

he Man Born Blind

ILLUSTRATED SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By Alfred J. Buecher



One Sabbath day, as Jesus and the disciples stroll through Jerusalem's streets, they discover a man who had been blind since birth—John 9:1-7.

Jesus heals him by anointing his eyes with clay and sending him to wash it off. Immediately, the man is able to see.—John 9:6-7.

The Pharisees question the man and his parents in order to deny the miracle. Unsuccessfully, they cast him out as a sinner.—John 9:13-14.

Jesus rebukes the Pharisees, revealing Himself as the one-born man as the son of God.—John 9:35-41.

MEMORY VERSE:—"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, his sin cleanseth us from all sin."—1 John 1:7.

DISCIPLES SKEPTICAL

Crucifixion And Conviction

(Editor's note: The following material relating to the new Sunday School lesson is based on copyrighted outlines produced by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of Churches in the U.S. and is used by permission.)

Two conclusions become readily apparent to even the most casual reader of the Gospels. One is the fact that, almost from the beginning of his public ministry, the Temple priests and Pharisees sought to discredit

Christ and, if possible, put Him to death for blasphemy. The other is the seeming changeability of the disciples themselves. Perhaps because their need to believe was so great, and because they professed belief so frequently, they convinced themselves that they did believe in Christ completely. However, each remained subtly skeptical, and it was not until after the Crucifixion that their belief, conscious and subconscious, crystallized into the deep-seated convictions that marked their later years. This subconscious skepticism of

his spirit and applying it to the man's eyes. This clay did not add to Christ's power to heal. It was not even necessary to the cure, for Christ could have healed him without actually being in the man's presence. Jesus used the clay only to help the man believe he would be healed. And his faith was rewarded with the restoration of his sight after he had washed off the clay.

Here was a miracle. Finished. Indisputable. Complete. Permanent. Yet the hatred of the priests and Pharisees was so great that, in spite of all the evidence, they refused to believe Jesus had actually performed such a thing!

There is no other passage in the Gospels—along with the exceptions through him. While He talks, Jesus proceeds to heal the blind man and crucifixion of Christ—man's eyes, mixing clay with where the unrelenting stubborn-

ness of the human heart is so glaringly evident.

The Pharisees went to great lengths in their determination not to acknowledge this miracle. First they argued whether the man who could now see was the same one who had been born blind—a revelation of stupidity inasmuch as the blind man was well-known in the community.

Then they argued over how the man's eyes had been healed, even debating who had actually accomplished the healing.

In the end, their considered opinion was that if the man could now see, it was God's doing and not Jesus', for Jesus was a sinner!

They based this amazing conclusion on the fact that Jesus had healed the man's eyes on the Sabbath. And, in failing to keep Sabbath, Jesus was a sinner. Sinners could not perform miracles, ergo, Jesus had not accomplished the miracle of his healing of the blind man's eyes.

Now comes the key verse of the chapter (v. 25). To all their arguments and assertions the young man answers stubbornly: "Whether he is a sinner, I know not. One thing I do know—where I was blind, I now see."

No contradictions, no badgering, nothing shakes the young man's convictions. So the Pharisees retreat into an ancient teaching. He had been born blind, so the young man must be a sinner. Who was to be tried to teach the teachers? And they threw him out.

Hearing this, Jesus seeks the young man out to ask if he believes on the Son of God. He asks him, the man tells him that the one who had healed him and now stands before him is indeed the Son of God. Immediately the man believes, accepts Him and worships Him.

The closing section of the chapter brings us back to the truth. The Light of the world is not only the healer of the blind, but also the Judge and Condemner of those who think they see.

Although the Pharisees knew Jesus is speaking to them, they still ask if they include among those who are blind. Jesus answers them ironically: "Would God you were only physically blind, for then you might receive some sight!"

But, though they boasted of an ability to "see" spiritually, they had failed to recognize Him as the Son of God and accept His miracles. Their sins remained.

Corruption Drive Launched in India

NEW DELHI (Reuters)—The government has launched a major drive against extensive corruption in the public sector. Prime Minister Nehru said the "foremost administrative problem" in India today is the "prevalence of corruption in the public sector... with a pledge he will consider himself unfit for public life if there is not an end to corruption in two years.

