



## [John 9:1-5](#)

(1) Now as *Jesus* passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. (2) And His disciples asked Him, saying, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' (3) Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. (4) I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; *the* night is coming when no one can work. (5) As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.'

*New King James Version*

The first lesson to be learned from this miracle is that sinful man cannot frustrate [God](#). Rather, God accomplishes His purposes sovereignly, saving by [grace](#) those whom He chooses to call to Himself. Even man's hatred cannot frustrate God, seen clearly in this miracle story. [Jesus](#) seems undisturbed by the religious leaders' attempt to stone Him, an action that would have created great turmoil in the Temple precincts. Yet, a moment later, after Jesus had removed Himself, we find Him stopping beside a blind beggar sitting near the Temple gate. In a similar situation, most of us would scarcely have seen the beggar, being more concerned with being pursued and distancing ourselves from the enemy. Not Jesus!

He had God's perspective and acted accordingly. Therefore, instead of complying with the prohibitions of sinful men, Christ simply perseveres in His task and begins to elect some to [salvation](#). As Paul writes of God in [Romans 9:15](#), "I will have [mercy](#) on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."

The poor blind man symbolizes the state of the lost apart from the creative and transforming power of Christ. On the one hand, the rulers of the people, the Pharisees, can see physically but are spiritually blind. On the other, the blind man cannot see physically, but Christ makes him see both physically and spiritually. By the end of the story, we find him worshipping Jesus as the Son of God.

— Martin G. Collins

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for John 9:1-5 (<http://www.theberean.org>)

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