

## Reaching the Lost Through Justice I

*Have you ever been lost because you could not find your way out?  
Have you ever been lost because you were in the dark? How well do  
you see? Do you see what is really going on in your life? Have you  
ever been lost because life took an unfamiliar turn and you lost your  
way?*

Consider **Matthew 13:44** and **John 9:1-5**

Some treasure is lost in the field and buried over time.

Some treasure is lost because of what people **think** about it.

Jesus saw a man born blind. *Vs 1*

Jesus will always see people **first**.

Jesus saw a man suffering, in poverty and blind.

### I

The disciples **saw** a **blind** man **begging**. *Vs 2*

Disciples must see people first, a man born blind.

The disciples saw his physical condition and neglected his **suffering**.

Do you see people's suffering or just their condition?

Some disciples only want to debate about people's condition.

- Justice seeks to alleviate and to eliminate the suffering of people.

### II

The disciple's **dialogue** was about his condition. *Vs 2b*

The disciple's dialogue was a theological debate rather than action.  
*Exodus 20:5*

Are we so far removed from the thinking that blames a person for the misfortune they bear?

Who sinned? Whose fault, is it? Who's the blame is the "**blame game**".

In our "enlightened" world don't people still think that poverty, and it's resulting conditions like sickness and short life span, are the fault of the poor?

*Aren't those physically or sexually abused sometimes blamed for what they "provoked" in others? "She wouldn't have gotten raped if she hadn't dressed that way."*

Such attitudes about poverty's sources will also prevent people from doing something to change oppressive conditions for groups of people in our own cities and for nations in other parts of the world.

- Justice is seen in our actions not just our talk.

### III

The divine **declaration** is Jesus came to do something about the condition.

"Neither this man nor his parents sinned". *Vs 3*

Jesus had a twofold mission:

- Jesus enlightened the disciples with a different **perspective**.
- Jesus gave sight to the man so he has new vision.

*Could it be until disciples are enlightened, the community conditions will not change?*

Some say justice is hard work. I say justice is God's work. *Vs 4*

*Let's do the work of justice.*

**Monday, May 1, 2017 the Celeste Center  
Ohio State Fairgrounds 7:00 pm**

*Rhema Christian Center, Dr. La Fayette Scales, Apostle – Sunday, April 2, 2017 – 8 & 11 a.m.*