A central vigilance commission will work with the government's special police establishment to root out dishonesty among civil servants.

Official figures showed more than 44,000 government employees were punished for corruption, bribery or misappropriation in the 1-2 year period to 1962.

Minister K. D. Malaviya resigned recently following allegations his ministry gave mining licenses to a Calcutta company whose owners gave favors to Malaviya.

Another judge was proving all allegations against the chief minister of Punjab, Sardar Prasad. Accusations of dishonesty against persons in authority have also won wide publicity in India. But, as many commentators have pointed out, "There is still a long way to go before the end of corruption."

5 Post Offices Being Built In Province

OTTAWA (CP)—Under the winter works program, the public works department is building 18 post offices in Nova Scotia. 18 in New Brunswick and five in Prince Edward Island.

The Ontario Minister of the House of Commons has been told that the Ontario government gave the information to Robert C. Coates, P.C.—Cumberland—of the Ontario Ministry of Labour and Minister MacEachern, Fisheries Minister, Robb and the Ontario Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, MacEachern, who was Minister of the Interior and two for Prince Edward Island.

The reply was five for Inverness-Richmond and three for Charlottetown.

Estimated cost of the government's winter works program across the country is \$160,000,000.

UNMATURED DEBT — In the fiscal year since 1957, Canada's national un-matured debt has increased to \$17,000,000,000 (from \$15,000,000,000).

Charlottetown Bible Chapel

235 Cumberland St. at Langworth Ave. 11:00 a.m.—Family Bible Hour 7:30 p.m.—Message by James Stahr. Mr. and Mrs. Stahr returned this week from a visit to Arabia and Jerusalem. In the light of the trip and experiences in the Bible lands that shed light on the stories of the Bible. Visitors are cordially welcome.

First Baptist Church

Corner of Prince and Filzroy Streets. Rev. Malcolm F. Barlow, R.A., B.D., Minister. Mrs. V. L. Dingwell, Organist and Choir Director. 9:45 a.m.—Sunday School for all ages. Extended sessions for pre-school children. 11:00 a.m.—"THE READING OF THE VEIL" Anthem: "The Saviour of the World" (Goss) 7:00 p.m.—"THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WORD" Anthem: "Living for Jesus" Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.—Mid-Week Service—Prayer and Bible Study A Warm Welcome Awaits You

The Salvation Army

"Home of Evangelism Since 1855" Great George Street 33 Villa Avenue Major Ronald R. Walker 5:15 p.m.—Sunday School 9:30 a.m.—Sunday School—10 a.m. Holiness Meeting—11 a.m. Salvation Meeting—7 p.m. Friday, Young People's Hobby Class—4:15 p.m. "A WELCOME AWAITS YOU AT THE ALMAY"

CALVARY TEMPLE

Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada Upper Paradise Road Rev. C. K. Benn, Pastor 9:15 a.m.—Radio Broadcast—St. Anne's Station 9:45 a.m.—Sunday School, Classes for All 11:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer 7:30 p.m.—Evangellistic Rally Subject: "THE GLOHY OF GOD" ATTEND CHARLOTTETOWN'S FULL GOSPEL CHURCH

Central Christian Church

219 Kent Street Charlottetown, P.E.I. Morning 10:00 a.m.—Bible School and Family Hour 11:00 a.m.—Worship and Communion Message: "Education of the Children of God" EVENING 7:00 p.m.—Evangellistic Service Message: "THE OFFENCE OF THE CROSS" Following the evening service Ron Mellichamp will show slides on his trip to the Holy World, Jerusalem and Greece. A warm welcome extended to all. Minister—William D. Weale Organist—Mrs. Allison MacRae A.R.C.M. YOU ARE WELCOME TO WORSHIP WITH US

when they are in their prime. Some ministers who have been charged with the task of planning and directing business firms as longed have faced allegations and representatives that members of their families and procedures in the nation. governmental bureaucracy. Sons have obtained valuable positions and have been able to establish themselves in business. assured of lucrative positions and obtained improved circumstances open to criticism.

