

~~Next~~
Sermons
New Testament
Luke 18:35-43

1

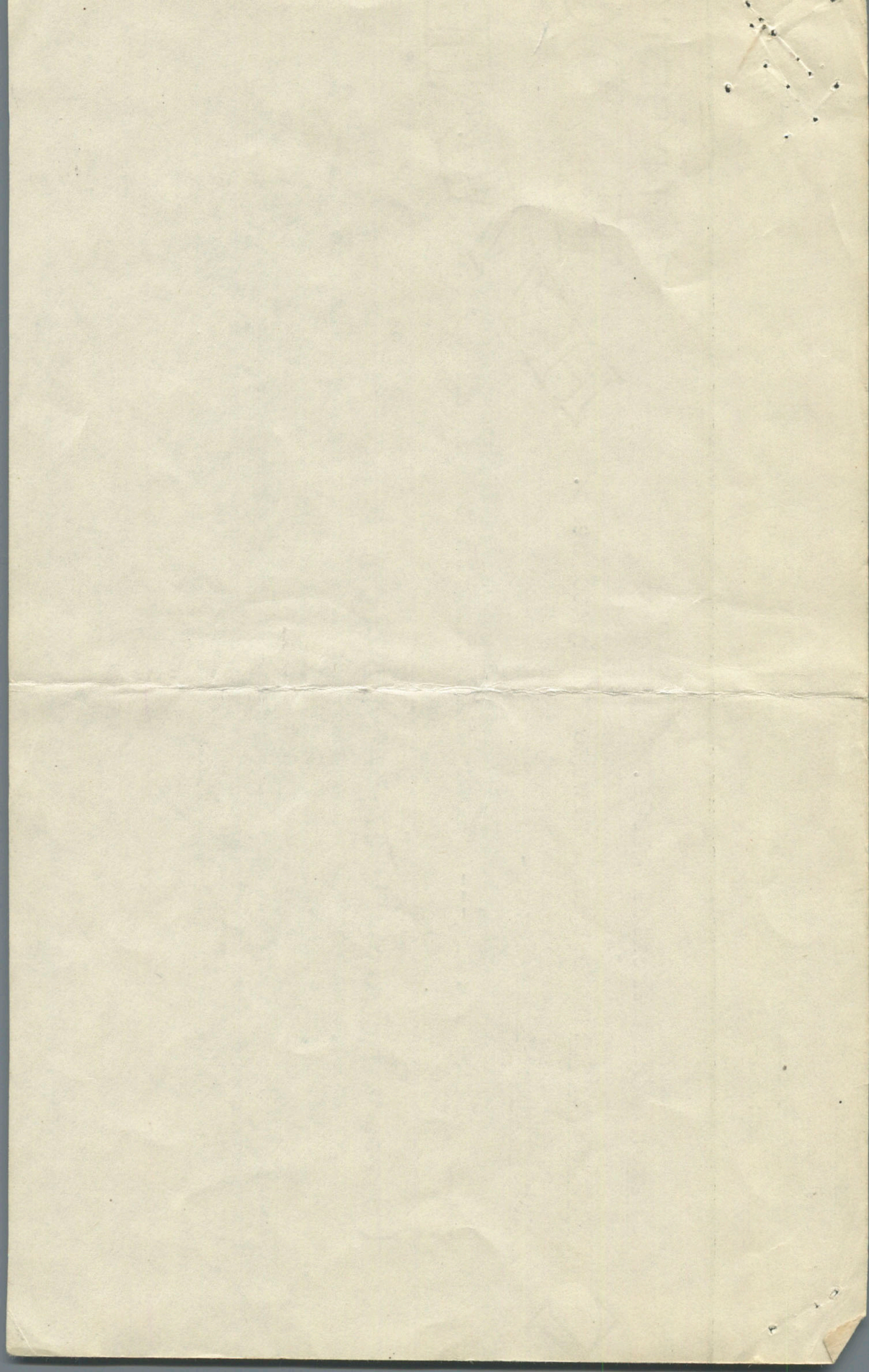
Theme: The merciful Jesus.

