International Bible Lesson
International Bible Study Commentary
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Jesus Will Not Abandon Believers
John 9:35-41

Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? (John 9:35—KJV).

Jesus heard that they had put him out, and finding him, He said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" (John 9:35—NASB).

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" (John 9:35—NRSV).

No matter what happens to His followers, Jesus will never abandon them. Because they feared being cast out of the synagogue, the man born blind that Jesus healed was left by his parents to face the Pharisees alone. Because of his testimony on behalf of Jesus, the Pharisees then cast him out of the synagogue. Learning of his persecution for telling the truth, Jesus sought the man to complete his spiritual enlightenment and grant him eternal life. To the Pharisees, the man had testified that Jesus was a good man and a prophet of God, but Jesus wanted the man to know Him fully and come to trust in Him and His heavenly Father too. So, when Jesus found the man, He asked him, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" After Jesus told him that He was the Son of Man (the Messiah that Daniel had prophesied), he responded, "'Lord, I believe.' And he worshiped him" (John 9:38). As the Son of God and the Son of Man, Jesus accepted his worship. He became a true disciple of Jesus, and Jesus immediately fulfilled the promise He has made to all who will follow Him, "I will not leave you orphaned" (John 14:18). Through faith in Jesus, God adopted him as his child (Ephesians 1:5). Then, because the man knew Jesus and the Father, he no longer needed the temple or the synagogue to be with God. In the name of Jesus, he could now worship God His Father wherever he went, and on the Day of Pentecost Jesus filled him with the promised Holy Spirit.

Thinking Further

1. What does it mean when Jesus calls himself the Son of God?

2. What does it mean when Jesus calls himself the Son of Man?

3. What did you learn about Jesus when you read that He went to find the man after He learned that he had been driven out of the synagogue?

4. Do you think the man responded rightly to Jesus when Jesus told him who He is? Give a reason for your answer.

5. Why did Jesus say the sins of the Pharisees remained?

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