St. Paul's Anglican Church

Established 1749 by Royal L.S.T. The Rev. F. Louis Elias, L.S.T., Rector Organist and Choir Director: George A. Thompson, F.R.C.O. (C.M.A. A.R.C.M.) FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT 8:30—CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION 9:45—SUNDAY SCHOOL, Junior, Senior & Bible Classes 11:00—SUNDAY SCHOOL, Primary & Beginners Classes 11:00—EVENING PRAYER & SERMON Anthem: "Like As The Hart" by Vincent Novello Subject: CHRIST, BREAKER OF DIVIDED WALLS 7:00—EVENING WORSHIP Anthem: "SURRENDER TO THE KING" Subject: KILL THAT MAN Attend Church This Sunday

PARK ROYAL UNITED CHURCH

13 Christie Drive, Parkdale Rev. G. H. Ty, B.A., B.D., Minister Rev. Leslie Biscott, Organist and Director of Choirs 9:45 a.m.—Youth Adult Bible Class 9:45 a.m.—Junior, Intermediate, Senior Church School 11:00 a.m.—Nursery and Kindergarten Classes 11:00 a.m.—DIVINE WORSHIP Sermon: "WAS I A CHRISTIAN?" Anthem: "Living With Christ" Rect: "And as Moses Lifted up the Serpent" "God as Loved the World" "The Crucifixion" J. Stainer 11:15 a.m.—Psalms and Church School 7:00 p.m.—EVENING WORSHIP Praise Parliament Reporting Marianne—Robert, Bentley Provincial—Richard Baldwin Anthem: "Saviour and Shepherd"—Schubert "The Boys' Choir" You are welcome to worship with us.

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

Charlottetown, P. E. I. Minister: Rev. J. G. E. Ball, B.A. Rev. A. J. MacEachern, B.A., B.D. Rev. Clayton C. Lewis Organist & Director of Choirs: Royston F. Muford, A.R.C.O. 9:30 a.m.—Senior, Intermediate and Junior Church School 11:00 a.m.—Primary, Kindergarten and Nursery 11:00 a.m.—Lenten No. 3 "COMPROMISE OR CONCESSION" Rev. J. Ball Solo: "O Divine Redeemer" (Gounod) —Miss Hilary Muford 7:45 p.m.—Church Membership Class—Rev. G. G. Wykes 7:00 p.m.—"A JUDGMENT SCENE"—Rev. G. G. Wykes "A WELCOME AWAITS YOU AT TRINITY AND SPRING PARK"

SPRING PARK UNITED CHURCH

(Cor. Kirkwood Drive and Dunbrisk Street) CHURCH SCHOOL 9:30 a.m.—Church School 10:00 a.m.—Nursery in Sunday School Room 11:00 a.m.—"HANDS IN THE CRUCIFIXION" Choir: "Master The Tempest Is Raging" Organist: Mrs. Ron H. Atkinson

Zion Presbyterian Church

Corner Prince and Grafton Streets The Rev. Donald A. Campbell, B.A., Minister Mrs. Roberta Shaw, Deaconess Mrs. Madeline Jackson and Miss B. M. Ross, Organist and Choir Director 9:45 a.m.—The Church School—Classes for all ages 10:00 a.m.—Bible Class 11:00 a.m.—DIVINE WORSHIP Sermon: "THE HONOR OF GOD OR THE PRAISE OF MEN" Rev. A. Howard Guest Preacher: P.E.I. Hospital Chaplain 7:00 p.m.—DIVINE WORSHIP Sermon: "HAVE YOU BEEN WITH JESUS?" Rev. Ross A. Howard Guest Preacher: P.E.I. Hospital Chaplain VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

The Kirk of St. James

The Reverend T. H. B. Somers, M.A., B.T.M., Minister Organist and Director of the Choirs Christopher Girdell, M.A., B.Mus. 9:45 a.m.—Church School and Young People's Bible Class 11:00 a.m.—Church School and Nursery School 11:00 a.m.—MORNING WORSHIP AND SERMON: "CHRIST'S WORDS OF GRACE FOR THOSE IN THE MIDDLE-TIME OF THEIR YEARS" Anthem: "The Church" (Parry) The Junior Choir Anthem: "Lord, for the tender mercies sake" (Hilton) "The Church" (Parry) 7:00 p.m.—EVENING WORSHIP AND SEMINAR Anthem: "GREATNESS IN THE PARABLES OF OUR LORD" IV. "EVEN AS I HAD PITY ON THEE" Solo: Mrs. Barbara C. Rogers "LET US SEARCH AND TRY OUR WAYS, AND TURN AGAIN TO THE LORD"

