**Scripture Readings**: Exodus 20:1-17 & John 9

**Singing:**  76 – 69:2, 6 – 303 – 366 – 383:1, 5

**Jesus Healing a Blind Man**

I. His action II. His command III. His challenge IV. His final question

**I. Jesus’ healing of the blind man began with His action**

A. The lead-up to His act of healing: *a spiritual riddle (vs. 1-2)*

 1. Jesus’ priority isn’t *answering spiritual riddles*

 2. It is to ‘shine the light of the world’ into blind conditions (3-5)

 a. this blind condition is ours (vs. 32)

 b. the healing is Jesus’ exclusively (6-7)

B. Jesus’ act pictures God’s act in regeneration (John 3:3, 8)

 1. New birth is *entirely God’s sovereign act* (John 3:9; Rom. 9:11-16)

 a. His instrument: *His Word!*

 b. His needed work doesn’t cancel His commanded response (vs. 7)

 2. The New-Birth *date* can be hidden but the New-Birth cannot

 a. fruits reveal the nature of the tree (Matt. 5:3-9)

 ● convicting of sin brings sorrow over sin & repentance

 ● discovery of God brings fondness and fear

 ● beauty of righteousness and holiness brings hunger

 ● revelation of Jesus brings confession of faith

**II. Jesus’ command in healing this blind man**

A. Though Jesus healed, He expected the blind man to obey (vs. 7)

 1. His obedience was remarkable

 a. not only was it a *difficult assignment* (Pool of Siloam)

 b. it was also an *unlikely prospect* (vs. 32)

B. Power of grace always brings *obedience to Word of God*

 1. We resists obedience to *change – follow directions – respond – believe*

 2. But God’s influence brings *hearty obedience to His Word* (Act 6:7)

 a. he obeyed and was healed (7b)

b. learn to *follow Jesus’ directions* in **faith** as Jesus requires (Mark.

 9:22-23; Matt. 12:13)

c. don’t cancel or ignore Jesus’ commands

C. The question to examine: *am I obedient to the Word of God’s Gospel?*

 1. Salvation is **never** based on our obedience to the law or Gospel

 2. Yet there is no salvation **without** obedience to both Law and Gospel

**III. Jesus’ challenge of his faith and obedience**

A. We would expect the healed man be a cause of awe and praise (8-34)

 1. Instead, Jesus allowed him to face the *Jewish inquisition!*

B. His responses are a clear revelation of God’s work of grace: *examine*!

 1. Am I ignorant of **his confession?** (vs. 17)

 2. Am I ignorant of **his experience?** (vs. 25)

 3. Am I ignorant of **his commitment?** (vs. 27)

**IV. Jesus’ question to the healed man** (next sermon)

Closing: *Reading of the Lord’s Supper Form, first half*