

**"GOD'S GRACE TO BLIND SINNERS"****Introduction**

1. A prophecy of NT days:
  - (i) v.1 Gentiles
  - (ii) v.19 Jews
2. This change to begin when Christ comes: v.1, 7
3. God's attitude in OT
  - (i) longsuffering (v.14)
  - (ii) v.17 idols

**TEXT**: How God saves his elect people

**1. GOD WILL BRING THE BLIND TO SALVATION**

- 1) Before they are saved the elect are blind:
  - (i) they do not see their own condition
  - (ii) they do not realize how serious is their state
  - (iii) all the pleadings + tears of parents, etc, is feeble
- 2) The way they are saved is one they "knew not":
  - (i) by faith alone without works
  - (ii) seen clearly in Martin Luther

**2. GOD WILL LEAD THEM IN NEW + UNKNOWN PATHS**

- 1) The way of salvation is a unique way:
  - (i) the call of God is heard in the soul: "Follow me"
  - (ii) duty to God is seen to be priority: Cp. parents
  - (iii) to get gospel-light is felt to be essential

**ILLUSTRATION**: man sick in bed  
**DOCTRINE**: The way of faith is new to each one

**3. GOD WILL MAKE DARKNESS LIGHT BEFORE THEM**

- 1) The darkness is ignorance of gospel-truths:
  - (i) the sin of Adam and its consequences

- (ii) the righteousness of Christ + its effects
- (iii) the Cross and shed blood of the Redeemer

- 2) This is dispelled by God's inspired word:
  - (i) revelation in the Bible
  - (ii) illumination by the Spirit

**ILLUSTRATION**: The man born blind in John 9.  
 Also Zacchaeus' repentance – it shows how he saw the evil of sin, not formerly seen.

**4. GOD WILL MAKE CROOKED THINGS STRAIGHT TO THEM**

- 1) Crooked things are the problems which man cannot understand without grace.
- 2) Examples:
  - (i) origins: so different from man's thoughts
  - (ii) Bible: not what sinners think
  - (iii) Calvary: the death was pure love
  - (iv) hell: because God is absolutely just

**APPLICATION**: Faith always justifies God

**5. GOD WILL NOT FORSAKE THEM**

- 1) The fear is that "it will not last"  
**ILLUSTRATION**: a father to his converted son
- 2) So many good things do not last:
  - (i) often, people's health
  - (ii) too often, their marriage
  - (iii) or their great wealth

**ILLUSTRATION**: Recent financial crisis
- 3) But all believers will get home because of this promise of God here.

<b>PSALM</b>
<b>40: 4 – 8</b>
<b>37: 3 – 8</b>
<b>37: 35 – 40</b>

**CONCLUSION**

It is all the fruit of God's grace!