



## But Now I See

By Jeff Bedwell on September 24, 2021

**TODAY'S READING:** John 9

I have had to have some surgery on my eyes. It gives you a renewed appreciation for the gift of physical sight. It causes you to think about what it might be like if you were to lose your physical sight. Even with that, I cannot even imagine what it was like for the blind man in today's reading. He was born blind, so he had never seen anything prior to the events we read about today. Imagine never having seen anything your entire life. All the sights that we take for granted, he had never seen before. The faces of his parents, family, and friends. The buildings all around him. The sky, the trees, birds in the air, animals on the ground.

Without many of the aids and resources we have today, he must have struggled to make his way through life the best he could until the day Jesus showed up. Indeed, it is not coincidental that Jesus "saw" the man before the man could ever see Jesus; the initiator of grace was doing what He always does when He draws people to Himself. Jesus knew this man was born blind so God might work mighty works through him that day.

We do not know why Jesus put mud on the man's eyes and told him to wash in the pool of Siloam—though some scholars argue that Jesus' healing through mud harkened back to God's creative power in the Garden of Eden. Regardless, what we do know is that when this man obeyed Jesus' command, he "came back seeing" (vs. 7).

Think about it. He saw for the first time the sun that had warmed his skin. He saw water that had quenched his thirst. He saw with his own healed eyes the parents who had raised him. He saw himself for the first time! Can you just imagine him looking at his hands and his feet, and even his own reflection for the very first time. He could not explain any of it, but in no way could he deny the reality of what had happened:

*"The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight"* (John 9:11, ESV).

*"He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see"* (John 9:15, ESV).

*"Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see"* (John 9:25, ESV).

That is the way God often works, even if we cannot always explain what He has done, we know He has done something. Nobody can deny His power when He gives us physical and spiritual sight.

**Prayer:** Thank You, Lord, for being a miracle-working God. Thank You for the gift of physical sight that I so often take for granted. Thank You for the gift of spiritual sight that has allowed me to see my great need and by grace through faith receive a great Savior!

**TOMORROW'S READING:** Weekend is for catch-up and review.  
**MONDAY'S READING:** John 10

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