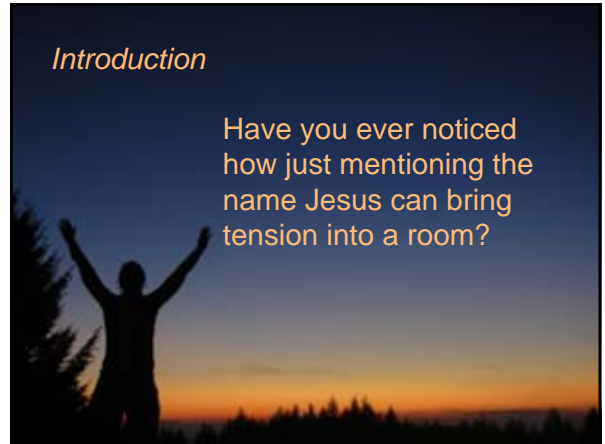




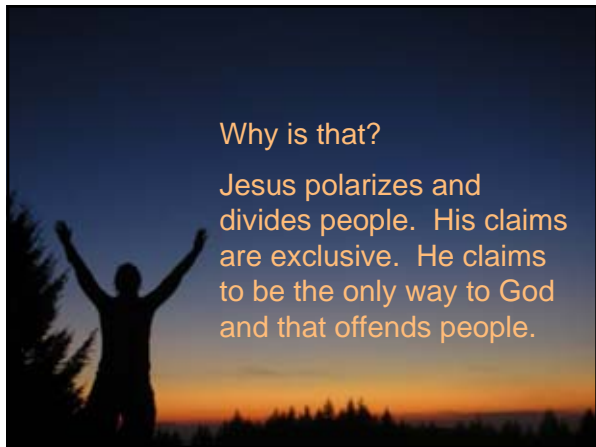
Open Our Eyes Lord

JESUS



Introduction

Have you ever noticed how just mentioning the name Jesus can bring tension into a room?



Why is that?

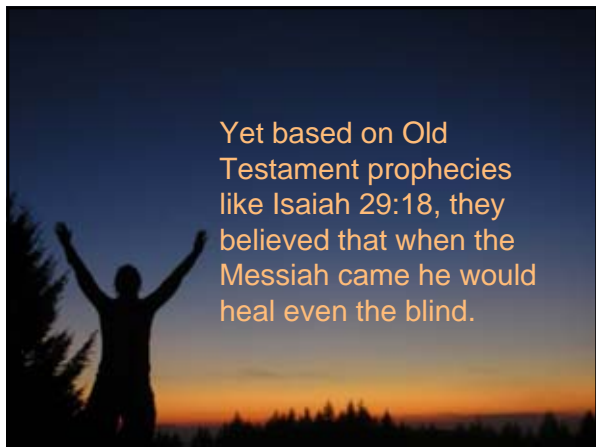
Jesus polarizes and divides people. His claims are exclusive. He claims to be the only way to God and that offends people.



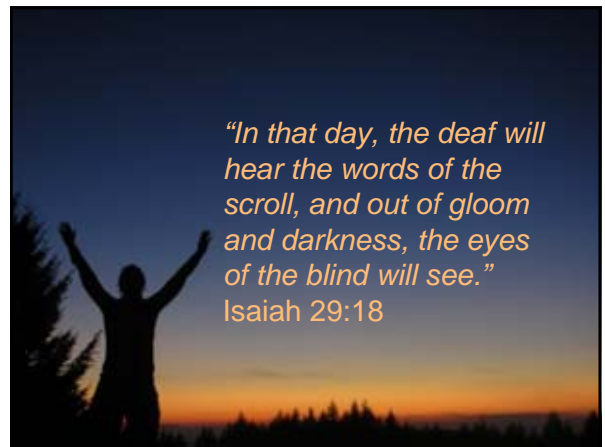
I. The Progression of Faith.

This is the sixth miraculous sign recorded in John's gospel.

In the entire Old Testament, there are no miracles of sight being restored to the blind.



