

BLINDNESS TAKES MANY FORMS

Helen Keller, who became a famous author and lecturer despite being born deaf and blind, was once asked if she thought there was anything worse than not having her sight. **“Only one thing is worse than blindness,”** she replied, **“and that is to have eyes and not to see!”**

The truth of Helen Keller’s words are painfully obvious in this morning’s Gospel lesson. Christ encounters a man who has been blind from birth. Because of his handicap, the blind man. Is somewhat of an outcast. Even the Apostles question their master: **“Who sinned that this man should have been born blind?”**

What is the reaction to Christ’s miracle of giving sight to the blind man? Some of his neighbors express doubt that he is really the same person they knew to be sightless. The Pharisees question him as they would a common criminal. The man’s own parents distance themselves from him, refusing to get involved in the controversy. The eyes of everyone were blinded to the fact that the Lord had chosen this unfortunate man to be a means of showing His power.

Sadly, many in today’s world do not see Jesus as being the **LIGHT OF THE WORLD**, Subornly remaining mired in the darkness of sin. May the words of the Kondakion for this Sunday remind us of our need to be illumined by our Saviour:” **“I come to You, O Christ, like the man blind from birth, and I cry to You with repentance: You are a radiant and glorious light to those who stumble in darkness.”**