Proposition: Jesus is always ready to help.

Scripture: Luke 18:35-43

Text: Luke 18:41 --- "What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee?"

(From "Evangelistic Encyclopedia")



2
Scripture: Luke 18:35-43.

And it came to pass, that as he was come nigh unto Jericho, a certain blind man sat by the way side begging:

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

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

And he cried, saying, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me.

And they which went before rebuked him, that he should hold his peace: but he cried so much the more, Thou son of David, have mercy on me.

And Jesus stood, and commanded him to be brought unto him: and when he was come near, he asked him,

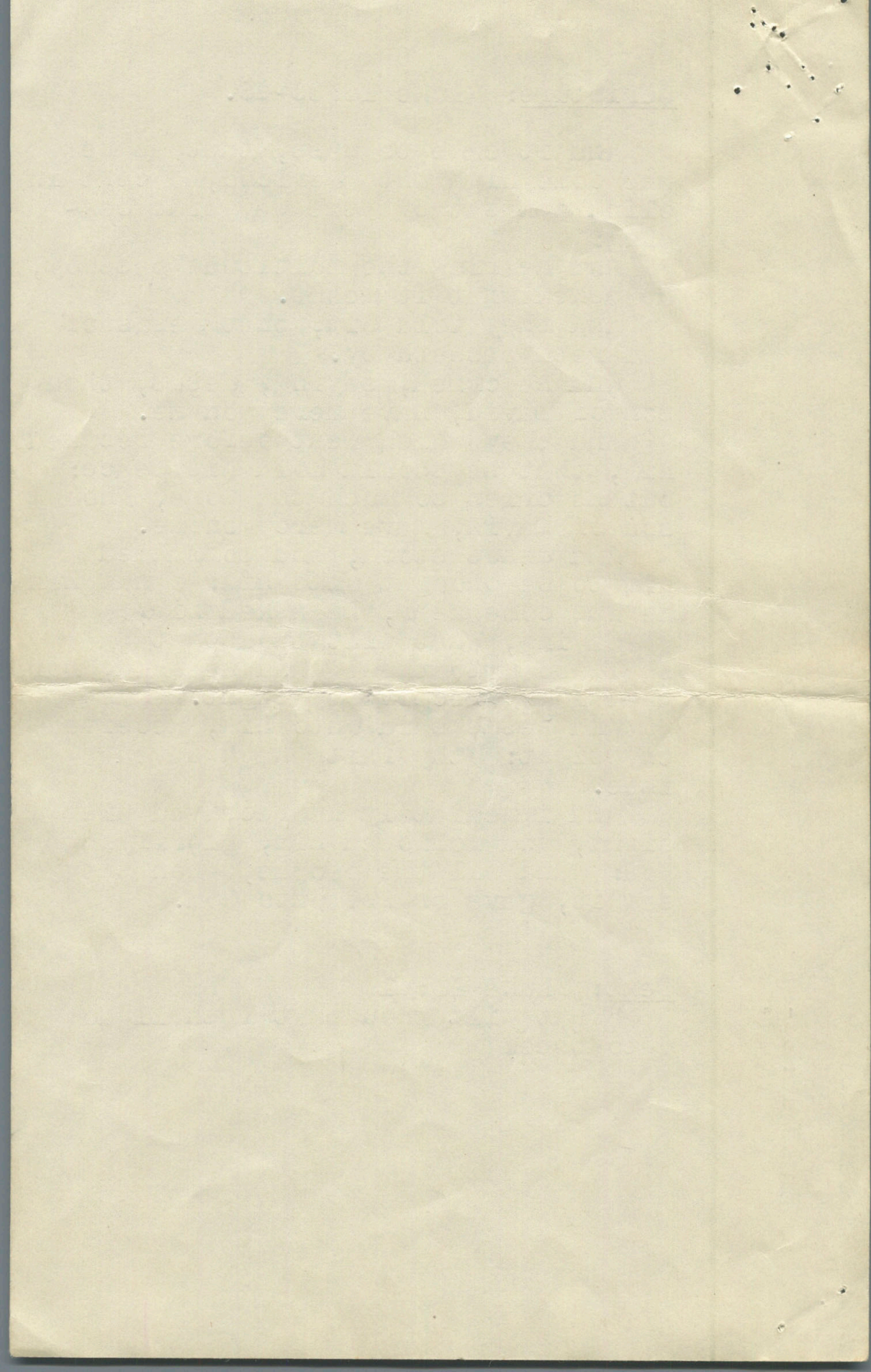
Saying, What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee? And he said, Lord that I may receive my sight.