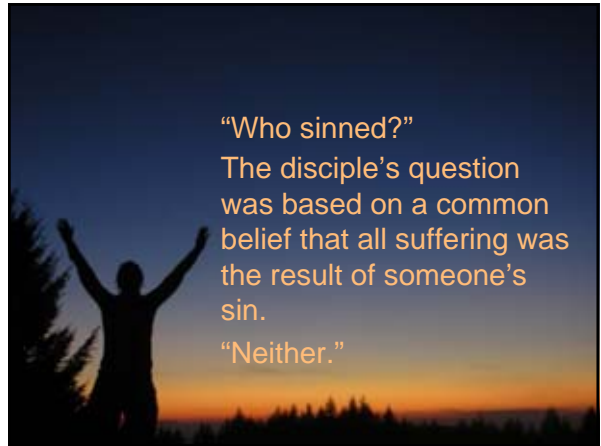
Yet based on Old Testament prophecies like Isaiah 29:18, they believed that when the Messiah came he would heal even the blind.



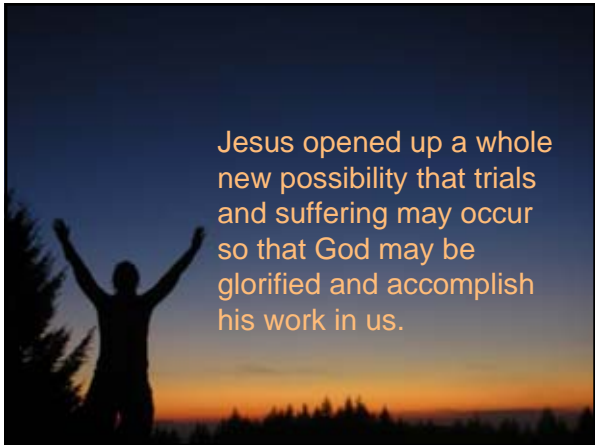
"In that day, the deaf will hear the words of the scroll, and out of gloom and darkness, the eyes of the blind will see."
Isaiah 29:18



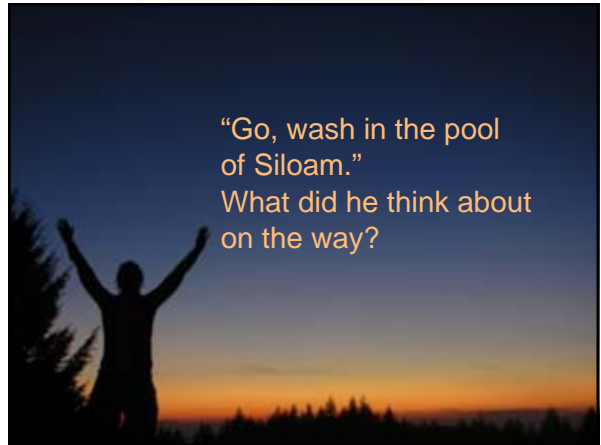
This was the Messianic miracle par excellence. In the gospels, there are more miracles of sight being restored than any other category.



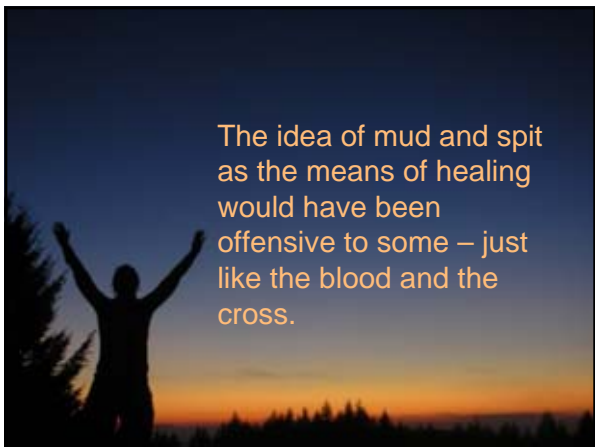
“Who sinned?”
The disciple’s question was based on a common belief that all suffering was the result of someone’s sin.
“Neither.”



