

## Part 2

## Lesson #9

**PREPARATION FOR LESSON:** Read Matthew 8:19-22; 15:29 – 18:35; Mark 7:31 - 9:50; Luke 9:18 – 13:21;  
John 7:1 – 10:39 or Harmony of the 4 Gospels, SECTIONS 79-108

**EXPLANATIONS****Lessons for the apostles**

**Healing of Blind Man** in 2 stages: first he has partial sight/partial blindness; then he gains full sight.

It is a picture of **Israel** as a **nation**. Mk. 8:22-26

Because they rejected Jesus, they have partial blindness. In the future, Israel will have full sight.

It is a picture of the **apostles**: they have understanding of who He **is** - partial sight

*You are the Christ* - meaning *the promised Messiah*. In the Old Testament the perfect King was called the *Anointed One*. Psalm 2:2 *Anointed* = *Messiah* in Heb; *Christ* in Greek.

*You are Deity*. This becomes a basic belief of the Church - the Body of Christ.

We believe Jesus is not just humanity; He is also Deity.

But the **apostles** have partial blindness of His **suffering**.

After Pentecost, they will have full spiritual insight.

**Transfiguration:** Mt. 17:1-8; Mk. 9:2-8; Lk. 9:28-36

Apostles see the Shekinah glory of Jesus; the brilliance of His deity comes from inside and radiates out thru His garments. This is the glory of deity that He had before He came to this earth.

It is the glory He will have as King in His kingdom.

Apostles can be sure of: ...Jesus' deity; they have seen it with their own eyes.

...His suffering and death was known by the Old Testament prophets.

...His suffering and death are part of the Father's plan.

**Boy with evil spirit** Mt. 17:14-20

**Evil spirits** are fallen angels / demons. Evil angels and demons mean the same thing.

Good angels do God's work; bad angels do Satan's work.

Evil spirits can live inside of some people to control them (possession).

That can never happen to God's people because the **Holy** Spirit lives inside of them. 1 John 4:4

Holiness and unholiness can never occupy the same territory.

But evil spirits can harass us from the outside or thru our thoughts.

**The Boy** is said to have seizures and that he is controlled by an evil spirit.

This does **not** mean all seizures or diseases are caused by evil spirits.

Seizures are usually caused by physical, neurological conditions.

But seizures can also be caused by demonic activity.

They are 2 completely different conditions and sources.

**The Boy's father** says, **IF** *You can do something for my son and I believe You have the power, ...help us.*

Jesus replies, *Everything is possible for him who believes.*

The father answers, *I believe in who You are.* He had saving faith.

*Increase my living faith that You can and want to handle the situations of daily life.*

**Apostles** were later told - in order to move the mountain of Satan's kingdom of demons...

they only needed a small amount of faith, but a lot of spiritual preparation thru prayer.

**Woman taken in adultery** John. 8:1-11

The "finger of God" had written Moses' law about adultery - the finger of deity is now writing it again.

*The one without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.*

Does not mean we have to be *perfect* to say someone else is wrong or doing wrong

Does not mean *do not judge* - only that we must use God's rules to judge by.

Does mean: for true or godly justice, those who accuse cannot be guilty of the **same** sin.

God's requirements: The woman and the man are both to be put to death. (This is still under Old Testament law)

There must be 2-3 witnesses to make the accusation and throw the first stones.

Those throwing the first stones cannot be guilty of the same sin or it could not be true justice.

Jesus does not condemn her because He did not witness the act, there are no witnesses and she had repented.



**70 chosen/sent out** Lk. 10:1-24 70 was the number of the Sanhedrin, plus the high priest.  
Its purpose was to lead the nation and people to Jesus, their Messiah.  
The Sanhedrin has failed in their responsibility, so Jesus chooses His own 70 to lead the people to Him.

**Man born blind the 3rd Messianic miracle** John 9:1-38

**Jewish belief:** from the moment of conception, the fetus has 2 inclinations: a good inclination and an evil inclination. The 2 are struggling for control within the womb. If the evil inclination wins by getting mad at the mother and kicks her, then for that ill will against its mother, the fetus is born with a defect. In this case, he is born blind. Since this is a punishment from God, then only God can remove it. Only the coming Messiah, as deity, could heal a person **born** blind.

**Jesus' teaching:** the blindness was allowed so God's power could be seen thru his life.

**Mary and Martha** Lk. 10:38-42

Persons

Martha has a gift of hospitality; she enjoys serving and doing; she prepares an elaborate meal.  
Mary enjoys listening and learning from Jesus' teaching.

Problem

Each has the one thing they enjoy doing; there is nothing wrong with either.  
But Martha has taken on too much, so instead of enjoying the opportunity, she becomes upset with Mary.

Answer

Martha should have been satisfied with fixing a more simple meal.  
Only a few things or even one basic dish was needed; then she would not need help.  
She could have rejoiced in the privilege of doing this herself for Jesus.  
It is good that Martha wanted to fix a meal; everyone needed to eat.  
It is also good that Mary wants to listen and learn; therefore Jesus will not tell her to help her sister.

**Jesus' claim of Deity** John 10 This happens in December of His 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

Jn. 10:27-30 Jesus says He and His Father have the same qualities and the same amount of each.  
*I and the Father are One.*

Jn. 10:33-36 Jesus uses logic by quoting what they accept from the Old Testament *you are gods* Psa. 82:6  
Leaders in the Old Testament acted on behalf of God as His representatives.

In Psalm 82:6 these leaders are called "gods" in a limited sense. They received their authority from a prophet; it was a delegated and limited authority to do God's work.

Jewish leaders had no problem with the text or the meaning.

Jesus received direct and full authority from the Father to do His work.

So if it is not wrong for leaders with limited and delegated authority to be called gods,  
why is it wrong for Jesus, with full and direct authority, to call Himself Son of God?

## APPLICATION A life of balance

Mary wanted to listen and learn from Jesus. Martha was eager to use her gift of hospitality, but tried to do too much.  
She got upset because her sister was not willing to help her.

As believers, each of us has at least one spiritual gift. God wants us to use it.

Gifts of serving, helping, doing, teaching, hospitality, encouraging, etc. are good and essential.

But there is a danger that we take on too much and then become critical because others do not help us.

There is also a danger of using our gifts for too long a period and we get burned out. We lose the joy of using our gift.

Every so often we need to stop our ministry and take time to listen and learn, so we can be refreshed, nourished and develop our own spiritual lives.

Always being a Mary is faith without resulting in works of service. Always being a Martha is works without a maturing faith. God wants us to be a beautiful combination of Mary and Martha. We are to be eager and enthusiastic to use our gifts in ministry. But we must never get so busy or over-worked that we forget or neglect the importance of learning and growing in our faith.