St. Peter's Cathedral

Rochford Square Anglican Church of Canada The Ven. Archdeacon J. R. Davies, M.A., Rector The Reverend Canon E. M. Malone, M.A., D.D. Honorary Assistant Minister Miss Suzanne Breton, Lic. Mus., Organist Mrs. B. W. Patterson, Choir Director

March 8—The Fourth Sunday in Lent

8:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 8:45 a.m.—Morning Prayer 9:45 a.m.—Sunday School (11 m. Infants Class) 11:00 a.m.—Choral Eucharist and Sermon 7:00 p.m.—Evensong and sermon Visitors are most welcome at all services.

THE POWER TO STAY

An anchor seems like dead weight, doesn't it? But what mariner would sail without it? For an anchor is not dead weight. It commands the tremendous force of gravity in a wild, raging sea. It can grip solid land to fight driving wind or swirling current!

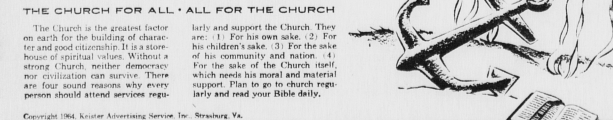
A few men have thought they could go faster without religious faith... until the squalls found them drifting helplessly on bitter shoals!

God gave us forces of motion and progress. We see... aspire... achieve.

But the power to go is treacherous without the power to stay.

So God gave us the Truth our churches offer every human being.

That Truth is man's spiritual grip on the enduring... the eternal.



THE CHURCH FOR ALL... ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest force on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and read your Bible daily.

Table with 7 columns: Day, Service, Time, Location. Sunday: 10:15-11:15, Psalms, 40-7:18. Monday: 6:25-8:35, John, 16. Tuesday: 18:1-19, Acts, 16:1-19. Wednesday: 1:8-15, Romans, 1:8-15. Thursday: 4:7-18, II Corinthians, 11:1-18. Friday: 2:8-29, II Timothy, 2:8-29. Saturday: 6:9-20, Hebrews, 6:9-20.

THIS FEATURE IS CONTRIBUTED TO THE CAUSE OF THE CHURCH BY THE FOLLOWING INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS

Table listing various businesses and their contributions to the church. Includes Atlantic Roofing and Insulation Company, Chesley Wood Fuel, Rogers Hardware Co. Ltd., R. J. Phillips & Son, John W. MacKenzie, The Windmill Restaurant, Donald A. MacPheerson, R. T. James, S. Nelson Good, Larier Bros., Island Furriers Ltd., The Lotus Cafe, L. J. Peters & Co., Moore & McLeod Ltd., Grafton Street Espresso Service.

ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE READ THE CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS ON THIS PAGE FOR TIMES OF SERVICES

Polish Church Head Warned

WARSAW (Reuters)—The leader of the Roman Catholic Church in Poland was warned today not to persist in creating an atmosphere of "menace" and "intimidation" in his religious teaching. It would run the risk of "administrative measures."

An authoritative article in the non-party newspaper Zycie Warszawy accused the Polish church hierarchy of attempting to prevent state control over religious teaching of youth.

"The state must protect its right to control religious teaching," the article stated. "Those who oppose this will have to reckon with administrative measures."

In 1961, two laws passed removed religious classes from state schools. They permitted creation of thousands of "points of catechism" throughout the country on condition that were registered, did not exceed two hours instruction weekly, were open to state inspection and did not go beyond purely religious teaching.

COLLEGES MAKE PLANS

MONTREAL (CP)—Representatives of 24 Canadian universities and colleges will attend a four-day planning seminar beginning today at Loyola College. Twenty institutions—with enrolment between 2,500 or less—have prepared statements of their plans for the next 10 years and these will be analyzed and evaluated in sessions from seven provinces.

—Nova Scotia: Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan—will be represented.

The Bible House

170 Kent Street Opposite Eaton's Bibles, Prayer and Hymn Books, Mottoes, Plaques and Greeting Cards