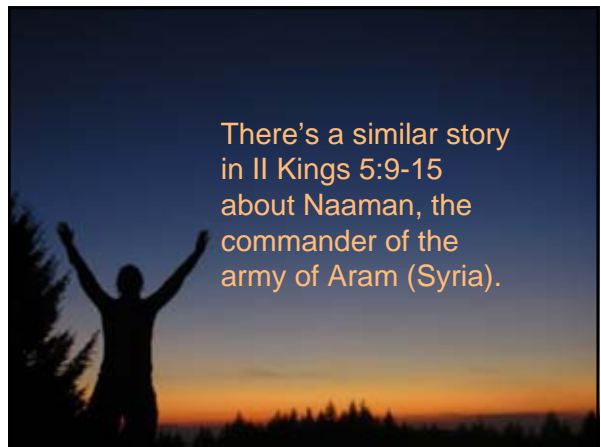
Jesus opened up a whole new possibility that trials and suffering may occur so that God may be glorified and accomplish his work in us.



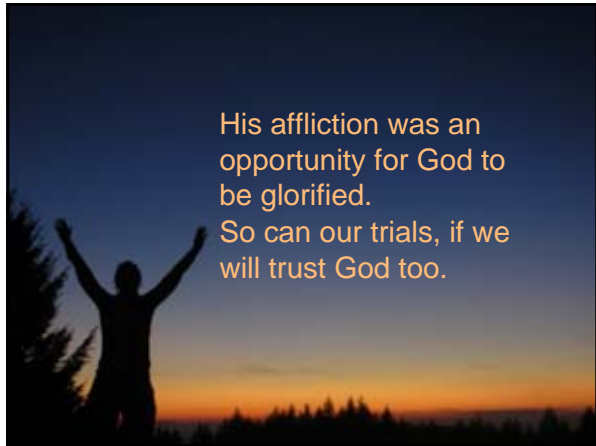
“Go, wash in the pool of Siloam.”
What did he think about on the way?



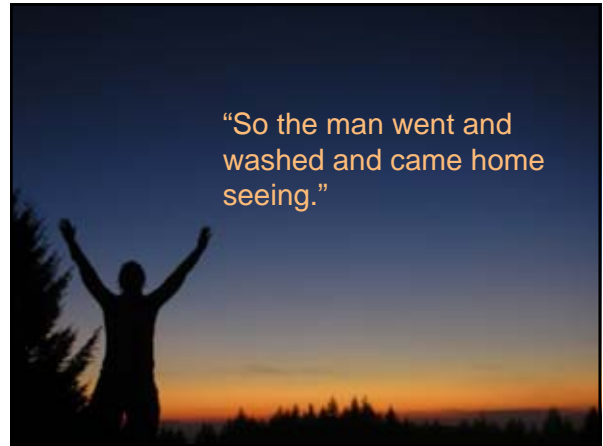
The idea of mud and spit as the means of healing would have been offensive to some – just like the blood and the cross.



There’s a similar story in II Kings 5:9-15 about Naaman, the commander of the army of Aram (Syria).



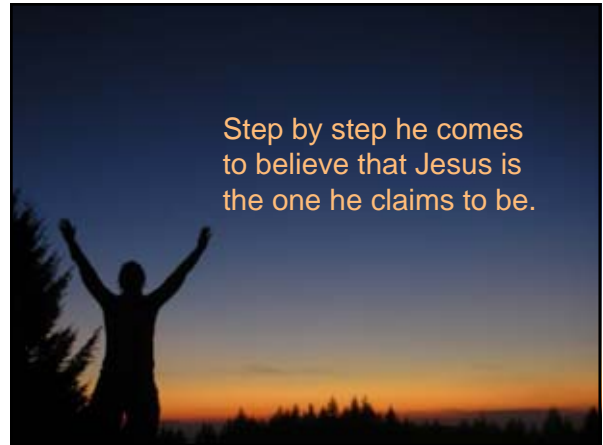
His affliction was an opportunity for God to be glorified.
So can our trials, if we will trust God too.



