

Healing of the Two Blind Men



Common Eye Problems



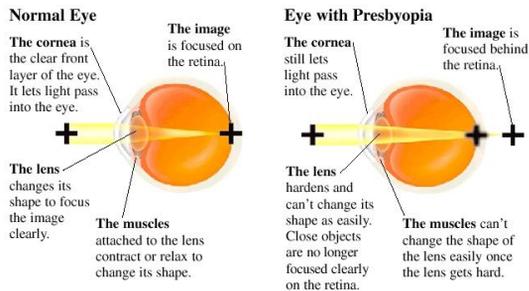
Myopia



Myopia in Singapore

- Although Singapore has one of the highest rates of myopia in the world, the level here has remained stable over the past decade.
- According to the Health Promotion Board (HPB), it has remained constant over the past 10 years - at 65 per cent among Primary 6 pupils and 28 per cent among those in Primary 1, reported Chinese-language paper Lianhe Zaobao.

Presbyopia (Lao Hua Yan)



Glaucoma



Glaucoma in Singapore

- In Singapore, glaucoma affects about 3 percent of those aged over 50.
- Risk increases with age; the percentage of people aged over 70 affected by glaucoma is 10 percent.
- Chronic diseases – you are at an increased risk of certain types of glaucoma if you have diabetes and high blood pressure.

World's Blind Population to Soar

- PARIS: The world's blind will increase threefold from about **36 million today to 115 million in 2050** as populations expand and individuals grow ever older, researchers said on Thursday (Aug 3).
- The number of people with a moderate to severe vision impairment - only those not corrected by glasses, contact lenses or an operation - will also near triple, from about 217 million to 588 million over the same period.

• <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/world-s-blind-population-to-soar-study-9087610>

Healing Two Blind Men



Matthew 9:27-31

Introduction

- Eye problems must have been quite common in Palestine in Christ's time.
- Someone estimated that one out of five adults of that day was afflicted with some kind of eye disease.
- No medical treatment was available then, unlike today.

I. Failure in Their Sight

A. Both experience Darkness

- The world is in darkness (Eph.6:12) as those who live in it (Rom. 2:19).
- The person who hates his brother walks in darkness (1 John 2:11).
- Satan blinds the minds of all who have not trusted Christ (2 Cor. 4:4).

I. Failure in Their Sight

B. Both experience Danger

- If the light of the Gospel is rejected, then that person's ultimate destiny is outer darkness forever (Matt. 25:30).

I. Failure in Their Sight

C. Both experience Dependence

- Just as the visually handicap person needs various kinds of help, so the spiritually blind depends on others to deliver the message of the gospel (Acts 26:18).
- Let us who know the truth not fail them.

II. Faith in the Saviour

A. Proclamation of their faith

Jesus Healed Two Blind Men Mt 9:27-31

1. Two Blind Men Recognized that Jesus is the Son of David (27)



II. Faith in the Saviour

A. Proclamation of their faith

The title "Son of David" linked Messiah with the covenant made with King David (2 Sam. 7:12-16).

The Messiah would ultimately occupy David's throne and rule the kingdom (Isa. 9:7).

II. Faith in the Saviour

A. Proclamation of their faith

But "Son of David" was a title also charged with political overtones.

Jesus apparently did not want to encourage such political connotations lest it detract from his mission.

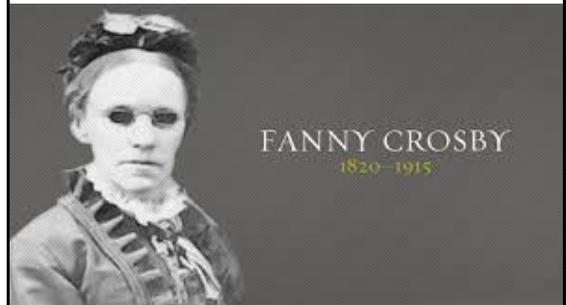
II. Faith in the Saviour

B. Power of their faith

The blind men believed that Jesus can heal them and on that basis he did.

Sometimes Christ's miracles were performed in response to faith, and yet on other occasions, He found no faith and still performed the miracle (Mark 5:39-40; Luke 22:50-51).

Power of her faith



Though blind, she wrote about 9,000 hymns in her lifetime.

Power of her faith

- Her love of poetry began early—her first verse, written at age 8, echoed her lifelong refusal to feel sorry for herself:

Oh, what a happy soul I am,
 although I cannot see!
 I am resolved that in this world
 Contented I will be.
 How many blessings I enjoy
 That other people don't,
 To weep and sigh because I'm blind
 I cannot, and I won't!

III. Folly in their Service

A. There was a Directive (30)

Jesus sternly warned them to let no one know what happened.

The reason the Lord did not want most of His miracles publicized is that He did not want people to acclaim Him as the Messiah prematurely.

III. Folly in their Service

A. There was a Directive (30)

He knew He must first suffer and die before being enthroned as King.

He did want to arouse premature hostility from the Romans out of fear that a competing king had arisen.

III. Folly in their Service

B. There was Disobedience (31)

Their motives may have been fine, but what they did was clearly disobedience!

Ironically they had faith to be healed but not faith to follow the command of their Healer.

Challenge

1 Samuel 15:22

And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

You claim to believe in the Authority of Scripture, but do you obey God's Word at all cost? Without fear or favour of men?