



# in His Name

**John 9**

**Seeing Life**

**I love this chapter.**

**I love this chapter.  
And I love this man.**

# **Peniel**

**"The Face of God"**

*Genesis 32:30*

*"So Jacob called the place Peniel"*

**Peniel**

**"The Face of God"**

*Genesis 32:30*

*"So Jacob called the place Peniel,  
saying, 'It is because  
I saw God face to face.'"*

**Peniel**

**"The Face of God"**

*"So I'm calling this man Peniel,  
saying, 'It is because*

...The Face of God.”

*“So I’m calling this man Peniel,  
saying, ‘It is because  
he saw God face to face.’”*

*Isaiah 9:2*

*Isaiah 9:2*

*The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land  
of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.*

**“The man blind from birth is every man. By nature we are blind, until our eyes are opened by Christ the Light of the world.”**

**William Temple**

**First we must appreciate how**

# First we must appreciate how well-crafted this story is—

1. The Healing (9:1-7)
2. The Neighbors Simple Questions & Peniel's Honest Answers (9:8-12)
3. The Blind's Suspicious Questions & Peniel's Careful Answers (9:13-17)
4. The Questioned Parents & Their Evasive Answers (9:18-23)
5. The Blind's Hostile Question & Peniel's Deep Answers (9:24-34)
6. Jesus' Saving Question & Peniel's Worshipful Answer (9:35-38)
7. The Bottom Line (9:39-41)

## 1. The Healing (9:1-7)

Numerous similarities to the

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## Numerous similarities to the lame man in John 5

### Who sinned?

“The true connection to blindness and sin links together the entire passage” Craig Keener

# 1. The Healing (9:1-7)

v. 3

*“You’re asking the wrong question.”*

## 1. The Healing (9:1-7)

v. 3

*"You're asking the wrong question.*

*You're looking for someone to blame.*

*There is no such cause-effect here.*

*Look instead for what God can do."*

## 1. The Healing (9:1-7)

**Why spit—and mud?  
And why the pool named**

**Why spit—and mud?  
And why the pool named  
“Sent”?**

**2. The Neighbors Simple Questions  
& Peniel’s Honest Answers (9:8-12).**

*Are you SURE you’re Peniel?  
How in the world did this happen?!*

*Are you SURE you're Peniel?*

*How in the world did this happen?!*

*Where is Jesus?*

**2. The Neighbors Simple Questions  
& Peniel's Honest Answers (9:8-12).**

v. 9

*"Yes...I'm the man!"*

v. 9

*"Yes...I'm the man!"*

## **2. The Neighbors Simple Questions & Peniel's Honest Answers (9:8-12).**

v. 11

*"The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see."*

*mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see."*

## **2. The Neighbors Simple Questions & Peniel's Honest Answers (9:8-12).**

*v. 12*

*"Where is the man?" they asked him.*

*I don't know," he said.*

## **3. The Blind's Suspicious Questions**

I don't know, he said.

### 3. The Blind's Suspicious Questions & Peneil's Careful Answers (9:13-17).

How did this happen—  
and who do YOU think he is???