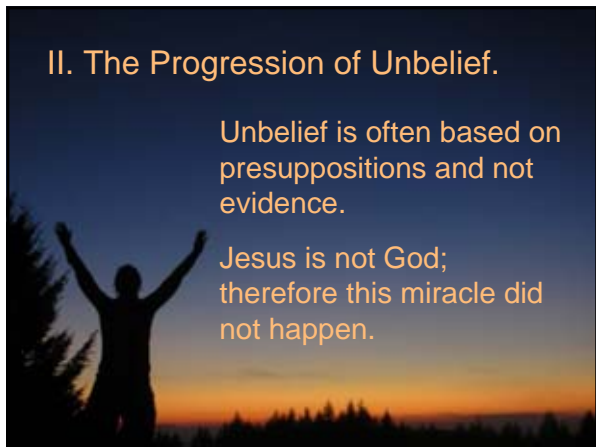
“So the man went and washed and came home seeing.”



Here’s where the progression of faith starts.
He calls Jesus
1. A man. Verse 11
2. A prophet. Verse 17
3. One who has disciples. Verse 27
4. One sent from God. Verse 33
5. Lord and worships him. Verse 38



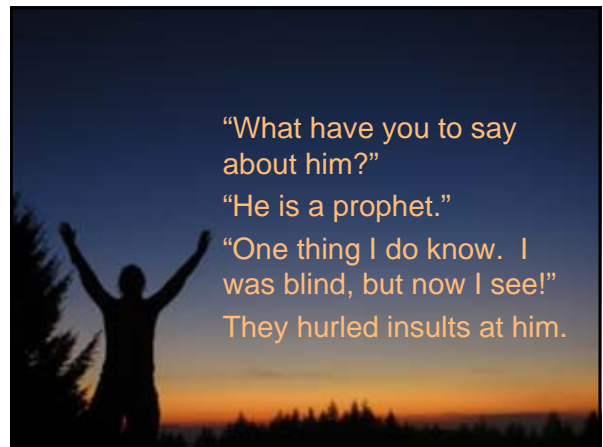
Step by step he comes to believe that Jesus is the one he claims to be.



II. The Progression of Unbelief.

Unbelief is often based on presuppositions and not evidence.

Jesus is not God; therefore this miracle did not happen.



“What have you to say about him?”


“He is a prophet.”

“One thing I do know. I was blind, but now I see!”
They hurled insults at him.

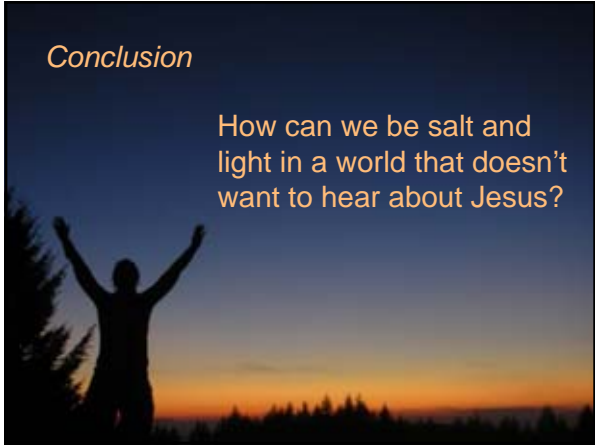


The progression of unbelief.

1. They refused to believe that Jesus came from God. Verse 16
2. They questioned the miracle. Verse 18
3. They called Jesus a sinner. Verse 24
4. They showed their ignorance about Jesus. Verse 29
5. They were spiritually blind. Verse 41



Miracles do not
compel belief.
Miracles validate faith
for those who have
eyes to see.



Conclusion

How can we be salt and
light in a world that doesn't
want to hear about Jesus?



We can:

1. Pray.
2. Lift up Christ.
3. Live for Christ.