

The Desperate Cry Out!

Promise: the Lord hears desperate cries and responds with mercy

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg

Jeremiah 31:7-9; Psa 126; Heb 7:23-28; [Mark 10:46-52](#)

(Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost, 10/24/21)

And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" – v. 48

Lead In – Most of you have probably heard the legend of the *Blind Men and the Elephant*. This parable originates from India. And as you may remember, there are six blind men who have never encountered an elephant. Each reached out and touched, and then confidently announced to the others what the elephant was... The are a number of lessons that can be drawn from the parable, but first I want you to consider the difference between a person born blind, and one who loses their sight...

I. Did Bartimaeus Lose His Sight? Does it Matter?

- A. In John 9 we read specifically of a man born blind!
- B. Begging in either case, but special agony of losing...
- C. What is sight to one with no experience of it?

II. Bartimaeus Is Demonstrably Desperate

- A. The really desperate don't care about decorum...
- B. Others resented and were embarrassed...
- C. Our Lord Jesus responds to the desperate cry...

III. What If We Don't Sense Ourselves to Be Desperate?

- A. Learn to greet adversity gratefully...
- B. Allow yourself to be persecuted, follow Jesus!
- C. Learn to number our days and contemplate our death

Parting Shot – There is something at work to keep us from being in touch with and expression our desperation. And that something is pride. Even when we know that we are desperate, if we are not desperate enough, we will worry more about appearances. We have an image to keep. What does one have if not a little dignity? Well, just how much do you care about your dignity when you are flaying about in water, chocking, gasping, and about ready to drown? Sometimes our blindness merely makes us arrogant with our own limited knowledge. And sometimes it makes us cry out for the Lord's mercy!

Investigation of the Elephant: The trunk-a *very thick snake*. The ear-a *very big fan*. The leg-a *tree trunk*. The side-a *wall*. The tail-a *rope*. The tusk-a *spear*.

Jn 1:9 As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth.

Mt 15:22 And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon."

Mt 17:14-16 And when they came to the crowd, a man came up to him and, kneeling before him, said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he has seizures and he suffers terribly. For often he falls

Mark 10:46-52 ESV

Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus

⁴⁶And 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.

⁴⁷And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"
⁴⁸And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"
⁴⁹And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart. Get up; he is calling you."
⁵⁰And throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus.
⁵¹And 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."
⁵²And 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.

into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him."

Lk 17:12-13 And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us."

Ps 88:1-2 O Lord, God of my salvation, I cry out day and night before you. Let my prayer come before you; incline your ear to my cry!

Ps 102:1-2 Hear my prayer, O Lord; let my cry come to you! Do not hide your face from me in the day of my distress! Incline your ear to me; answer me speedily in the day when I call!

Ps 130:1-2 Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord! O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

Ja 1:2-3 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

Ro 6:23 For the wages of sin is death

Lk 9:23 And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."

2Ti 3:12 Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

Ps 90:12 So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

He 9:27 And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment.

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