

The HEARING OF Faith

LIVING STREAM MINISTRY RADIO NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 85, JULY-SEPTEMBER, 2005

"He therefore who bountifully supplies to you the Spirit . . . does He do it out of the works of law or out of the hearing of faith?" Galatians 3:5

In

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Dear Life-study Listener,

Did you ever want to have a Bible study, but you did not know where to begin? We would like to pass on an idea that some of our listeners in different parts of the world have told us about. Some are gathering in small groups to listen to the *Life-Study of the Bible* radio messages. As you know, most of the broadcasts are divided into three small segments, with Witness Lee sharing insights from portions of the Scripture. Each part is introduced and followed by a brief discussion by the host and his guest. Many have found this to be an ideal format for bringing to light the deeper meaning of the Bible. The printed messages contain much more information than the shorter spoken messages so they are ideal for home study and further discussion.

This issue of *The Hearing of Faith* has an encouraging article on page two entitled "Accepting our Circumstances." We all need to see that our "circumstances are actually God coming to us in disguise." Whether we are going through good situations or difficult ones, it is very heartening to realize that according to God's faithful Word everything is working for good.

Living Stream Ministry

WHAT IS THE HEALING OF BLINDNESS IN THE GOSPEL OF MARK?

[In Mark chapter 10] the Lord asked the same question both of James and John and of Bartimaeus: "What do you want Me to do for you?" (vv. 36, 51). In the Lord's understanding, the two sons of thunder were the same as the poor beggar. However, there was a significant difference: James and John begged in a wrong way, but Bartimaeus begged in a right way. James and John

(continued on page 3)

Life-Study of the Bible

W E L C O M E S

AUGUSTA, GA

WFAM 1050 AM

6:00 A.M. & 8:30 A.M. MON-FRI

HEALING OF BLINDNESS (continued from page 1)

asked to sit on the Lord's right and left, but Bartimaeus asked to receive his sight.

We believe that, in spiritual significance, the healing of the blindness of Bartimaeus was also a healing of the blindness of James, John, and the other disciples. The Lord did not give them a position at His right and left, but He certainly was willing to heal their blindness. He knew that He had come to be the light of the world. Therefore, He was willing to give sight to the blind.

THROWING AWAY THE GARMENT OF POSITION

Mark 10:50, speaking of blind Bartimaeus, says, "And throwing away his garment, he leaped up and came to Jesus." A person throwing away his garment signifies that this one does not care for position. A garment or uniform signifies position. For example, a uniform worn by a policeman or a nurse signifies position. When a policeman is off duty, he will lay aside

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out of our blindness and
into the Lord's resurrection.*

his uniform. Bartimaeus did not care for any position. His only desire was to have sight. Therefore, when he heard that Jesus called him, he immediately cast aside his garment and went to the Lord to receive sight...

We may say that the Lord Jesus died so that those who believe in Him may receive their sight. By dying with Him we pass out of our blindness and into the Lord's

resurrection. Then in resurrection we receive our sight.

RECEIVING OUR SIGHT IN RESURRECTION

The healing at the end of chapter ten is the last miracle of healing recorded in the Gospel of Mark. The final miracle of healing was the healing of blindness...

After the healing of blindness in Mark 10, the Lord's followers were ready to enter into His death. By entering with Him into death, they would also be able to enter into His resurrection.

We need to be impressed with the fact that the Lord Jesus was not the only one who would pass through death in order to be in resurrection and ascension. All of His followers would go with Him into death in order to enter into His resurrection and ascension. In chapter sixteen of Mark we have a glorious scene in which all the Lord's followers enter into His ascension through His death and resurrection. By the end of chapter ten, the disciples were qualified and prepared to go through death and resurrection so that they could be with the Lord in His ascension.

In your spiritual experience have you come to the end of chapter ten?

Have you received a final healing, the healing of your blindness? Praise the Lord that we can say that our blindness has been healed! Hallelujah, we have no more blindness, darkness, sin, and death! Now we are ready to go with the Slave-Savior into death, through His resurrection, and into His ascension.

Life-study of Mark, pp. 296-298, by Witness Lee

VERSE *and* FOOTNOTE

FROM THE HOLY BIBLE
RECOVERY VERSION

ROMANS 5:3

Romans 5:3—And not only so, but we also boast in our 'tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces endurance;

'Tribulations are part of the "all things" in 8:28 that God causes to work together for good that we might be sanctified, transformed, and conformed to the image of His Son, who has entered into glory. Because of this, we can receive tribulations as the sweet visitation and incarnation of grace and thereby boast in them. Through tribulations the killing effect of the cross of Christ on our natural being is applied in us by the Holy Spirit, making the way for the God of resurrection to add Himself to us (see 2 Cor. 4:16-18).

