man did not run away with the partial sight, out of excitement, but stayed behind for a second touch that restored perfect sight. Remember the adage “A little knowledge is better than none, but sometimes it makes a wise man become a fool”. Oh, how we need to stay a little longer with Jesus for the second touch that will restore perfect solution to all of our problems!