

Sermon Notes 29 March 2020

The Cleansing Wave

Phoebe Palmer Knapp

Oh, now I see the crimson wave!
The fountain deep and wide;
Jesus, my Lord, mighty to save,
Points to His wounded side.

Refrain:

The cleansing stream I see, I see!
I plunge, and, oh, it cleanseth me!
Oh, praise the Lord, it cleanseth me!
It cleanseth me, yes, cleanseth me.

I see the new creation rise,
I hear the speaking Blood;
It speaks! Polluted nature dies!
Sinks 'neath the cleansing flood.

I rise to walk in Heav'n's own light,
Above the world and sin,
With heart made pure and garments white,
And Christ enthroned within.

Amazing grace! 'tis Heav'n below
To feel the blood applied,
And Jesus, only Jesus know,
My Jesus crucified.

Excerpt from *Glory*, the film

Shaw: *It stinks, I suppose.*

Tripp: *Yeah. . . stinks bad. . . .
And we all covered up in it too, I mean, ain't nobody clean.
Be nice to get clean, though.*

Amazing Grace

John Newton

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.



John 9: Seven Scenes

Cast:

Jesus

Jesus' disciples

A man blind from birth

The neighbours

The Pharisees (the Jews)

The blind man's parents

SCENE ONE: Jesus, his disciples and a man blind from birth

1 As (Jesus) walked along, he saw a man blind from birth.

2 His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

3 Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. 4 We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

SCENE TWO: Jesus, the blind man (Jesus' disciples)

6 When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, 7 saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

SCENE THREE: The neighbours and the blind man

8 The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?"

9 Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man."

10 But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?"

11 He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight."

12 They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

SCENE FOUR: The neighbours, the Pharisees, the blind man

13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. 14 Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.

15 Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see."

16 Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided (*schisma*).

17 So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

SCENE FIVE: The "Jews" (the Pharisees), the blind man's parents, (the blind man)

18 The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight 19 and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"

9:20 His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; 21 but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself."

22 His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue (*aposunagogos*).

23 Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

SCENE SIX: The Pharisees, the blind man

24 So for the second time they (the Pharisees) called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man (Jesus) is a sinner."

25 He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."

