

The Junior Observer

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Q & A

What did the Apostles think caused the man's blindness?

Why did the Pharisees refuse to believe what happened?

Read more about it in John 9

A Good News Story

Jesus Gives Sight to a Man Born Blind

Catholic News Service

One day Jesus and the apostles came upon a man who had been blind since birth.

The Apostles thought the man was blind due to sin.

"Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him," Jesus explained.

"We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

Jesus then put a mixture of clay and His own saliva on the man's eyes and told him to wash himself. Afterward, the man was able to see.

The man told everyone who asked him exactly how he had gained his sight.

He was then brought before the Pharisees to tell his story. Some of them did not think Jesus was from God because he cured the man on the Sabbath instead of resting.

But some of the others argued that a sinful person could not do such miracles.



(CNS)

The Pharisees talked to the man's parents, who confirmed the man was their son who had been born blind. They were afraid to say more, because they did not want to be thrown out of the synagogue for saying Jesus was the Messiah.

So the Pharisees again called the man before them and asked how he

gained his sight.

"Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?" the man asked.

The Pharisees made fun of him, saying that they were disciples of Moses, not Jesus. They still did not believe Jesus came from God.

"It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, He would not be able to do anything," the man said.

The Pharisees became angry and threw him out of the synagogue.

When Jesus heard what happened, he went to talk to the man.

"Do you believe in the Son of Man?" Jesus asked.

"Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" the man replied.

"You have seen him, the one speaking with you is he," Jesus answered.

The man looked at Jesus.

"I do believe, Lord," he said, and he worshipped Jesus.

Bible Trivia

What was Jesus' first miracle?

Turning water into wine.

Jesus Worked Many Miracles

The Gospels contain many stories about the miracles Jesus performed.

Jesus healed many people during his ministry. He made the blind see, the sick get well and the crippled walk. He even raised people from the dead.

Sometimes, Jesus helped people who were possessed by evil spirits. Once when he commanded a spirit to leave a man's body, the spirit spoke to him and recognized him as the Son of God.

There are several miracles Jesus performed in regard to food. At the wedding in Cana, he turned water into wine. There also are two accounts of Jesus feeding large crowds of people with just a few fish and loaves of bread.

Jesus blessed those small amounts of food, and there was enough for everyone to eat as

much as they wanted. There was even food left over after everyone had eaten their fill.

Sometimes, Jesus' miracles involved nature. Once, when his apostles were on a boat in the sea, he walked on the water to meet them. Another time, he and his apostles were on a boat when a violent storm began. The apostles were afraid, but Jesus calmly said, "Quiet! Be still!" and the storm stopped.

Many people came to believe that Jesus was the Messiah because they saw the miracles he performed. Even though we weren't there to see Jesus' miracles firsthand, we can read about them in the Bible and believe.

As Jesus said in John 20:29, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

 Read the Gospel and Color



Share the Gospel

Instead of telling people he was the Savior, Jesus showed them. By raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus sent a message loud and clear. Jesus was the Savior they had all been waiting for. He was filled with God's love and power, and many people believed in him.

Pray

Thank you for showing me that you are my Savior, Jesus.



It's Not Too Late to Share Your Heart for Lent

We're only finishing the third week of Lent, so you have plenty of time left to make a Heart to Heart offering.

If you need a pair of hearts to decorate, see page 11. If you need more, ask an adult to help

you download a pair of hearts at <http://observer.rockforddiocese.org>. They'll need to click on Junior Observer, then on Heart to Heart..

Send your decorated double-hearts and a \$2 donation for each pair to The Junior Observer,

555 Colman Center Dr., P.O. Box 7044, Rockford, IL 61125. Do not mount your hearts on other paper because it adds to mailing costs.

Send your hearts and donation by **Good Friday, April 14, 2017.**