And Jesus said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee.

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And immediately he received his sight, and followed him, glorifying God: and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise unto God.

Text: Luke 18:41

"What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee?"



3

Introduction:

1. Many incidents in the Scriptures reveal Jesus' love for the lost and despairing.

2. None reveals his love more than this incident of the meeting of Jesus with the poor blind ~~man~~.

3. Jesus was touched by the man's condition.

4. He stopped to heal the man.

5. He stopped because the blind man needed help.

II. The blind man's condition is a parallel to that of the man who knows not Christ.

1. He was blind. All the natural beauties of God's creation were closed to him.

2. There are, however, two worlds, a physical and a spiritual one.

a. The blind man was blind to the physical one.

b. The sinner is blind to the spiritual one.

(1) He knows not the joy of pardon for the guilts and sins upon his mind.

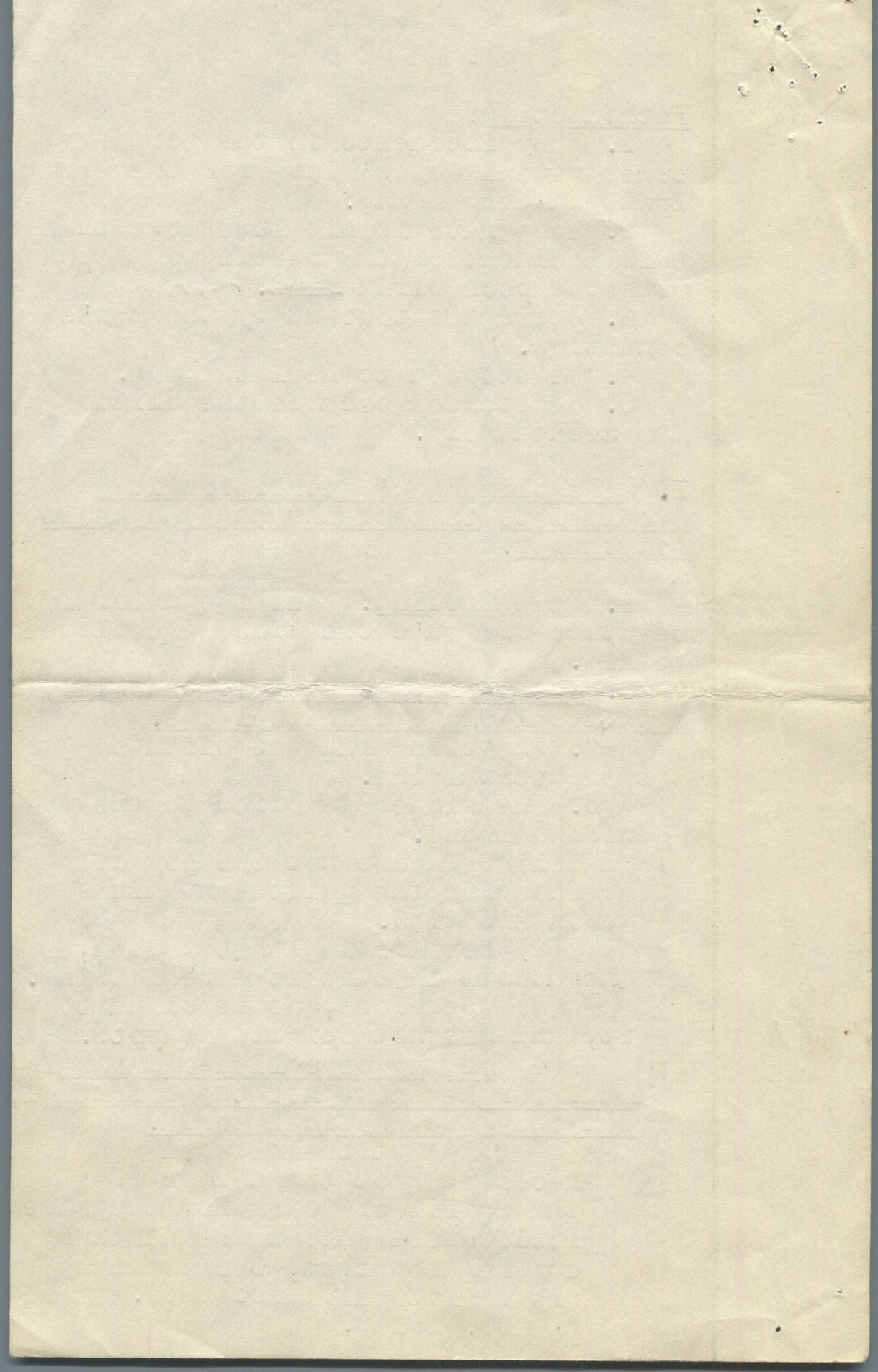
(2) Not knowing that pardon, he doubts that it is a real thing.

