



Mark 10:46-52

What Do You Want – Part 2 Sun, Mar 9th 2008

Resurrection Celebration – 2 weeks before Rez Day

What do you want me to do for you

- It is a penetrating question, powerful question...it is Jesus question
- In fact, here in Mark 10 – Jesus asks that same question twice –**v36,51**
- How would you answer that question today?

Questions gain more significance when see the Context

- **Jesus is 15 miles from Jerusalem...and making His way there**
 - In Jerusalem...in only days, a week perhaps – enter “Passion Week”
 - His great purpose, all He has lived for, endeavoring to do
- **Jesus knows it – and is living in light of His timing, His purpose**
 - Shares with His disciples what will happen **10:32-34**
- **In this context — Jesus asks our question — v.36 & 51**
 - One He answers “yes” to and the other “no”
 - Let’s talk about the “no” first, just for a moment

Put it to you this way – there are basically three reasons we don’t get what we want

- **James 4:2-3** – helps us understand what is before us
 - **We lust** ... Word lust here is not always bad – speaks of passionately wanting something. Sometimes good things, God, service, etc
 - **We do not have** – unfulfilled desires....then gives us 3 reasons why happens
 - **1st - We murder, covet, fight, war and cannot obtain** – try in flesh – unable
 - **3rd – We ask God (good), but ask amiss, selfish, pleasures** – God says no
 - This is what we saw last week...asked...got a no from the Lord
 - Prayer is not something we can use to get whatever want
 - **2nd – We don’t ask** – one of reasons we have unfulfilled desires – prayerless
 - It is this area – want to focus on today – put before you, call you to
 - Do so from positive angle – for today see one asking...receiving
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I. Meet Bart

1. What do we know about Bart?

a. Bart was Blind

- i) Probably much we can say here – condition that is incapacitating
- ii) Condition that is without remedy – not like lazy....

b. Bart was Begging

- i) For the Blind – became dependant on others to take care of them
- ii) Some – had family, friends that took care of them
- iii) Others – lived totally on generosity of others – this is Bart

c. Bart's name – means “son of the unclean, defiled” – perhaps guilt, birth defect

d. Son of Timaeus – lit highly prized

2. Today – look at work in Bartimaeus as picture of salvation

a. Want to speak to you who are unsaved – show you your need, Savior

b. Blind – Bible says that this is the condition of the unsaved

- i) **Eph 4:17** – way the world lives – heart blindness
- ii) **2 Cor 4:3-4** – Satan has blinded
- iii) **John 9:39-40** – Jesus uses as picture of His work

c. Begging – knowing your are blind...needy, looking for help

- i) Tell you that you are blind...and hope you know it – hope why here

d. Son of Unclean – true – born in our sin

- i) Tell you that you were born in sin...but that you are loved by God

e. Highly prized – we are – God so loved world, gave Son

3. Focus on Bartimaeus – but has great application to all of us

a. 2nd aim – for saved – to see again, the wonder of our salvation – grasp it

b. 3rd aim – in seeing salvation – see how God still wants to work in us

- i) **Col 2:6** – still the same way God works, meets our needs
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II. Bart hears of Jesus

1. It is obvious that Bart knows more about Jesus than this encounter

- a. His knowledge of who Jesus is – beyond what is presented here
- b. Perhaps heard that Jesus has healed others of blindness
- c. **Note specifically calls him “Son of David” – but Jesus is son of Joseph?**
 - i) Term that points to Jesus as the Christ, the Messiah **Mat 22:41-42**
 - ii) So Bart knows something about Jesus – wonders if Messiah...

2. Yet – key – at this point he is still blind

- a. In such a state – many unbelievers are. Hearing of Jesus...still blind
- b. Hearing that He has rescued, helped others....but still in need

3. Yet now... Jesus comes near

- a. Imagine the scene – Bart hears what is happening...what is the ruckus
- b. Someone tells him...it is Jesus...
- c. Imagine in his mind – what begins to transpire – hope, fear, excitement

4. Add on more detail at this point – extra, not wanting to press

- a. Interesting to me – that Jericho literally means fragrance
- b. **2 Corinthians 2:14-16** – as we go in and out of places – we are to be wafting a fragrance of Christ – that fragrance is drawing some...turning away others

5. Maybe this has happened to you...maybe why you are here

- a. Longing in soul...stirred by the fragrance of Christ in others
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III. Bart Cries out for Jesus

