

## Matthew 9:32-34 More Than One Way to be Dull

Introduction: “As they went out” refers to the two formerly blind men. As they went out another group came in. Some friends brought in a man possessed with a demon.

### I. The man was dumb. Verse 32

- A. The Greek word literally means, “dull, blunt.”
  - 1. The word was often used to refer to a club.
  - 2. It was also often used to refer to dullness of speech or mute.  
(The context justifies this translation. Verse 33.)
  - 3. The word often referred to dullness of hearing. (Deaf)
  - 4. Sometimes it referred to dullness of mind or mental derangement.
- B. All we know for sure is that he was mute.

### II. The man was possessed with a devil. (demon)

- A. A demon spirit entered his body and along with his own spirit dwelt there.
- B. The demon being more powerful than his own spirit controlled his body.
- C. It was the demon which made him mute.  
(Once he was free from the demon he could speak.)
- D. Demons always cause some kind of abnormality in one whom they possess.
  - 1. It may be some physical affliction, some superhuman power, some mental derangement, some religious heresy, or merely a beast like character.
  - 2. David Culverhouse is a good example.
- E. Not all physical and mental afflictions are caused by demon possessions. Luke 5:31

### III. The man was brought to Jesus by his friends.

- A. They led him, influenced him, guided him.
- B. They cared enough to bring him.
- C. They set a worthy example in compassion.

### IV. The man was made whole by Jesus.

- A. The demon spirit was cast out.
- B. When the demon was cast out, he could speak.
  - 1. He did speak, immediately.
  - 2. He must have spoken praise to Jesus.  
(He was glad he could speak and glad he was free of the demon.)
  - 3. Isaiah indicated that he may have sung. Isaiah 35: 5-6

### V. The crowd praised Jesus. Verse 33

- A. Jesus had calmed the storm, healed the sick, cast out demons, gave sight to the blind, caused the dumb to speak, and even raised the dead.
- B. All of Israel was expecting the coming of Messiah. (Expecting a King)
- C. Some of them were now indicating that Jesus is the Messiah.  
(What greater miracles could anyone else do? )

### VI. The Pharisees spoke with accusation. Verse 34

- A. They were appalled that some would suggest that Jesus is the Messiah.
- B. They countered by saying that Jesus casts out demons by the power of the prince of demons.
  - 1. Thus they accused Jesus of being in league with Satan.

2. They could not deny the miracles, but they sought to discredit it by attacking Him.
- C. They were dull in spiritual understanding.  
(Far more serious than being mute.)

VII. Some suggestions.

- A. That all should be saved.
1. Jesus demonstrated His power by the miracles.
  2. But that is not the reason He came to the world; He came to save man from sin.  
(And from hell)
  3. I am asking you to be saved now.
- B. That the saved are privileged to bring others to Jesus.
1. Are you concerned enough about your friends and family members?
  2. Do not demand; do not condemn; do not nag.
  3. Just influence... ask.
  4. I am asking you to try. (No show of hands, but ask Jesus to help you.)
- C. That God allows the individual to make up his own mind about Jesus.
1. He allowed the Pharisees to reject Jesus.
  2. He will allow you to do the same.
  3. That is why you should make sure that you do not do so.

Conclusion:

1. If you have trusted Jesus, but have not made a public profession , do so now.  
(You are already saved.)
2. If you are saved and in need of a church home I am asking you to come.
3. If you are not yet saved, I am asking you to come now.
4. If you are saved I am asking you to live for Jesus.