(3) Therefore, he is blind to it, and has not spiritual depth.

(4) He may be called a natural man, for he knows not the spiritual, but only the physical world.

(a) "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

(I Cor. 2:14).



(xxx)

3. The blind man was helpless. He had to be carried to Jesus, or at least led to him, for he could not see him. His was a case which depended on others.

a. He had every reason to have lost faith in any hope of an external remedy removing his blindness.

b. He had heard of Jesus and was filled with emotion and hope that his affliction might be moved.

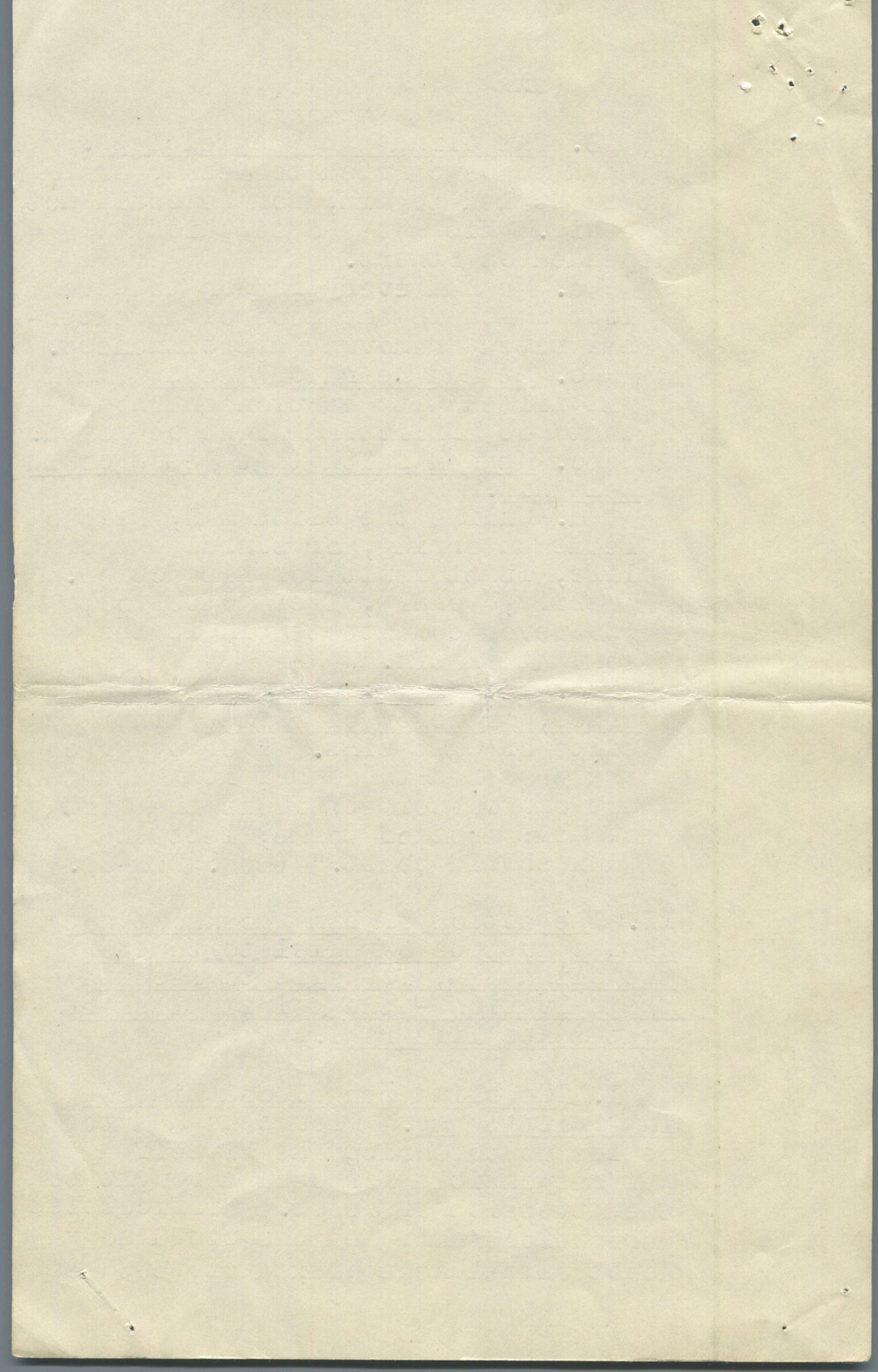
c. He had faith that Jesus could help him.

