

Matthew 20:29-34

What Do You See?

February 16, 2020 – Rev. Rick Lyon

Intro

Mt. 20:29 - Now as they went out of Jericho, a great multitude followed Him. And behold, two blind men sitting by the road, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, saying, “Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!” Then the multitude warned them that they should be quiet; but they cried out all the more, saying, “Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!” So Jesus stood still and called them, and said, “What do you want Me to do for you?” They said to Him, “Lord, that our eyes may be opened.” So Jesus had compassion and touched their eyes. And immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed Him.

1. The blind men saw their need.

v.29 - as they went out of Jericho, a *great multitude* followed Him

Everyone of us have needs.

- **Some of us need to be *more patient***
- **Some of us need to be *kinder***
- **Some of us need *more courage***
- **Some of us need to be *more generous***
- **Some of us need to *forgive* someone**
- **Some of us have *health issues***
- **Some of us have *financial problems***
- **Some of us need to be *less critical***
- **Some of us need to be *more faithful***

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Revelation 3:17 - "You say, 'I'm rich and need nothing,' and *you don't realize* that you're wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked."

This story is found in Matthew, Mark and Luke.

- **Matthew tells us this happened as Jesus was leaving Jericho.**
- **Luke tells us this happened as Jesus was approaching Jericho.**

A few hundred years after that, King Herod built a new city of Jericho, just south of the ruins of the old city.

Matthew records that Jesus was leaving the OT city of Jericho.

Luke records that Jesus was approaching the NT city of Jericho.

2. The blind men saw Jesus.

v.30 - when they heard that Jesus was passing by, they cried out, saying, "Have mercy on us, O Lord, *Son of David!*"

Philippians 3:8-10 - I consider everything loss compared to the surpassing greatness of *knowing Christ* Jesus my Lord... I want to *know Christ* and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in His sufferings, *becoming like Him*...

Galatians 5:22-23 - The *fruit of the Spirit* is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.

3. The blind men saw their opportunity.

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The Arabs have a proverb: *There are four things that don't come back: the spoken word; the spent arrow; time past; the neglected opportunity.*

Stephen Grellet: *"I shall pass through this world but once. Any good, therefore, that I can do or any kindness I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer it or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."*

v.31 - the multitude warned them that they should be quiet; but they cried out all the more, saying, "Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!"

The verb "cried out" is in the imperfect tense, which means continual action.

"Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us!"

"Be quiet you two!"

"Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us!"

"Stop it. You're embarrassing us!"

"Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us!"

"Would you be quiet!"

"Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us!"

"Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us!"

4. The blind men saw themselves.

Back in verse 18, Jesus said: "We're going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed... and they'll condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles to mock and to whip and to crucify. And the third day He'll rise again."

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5. The blind men saw what they should do.

v.34 - So Jesus had compassion and touched their eyes. And immediately their eyes received sight, *and they followed Him.*

Conclusion - Heavenly Father, I pray that today you would open our eyes. Open our eyes so that we can...

- see our needs
- see You more clearly
- see ourselves like You see us
- see what we should do
