

# Learn from Bartimaeus

Our focus on the example of Bartimaeus will be more on what he did rather than what Jesus did for him.

## 1. He Called Out Himself, Not Relying on Others

The Holy Scripture tells us that Bartimaeus was blind, and when Jesus was leaving Jericho, His disciples and a large crowd were with Him. This makes it clear how difficult it must have been for a blind man to raise his voice and reach Jesus amidst the crowd. He could have pleaded with someone nearby to convey his voice to Jesus or requested some people to take him to Jesus. But he did not do so. Instead, he started calling out to Jesus, regardless of the crowd.

We should learn from this that bringing our troubles before Jesus is our own responsibility. If we depend on people, not only will they fail to help us, but time will also pass by.

What would have happened if Bartimaeus had asked for help instead of calling out himself? Would people in such a large crowd really leave their opportunity to see Jesus and help a blind man? Even if some were willing to assist, it is likely that by the time they brought Bartimaeus to Jesus, He would have already moved on. As a result, Bartimaeus' suffering would have remained unchanged.

The same happens with us. When we face problems, we go to a pastor or fellow believers for prayer, but we hesitate to present our sorrow directly before God. We should first call upon Jesus ourselves.

## 2. Called Out Even Louder When Rebuked

Often, when we try to draw near to the Lord, the world attempts to stop us. Sometimes, even our own family becomes an obstacle. Due to this pressure, we stop calling out to Jesus. The same happened with Bartimaeus. When he started calling out, people rebuked him, asking him to be silent. But he did not give up; instead, he called out even louder.

Dear brothers and sisters, in the beginning, we are also suppressed so that we do not move forward in the Lord. But this is not the time to step back by listening to people's words. Instead, we should move forward with even greater faith and holiness. Just as Bartimaeus did not stop calling out despite being rebuked, we too should keep trying until we receive an answer. Ultimately, his persistence paid off, and Jesus called him near.

## 3. He Cast Aside His Old Garment and Went to Jesus

If Bartimaeus had any doubt that Jesus would not heal him, he would not have thrown away his garment. But as soon as Jesus called him, the first thing he did was cast aside his old garments. This signifies that he had complete faith that he would no longer need them.

What should we learn from this? Do we also have old garments? Yes, we all have many old garments that we need to discard—our bad habits, sources of sin, and countless reasons that lead us to wrongdoing. If we have placed our faith in Jesus, we must abandon all our sins; otherwise, we can never come near His holiness.

When we let go of all these burdens, we prove by our actions that our faith in Jesus is unwavering. This is what pleases our Heavenly Father. As a result, He grants us the same blessing that even great priests desire—"What do you want Me to do for you?"

#### **4. He Asked Directly for What He Needed Without Complaining**

Bartimaeus simply said, "I want to see." He did not attempt to list his troubles. He could have said, "Lord, I have been blind since birth, I suffer a lot, and I can hardly earn my daily bread," etc. But he did not say so, because he knew that the One before whom he stood already knew his suffering.

If we believe that Jesus can solve all our problems, then we must also believe that He already knows our troubles. Therefore, when praying, instead of listing our problems, we should directly ask for what we need. If our request is right and our faith is strong, God will surely fulfill it.

#### **5. Did Not Turn Away from Jesus After Receiving His Need**

When Bartimaeus received his sight, Jesus said to him, "Go, your faith has healed you." It is important to note that Jesus told him to "go," not to "come." This means that if he wanted, he could have returned home. But he did not. Instead, he used his new vision not to see the world, but to follow Jesus.

This teaches us an important lesson: even when our prayers are answered, we should remain as faithful to the Lord as we were when seeking blessings. This is true devotion and the offering most pleasing to God.

### **Blessed is our Jesus, and blessed is His love**

Led by the Holy Spirit, Guided by Faith and Scripture

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I sincerely thank my respected Pastor, Rev. Sahadev Nanda, for teaching this topic so profoundly and clearly. His guidance has been a great blessing, enriching both my knowledge and faith. May God continue to bless him abundantly.

**With gratitude,**  
Sonu Kumar Saha