

MATTHEW 20

20:29 And as they departed from Jericho,

a great multitude followed him.

^{30a}And, behold, two blind men sitting by the way side,

b. when they heard that Jesus passed by,

cried out, saying,

d. O Lord, *thou* Son of David.

c. Have mercy on us,

^{31a}And the multitude rebuked them, that they should hold their peace: but they cried the more, saying,

c. *thou* Son of David.

b. Have mercy on us, O Lord,

³²And Jesus stood still, and called them,

and said, **What will ye that I shall do unto you? (Plural)**

³³They say unto him, **Lord**, that our eyes may be opened.

³⁴So Jesus had compassion *on them*, and touched their eyes:

and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed him.

MARK 10

10:46 And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people,

blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging.

⁴⁷And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, *thou* Son of David, have mercy on me.

^{48a}And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal,

^{48b}*Thou* Son of David, have mercy on me.

⁴⁹And Jesus stood still, & commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee.

⁵⁰And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus.

⁵¹And Jesus answered and said unto him, **What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? (Singular)** The blind man said unto him, **Lord**, that I might receive my sight.

⁵²And Jesus said unto him,

Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole.

And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

LUKE 18

18:35 And it came to pass, that as he was come nigh unto Jericho,

a certain blind man sat by the way side begging:

³⁶And hearing the multitude pass by, he asked what it meant.

³⁷And they told him, that Jesus of Nazareth passeth by.

³⁸And he cried, saying, Jesus, *thou* Son of David, have mercy on me.

^{39a}And they which went before rebuked him, that he should hold his peace:

but he cried so much the more, ^{39b}*Thou* Son of David,

have mercy on me.

⁴⁰And Jesus stood, and commanded him to be brought unto him: and

when he was come near, he asked him,

⁴¹Saying, **What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee? (Singular)**

And he said, **Lord**, that I may receive my sight.

⁴²And Jesus said unto him, **Receive thy sight:**

thy faith hath saved thee.

⁴³And immediately he received his sight, and followed him, glorifying God: & all the people, gave praise unto God.

If there is more than one witness to a disaster, different events are noticed by each and thus differing accounts are given. Similarly, the Holy Spirit led Matthew, Mark, & Luke to note divergent details of this healing by our Lord. Here, one reason is to test the reader's faith. Matthew mentions two blind men (20:30), and Luke seemingly placed the incident at Jesus' approach to Jericho instead of His exit (18:35). Now there clearly were two blind men. Both acknowledged Jesus as Messiah ("*Thou* son of David" & "Lord") and, although not mentioned in Scripture, also two Jericho's: the old lay in ruins and a new a mile away built by Herod the Great for his winter palace. Now it is clear from Matthew and Mark that the healing took place as Christ left Jericho. Indeed, the two beggars sat near the city exit. Thus, the healing miracle could have taken place as Christ was leaving one and entering the other. Yet, the more likely reason for the *apparent error* of omission in Luke was that, compared to the miraculous healing and the unwavering faith especially displayed by Bartimaeus, Dr. Luke simply did not consider the casting away of Bartimaeus' garment worthy of note (nor did Matthew, nor Mark the other beggar). Similarly, we offer that Dr. Luke also did not deem it essential to say where in the city the miracle occurred!