1. Just want you to watch the scene – imagine it with me

- a. See Bart's face...hope...begins to call...louder and louder
- b. Now people are telling him to stop...many are telling him to stop
- c. As they try to stop him – only stirs him up more – crying out louder now

2. Want to put before you this thought – Seeking is necessary for Salvation

- a. Say carefully, hesitantly – but have grave concerns over modern methods
- b. **Many here aware – don't use the modern "Altar Call" here – lots of reasons**
 - i) New in church history...last 150 years or so...back and forth
- c. **Fear we have dumbed down salvation...fear perhaps robbing of power**
 - i) For many – almost a multiple choice question – heaven, hell – pray
- d. **Put to you: Almost all conversions in Bible happen as God has stirs seekers**
 - i) **Acts 2:37; 8:36; 16:29-31**
- e. **Often in Church history – categorized these as "seekers"**

3. The seeking in this picture – is a picture of what God stirs

- a. Seeking that grows, passionate – unstoppable
- b. People try to stop...only increases – grows – passionate
- c. Martyn Lloyd-Jones in explaining why he struggled with modern Altar call related this story- After a service – someone talking to him – said that if he had given an altar call at perfect moment, would have gotten saved.
 - i) Lloyd-Jones called on him to be saved right then.
 - ii) Guy said no, he was no longer in the mood, wanting to
 - iii) Lloyd-Jones pointed out that what felt was emotion, not spiritual hunger
- d. If unsaved here today...longing for God to create in you Spiritual hunger

4. Seeking is key...but note with me – still blind

- a. Hungering – crying out – but just seeking is not same as finding
- b. Place where God stirs people up for Him – not yet saved – hungry
- c. Put before you – finding Him – is real, personal, life changing
- d. If you are a seeker – don't be comforted to remain in place you are
- e. Christians – don't tell seekers they are saved
- f. **Promise is – those who seek Him, will find him**
 - i) **Deut 4:29; Jer 29:13, Luk 11:9-10**

5. Persistence is needed

- a. Needed in a seeker becoming saved
 - b. Needed as God draws His own to all that He has for Him Luke 18:1-8
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IV. Jesus seeks Bart

1. Jesus stops everything...for Bart

- a. Amazing scene – try to picture it.. .Crowd...all stopped for Bart – his day
- b. Heaven is this way – angels rejoice over one convert more than 99 saved

2. Jesus calls for him

- a. Now is the time, now is the day of salvation

3. Bart's response

- a. Notice the environment changed – encouraging him – He is calling you
- b. Notice how Bart responds to Jesus call – watch it, imagine**
 - i) Bart throws aside his garment, rises, came to Jesus
- c. Danger... some seekers...never respond. Hunger, but as Jesus calls**
 - i) Hard to throw aside garments – can start to cling to lostness
 - ii) Hard to rise...to respond...now....today
- d. Speak a word – if Jesus is calling – I want to be one of encouraging voices

4. Jesus asks – our question – what do you want me to do for you

5. Bart responds –

- a. Ask humbly – submissively – Rabboni – submitting to Him as Lord**
- b. Ask for what Jesus is doing – what Jesus is about**
 - i) To receive sight – Jesus is doing that
 - A. Still true physically – then, still now...for sure in heaven
 - ii) Great picture of salvation
 - A. Context – is what Jesus just shared with them
 - B. Is why Jesus came! **Luk 19:9-10, 1 Tim 1:15-17**

6. Bart saved – beautiful picture of salvation – notice four things

- a. One – It is Jesus who speaks – real, personal – found Him**
 - b. Two – Immediate – conversion, real salvation – instantaneous**
 - i) Yes, often a period of seeking leading- but is instant thing – all new!
 - ii) Could happen here today
 - c. Three – What is taking place in Bart – is faith**
 - i) Faith is not a work – response to God, to His promise **Eph 2:8-9****
 - d. Four – produces a follower – naturally, wonderfully**
 - i) All Christians are followers of Christ – the way
 - ii) Part of problem of modern evangelism – retention-most quit, don't follow
 - iii) Created something unheard of in the Bible “follow up programs”
 - iv) But I put to you – if it is real...you will follow
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Conclusion

People when they saw it – gave praise – Luke 18:
This is what I long for here this is what Jesus is doing

What do you want.

- Some are seeking things Jesus is not giving – position, power

Jesus is seeking the lost
