Sunday, March 15, 2026 Heather Pirie

**Scripture Readings**

*The Old Testament Scripture reading is received from* ***Genesis*** *chapter* ***12*** *verses* ***1-4****, which can be found on page* ***12*** *in the* ***old testament*** *of your pew bible…*

[1]The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your own country, your kinsmen, and your father's house, and go to a country that I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, I will bless you and make your name so great that it shall be used in blessings:

Those that bless you I will bless, those that curse you, I will execrate. All the families on earth will pray to be blessed as you are blessed.

And so Abram set out as the Lord had bidden him, and Lot went with him.

*The New Testament Scripture reading is received from John chapter* ***9*** *verses* ***1-25****, which can be found on page* ***124*** *in the* ***new testament*** *of your pew bible…*

[1]As he went on his way Jesus saw a man blind from his birth. His disciples put the question, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents? Why was he born blind?' 'It is not that this man or his parents sinned,' Jesus answered; 'he was born blind so that God's power might be displayed in curing him. While daylight lasts we must carry on the work of him who sent me; night comes, when no one can work. While I am in the world I am the light of the world.' With these words he spat on the ground and made a paste with the spittle; he spread it on the man's eyes, and said to him, 'Go and wash in the pool of Siloam (*Sil – Loh – Um*).' The man went away and washed, and when he returned he could see.

His neighbours and those who were accustomed to seeing him begging said, ‘Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?’ Others said, ‘Yes, this is the man.’ Others again said, ‘No, but it is someone like him.’ The man himself said, ‘I am the man.’ They asked him, ‘How were your eyes opened?’ He replied, ‘The man called Jesus made a paste and smeared my eyes with it, and told me to go to Siloam and wash. I went and washed, and gained my sight.’ ‘Where is he?’ they asked. He answered, ‘I do not know.’

The man who had been blind was brought before the Pharisees. As it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened his eyes, the Pharisees now asked him by what means he had gained his sight. The man told them, ‘He spread a paste on my eyes; then I washed, and now I can see.’ Some of the Pharisees said, ‘This fellow is no man of God; he does not keep the Sabbath.’ Others said, ‘How could such signs come from a sinful man?’ So they took different sides. Then they continued to question him: ‘What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened.’ He answered, ‘He is a prophet.’

The Jews would not believe that the man had been blind and had gained his sight, until they had summoned his parents and questioned them: ‘Is this man your son? Do you say that he was born blind? How is it that he can see now?’ The parents replied, ‘We know that he is our son, and that he was born blind. But how it is that he can now see, or who opened his eyes, we do not know. Ask him; he is of age; he will speak for himself.’ His parents gave this answer because they were afraid of the Jews; for the

Jewish authorities had already agreed that anyone who acknowledged Jesus as Messiah should be banned from the synagogue. That is why the parents said, ‘He is of age, ask him.’

So for the second time they summoned the man who had been blind, and said, ‘Speak the truth before God. We know that this fellow is a sinner.’ ‘Whether or not he is a sinner, I do not know’, the man replied. ‘All I know is this: once I was blind, now I can see.’

*May the Lord God help us to apply this scripture in our lives.*