

BLIND MAN- like any other day- outside Jericho. Told Jesus was passing by- His chance might not come again. Sprang up- fights his way towards X-tried to silence etc--- kept on "Have mercy"

X power here today-cry for his mercy-

1. ESTABLISH THIS FACT*

A. Things really happened then--- in our world
They happened to ordinary people

B. Things can happen today- he is here today, his promise

2. WORSHIP SHOULD BRING THIS EXPERIENCE

A. WHAT is worship ?

Praise- Here is a face to face meeting with God.
what he says to us is important---

B. Our worship misses this important experience---

We think of it as as an end in itself..
Duty done we pass on.

Excuse ourselves often from worship: we are under strain--- no leisure time..

100 years ago petition sent to parliament asking for relief of the intolerable strain. you are taking our spare time away. Robbing us of precious things. For when we kneel to pray we fall to sleep exhausted & tired. Take our rights-but leave us God!

Our forefathers worked from sun up to sun down.- small salaries..

Today- 8 hrs. per day- holidays off, etc..

L. W. M. 11 1946

HERE is the difference:

Our lives are fuller-- competing interest-
1,000 things tugs at our sleeves enticing us this way
and that-----in it all we are apt to forget GOD..

Chalmers: of whom Rosebury wrote "Here is a man organizing
, speaking, preaching etc. Never the less on his honest
dirary set dow' My soul is losing acquaintance with
God." Being blinded by the smoke of the very incense
he kept burning.

Take pains to recall God to our minds....

Betrayed by his friends-- Great scholar said " I will
never believe in the Redeemer of the Xtians until
they prove to me that they themselves have been
redeemed."

Paul: to Corinthians " Dont you see how you dishonour
Christ. You are no better then people without Christ.
Leaving the impression to t e onlooker that Christ
makes no dofference."

3. JESUS JUST AS POWERFUL TODAY

A. In His day- people knew he was effective---
even those who objected to him, disliked or afraid.

B. In our day--Prone to long sighted- seeing God clearly
in the past- sure that he spoke through the
prophets--

Can see Him out in the future-

But blind to working of his presance at our side..
N. T. declares that he is alive--- God is alive now
as wonderful as ever, ready to help & meet our
needs..

Augustine " God did not create the world & then leave it

God has not lost his interest-

4. THIS IS FOR SOMEBODY ELSE

I dont doubt what you say is true--
I do not deny his power, or limit it--

But for the right person he can do practically anything .

I do not belong to that class..

5. THE STRUGGLE DESCRIBED

One can see the surging -eager crowd pressing up to Jesus

Felt they could tell him their need--

Power was coming out from him---

Healed many-not one here and there-or the easy ones--

But every one--

This is the boast of Etianity-for all.

This is the reason for the continual approach to Jesus.

6. HERE'S HOW IT HAPPENS

Miracles performed because they believed---

All depends whether we want what he offers us---

E.W.Beal- eastern Va. Taught school, kept store, farmed
preached--greatly distressed-to private room,write note of
instruction to his family. He stopped to ask divine guidance
& & reached conclusion t. t if opened Bible at the great
Commission he would consecrate all to preaching- eyes fell first
upon great Comm.

Zaccheaus--- siad I am done with old life- I see
clearly that if I'am your friend the old life must go-