Psalter: 280:1,3 - 324:2,3 - 241:1,2,7 - 310:3,5,6 - 415:2,4

Scripture: Mark 8: 1-33

**THE HEALING OF THE BLIND MAN AT BETHSAIDA**

**1. A remarkable healing**

* The people come to Jesus with a preconceived idea regarding how He should help.
  + God leads each of His children in particular.
* There is love and determination in Jesus’ guiding hand.
* Note that Jesus leads the man out of the town (cf. Mat. 11:20-21).
* Contrast this man with Bartimaeus (cf. Isa. 42:16; 65:1).
* Jesus spits in his eyes.
  + To humiliate him? (Num. 12:14; Deut. 25:9; Job 30:10; Isa 50:6; Mat 26:67, 27:30; Mk 10:34, 14:65, 15:19, Lk 18:32)
  + A sign? (Mk 7:33; Jn 9:6)
  + To show that He knows where the problem is.
    - So spiritually (cf. 1 Cor. 2:14; Rev. 3:18).
* Note Jesus’ question.
* The man sees, but lacks clarity.
* Christ wants His people to live by faith and to grow in faith.

**2. An instructive healing**

* The healing is a parable of a spiritual reality.
* Consider what happened before.
  + The disciples had seen so many miracles, but yet were blind.
  + Jesus needed to touch their eyes.
* Consider what happened afterward (Mk. 8:29)
  + Peter’s confession
  + Jesus’ instruction about the Messiah is shocking to them.
  + Jesus needed to touch their eyes again.
* To be a disciple of a suffering Surety means to be a cross-bearer yourself.