



First Baptist Church of Cypress
THE BLIND SEE JESUS AS KING

MARK 10:46-52

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Welcome to First Baptist Church of Cypress this morning. Turn with me to Mark chapter 10 verses 46-52. This is a small passage about sort of healing that every individual in our church, community, country and world needs. This is the second of two healings of blind men recorded in Mark. According to Matthew, there were two blind men but Mark and Luke focus' on Bartimaeus, who is a spokesman for both. As you turn to this passage, I want to share with you the effects of the pandemic crisis known as the Coronavirus COVID-19. The coronavirus is not a new virus or unknown virus. We have had in the past and it was a season of distress then as it is now. Similar to our "Flu", it has the symptoms that you would normally have but only a little more contagious. Our churches should not be afraid to close our doors, but we do have a civic responsibility to consider the health of our Staff, Volunteers, and attenders. We are concerned for people who may be impacted so pray for them and be sensitive to them as they handle these issues. We want to protect our elderly people and any children or senior adults who has already had pre-existing medical conditions so they may get well. Now is the time to support each other in every way possible. We are all in this together, and we will get through it together by the grace of God.

Mark 10:46-52

*"And they came to Jericho. And as he was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside. **47** And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" **48** And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" **49** And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart. Get up; he is calling you." **50** And throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. **51** And Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" And the blind man said to him, "Rabbi, let me recover my sight." **52** And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way."*

1. The BLIND Recognized Jesus as MESSIAH and KING. (v. 47-49a)

2. The Fundamental Ground for ENDURANCE in PERSECUTION and HARDSHIP is Christ's VICTORY and PEACE. (v. 49b)

"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." **John 16:33**

"Peace, I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." **John 14:27**

What can we do with this Corona Virus Pandemic?

- This PEACE is unknown to the UNSAVED.
- SECURES composure in difficult TROUBLE.
- Dissolves FEAR
- RULES in the hearts of God's PEOPLE to maintain harmony

3. The FAITH of a PERSON is the VEHICLE that leads to SALVATION. (v 50-52)

- TRUE faith is the HEART-belief and COMPLETE trust in the PERSON of Jesus Christ.
- FAITH is the God-given present ASSURANCE of future REALITY.

2 things I would like to address this morning:

#1. To the Church: Each of us as Christ-followers really need to consider the inner wellness of our soul. Are we willing to be healed from God and allow this to reflect outwardly? Like these two blind men, do we have nothing to lose and everything to gain? Bartimaeus' physical and spiritual eyes were likely opened at the same time. The outward healing reflected the inner wellness of salvation. Has our outward healing of past problems of leadership reflect our inner wellness? Is a lack of commitment & cooperation among current members reflecting inner wellness? Have we become transparent as the church to one another which allows inner wellness to take place?

#2. To the Community: Are we prepared to help others heal by giving an inner cure like Jesus Christ did with us, the blind men? Will we be like the crowd where we tend to be, act, and do what everyone else is doing? Will we be like the disciples and silence those who are truly seeking help? Can our inner wellness of salvation reflect an outward healing that even gives hope to our community? We must be willing to say "It starts with me".