d. Unlike the blind man, he who leads an erring, or sinful way of life, is at fault for his action. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin."

e. Yet, faith will save us, through grace, or mercy of Christ, in spite of past sins. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." (Eph. 2:8-9).

II. The action of him who knows not Christ must be parallel to that of the blind man, if he is to receive the salvation - the spiritual sight - that makes life real.

1. The blind man placed himself in Christ's way. Though he had to be led up to Christ, he himself was responsible for being brought to the attention of Jesus. Difficulties were before him, and the crowd no doubt almost kept him away, but he



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succeeded in reaching the Master.

a. The spiritually blind must also receive by his own will the gifts that Christ has for him, in example and in repose.

b. "And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life."

2. The blind man surrendered himself to Christ.

a. Because he had faith, he was made whole.

b. Because he had faith, he would have done whatever Christ told him.

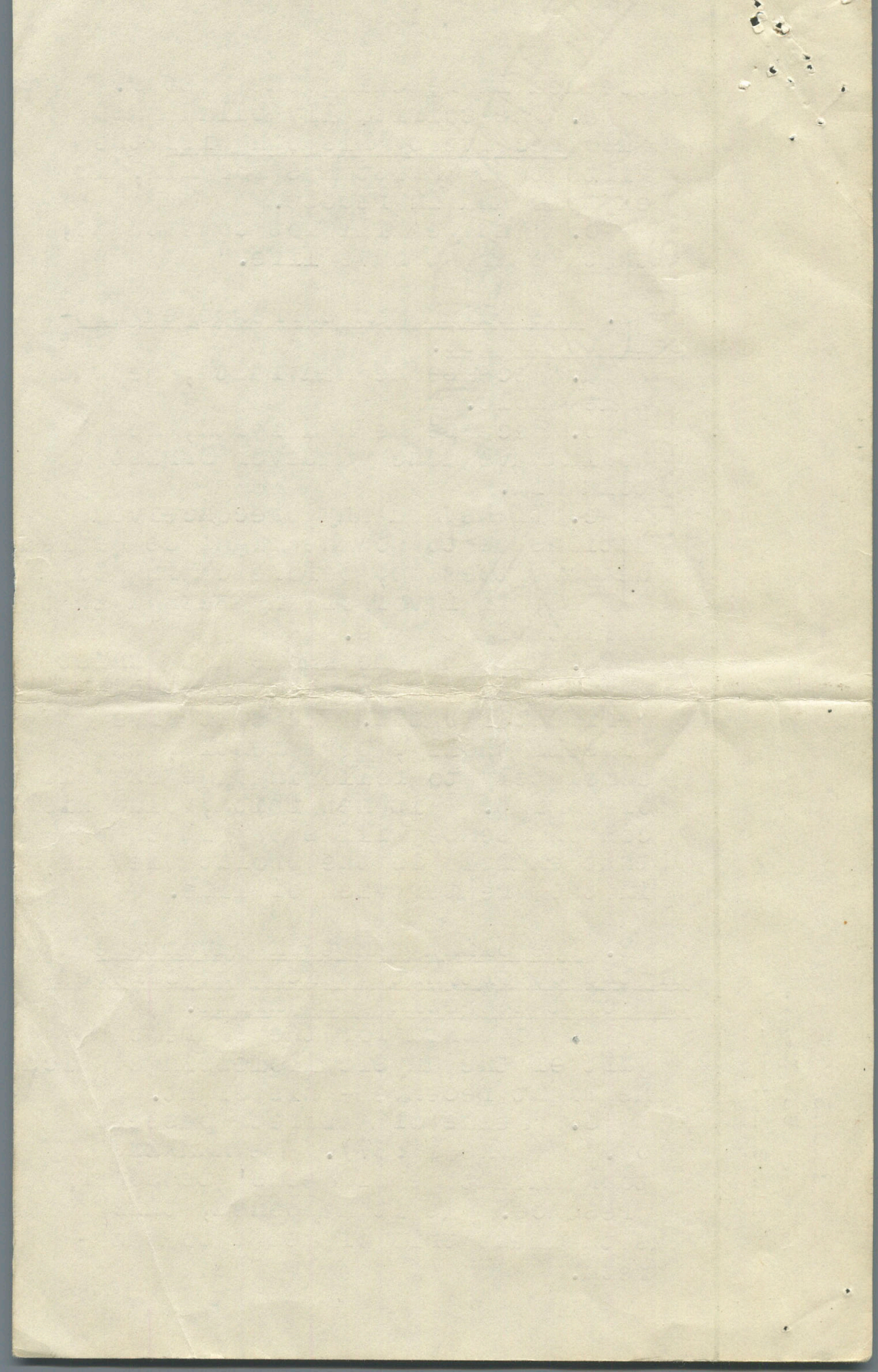
c. If he had any preconceived notions as to how he might be healed, he gave them up, before coming to Christ, in favor of any method that Christ might have.

d. The man who knows not Christ cannot get to know him on an experimental basis. He must give himself wholly, permanently, and completely to following the example of Christ. His new faith, plus his common sense will show him that that example is the profitable one, in the greater view of life.

3. The blind man took advantage of the opportunity which was offered him by the passing of Christ.

a. He asked for the supreme gift of the physical blessings which he might receive - his sight.

b. "Jesus of Nazareth passeth by." (Luke 18:37). He ~~xxxxxx~~ took advantage of Jesus' temporary presence. As it happened, this was the last trip of Jesus to Nazareth.



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4. The man who knows not Christ must also:

a. Place himself at the mercy of Jesus.

b. Surrender himself wholeheartedly to the will of Christ.

c. Take advantage of the opportunity of following Jesus when it is presented.

Conclusion:

1. This story illustrates that Jesus is always ready to help.

2. But he is not always passing by. That is, a man's heart is not always in a condition to accept him.

3. Thus, he had best be accepted when he is heard knocking.

4. He is always ready to help - but he must know the need.

~~Amherst, Jan 2-11-48~~

Salem } 5-5-46
Essex

Contra Jan 2-22-46
1-22-44

Indep'tment 2-6-44
Baltimore

mt. Home 7-5-42