*"He's a prophet."*

*\*probably the highest category he could muster at this point*

# Seeing The Seeing

**Seeing**



**The Seeing**



**The Blind**

**Blindness**

**Worship**



**The Seeing**

**Worship**

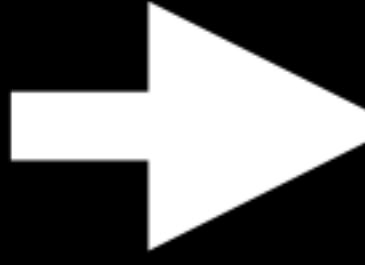
**The Seeing**



**The Blind Blasphemy**

**Worship**

**The Pharisees**



Worship

the 11th



Peniel



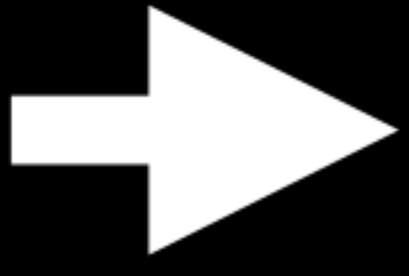
Blasphemy

Worship

Arrogance



Humility



Blasphemy



**Humility**



**Blasphemy**

**Worship**

**"We know!"**



**"I don't know"**



**Blasphemy**

# "I don't know" Blasphemy

## 4. The Questioned Parents & Their Evasive Answers (9:18-23).

*Yes...it's Peniel.*

*And yes...he was blind from birth.*

*And then...nothing.*

*And then...nothing.*

**4. The Questioned Parents &  
Their Evasive Answers (9:18-23).**

**All of this makes Peniel's  
faith and courage shine  
all the brighter.**

**5. The Blind's Hostile Questions &**

all the brighter.

5. The Blind's Hostile Questions & Peniel's Deep Answers (9:24-34).

*"Give glory to God by calling  
Jesus a sinner!"*

**"We know!!"**

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*"Give glory to God by calling  
Jesus a sinner!"*

# "We know we're right!"

**Matthew 7:13-23**

*"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."*

## Matthew 7:13-23

*“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”*

*“ ...Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’*





**We know  
we're right!**

**I know  
Jesus.**

**5. The Blind's Hostile Questions &  
Peneel's Deep Answers (9:24-34).**

*vv. 30-33*

*"Now that's remarkable!  
You don't know where He comes  
from, yet He opened my eyes."*

vv. 30-33

*“Now that’s remarkable!  
You don’t know where He comes  
from, yet He opened my eyes.  
...If this were not from God,  
He could do nothing.”*

## **5. The Blind’s Hostile Questions & Peniel’s Deep Answers (9:24-34).**

**And they threw Peniel out.**

*“He is no fool who gives what he cannot  
keep, to gain that which he cannot lose.”*

*Jim Elliot*

**And they threw Peniel out.**

*"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep, to gain that which he cannot lose."*

*Jim Elliot*

## **6. Jesus' Saving Question & Peniel's Worshipful Answer (9:35-38).**

***35 "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"***

***38 "Lord, I believe!"***

***And he worshipped Him.***

<sup>38</sup> "Lord, I believe!"  
And he worshipped Him.

Peniel's Journey

**Faith**

*Lord!* <sup>v. 38</sup>



*Son of Man* <sup>v. 35</sup>

*A man from God* <sup>v. 33</sup>

*A prophet* <sup>v. 17</sup>

**Blindness**

*A man* <sup>v. 11</sup>

# Blindness

A man v. 11

## 7. The Bottom Line (9:39-41).

*“For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.”*

**Are you so entrenched in**

**Are you so entrenched in  
your opinions and  
perspectives that you might  
be in danger of being one of  
“those who see”?**

**If you were truly honest —  
do you find yourself often  
saying or thinking:**

If you were truly honest —  
do you find yourself often  
saying or thinking:

*"I know!"*

*"We know!"*

*"You better believe I'm right!"*

Instead of being so sure...  
are you willing to admit  
that you don't know?

That God's ways are  
higher than your ways?

**are you willing to admit  
that you don't know?**

**That God's ways are  
higher than your ways?**

**That in many ways—  
you're blind?**

**2 Chronicles 20:12**

**"God, I don't know what to do,  
but my eyes are on you."**

2 Corinthians 20:12

**"God, I don't know what to do,  
but my eyes are on you."**

**It's not about WHAT we know...  
but WHO we know.**

but WHO we know.

1. God has a Christ-exalting  
purpose for everything that  
happens to you.

v. 3

*“Look instead for what God can do.”*

v. 3

*"Look instead for what God can do."*

**2. Knowing Jesus is the only path to experience that purpose.**

v. 39

*"I have come into this world,  
so that the blind will see..."*

**3. Jesus sought out Peniel,**

*so that the blind will see...*"

**3. Jesus sought out Peniel,  
and He's seeking you out  
right now.**

v. 35

*"Jesus heard that they had thrown him  
out, and when He found him, He said,*

*"Do you believe...?"*

**"Lord...I'm lost."**

**“Lord...I’m lost.”**

**“Lord...I’m blind.”**

**“Lord...I need you.”**

