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Box 09, Folder 49 - "The Sturdy Beggar"/"The Tough Reasoner" (E.M.S.)

Edwin Mortimer Standing

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John IX I---4I

And Jesus saw , as He passed on his way ,a man who had been blind from his birth.

Whereupn his disciples asked him:

"Master was this man guilty of sin , or was it his parents , t hat hw should have been born blind ?" (Who has simed this man or his parents that he should be born blind ?)

"Neither he nor his parents were guilty "Jesus answered: it was so that God's action might declare itself in him "(but the works of God were to be made manifest in him)

"While daylight lasts I must work in the service of him who sent me ; the night is coming when there is no working any more . As long as I am in the world I am the light of the world

With that he spat on the ground and made clay with the spittle and spread the clay over the man's eyes .: and said to him "Away with thee and wash in the pool of Siloe (a word which means sent out)

So he went and washed there and came back with his sight restored .

And now the neighbours , and those who had been accustomed to see him begging , began to say : "Is not this the man who used to sit here and bag?

.

Some said "This is the man " and others said "No , but he ldoks like him (he only resembles him) But he told them "Yes , I am the man "

"How is it then ?"they asked that your eyes have been opened ?" He answered "A man , called Jesus ,made clay and anointed my eyes with it , and said me "Away with thee to the pool of Siloe and wash there $\frac{1}{2}$ So I went there and washed and recovered my sight .

"Where is he ? " they asked , and he replied "I cannot tell ".

And they took him beofre the Pharisees - thisman who had been blind .

Now it was the Sabbath day , you must know ,when Jesus had made

clay and opened his eyes .

So the Phariees in their turn asked him how he had reovered his sight. "Why" he said "he put clay on my eyes; then I washed, and now I can see "

Whereupon some of the Pharisees said "This man can be no messneger from God :he does no observe the Sabbath "

Others said How can a man work miracles like thid and be a sinner? Thus there was a division amongst them.

And now they questioned the blind man again and said "What do you say about this man who opemed your eyes?" But he said

"HE IS A PROPHET ."

The jews , therefore , did not believe of him that hehad been born blind and had gotxkxxxxx his sight until they had sent for his parents

and questioned them saying ?:"Is this your sone, who you say was born blind ?How comews it then, that he he is now able to see?"

His parents ansered them: "We can tell you that this is our son, and that he was blind when he was born; we cannot tell hhow he is able to seenow % we have no means of knowing who opened his eyes for him. Ask the man himself the is of age: let him tell you his own story"

It was fear of the Jews that made the parents of the man talk ib this way; for the Jews had by now come to an agreement that anyone who akknowledged Jesus as the Christ should becast out of the synag gogue 'forbidden the synagogue)That is why his paretns said "He is of age, ask him yourself"

So once more they summoned the man who had

So once more they summoned the man who had been born blindand said to him:

"Give God the praise "m they said , this man to our know-ledge is a sinner "

"Sinner or not I cannot tell , one thing I do know--that whereas I was blind now I can see."

Then they asked him over again "What was it he did to you?

By what means did he open your ge eyes?" And he answered

them "I have told you already and you would not listento me.Why

must you hear it all over again? Would you too become his disciples?

Upon this they covered him with abyse . "Thou art his disciple we are discples of Moses . We know for certain that God spoke to Mosesbut as for this fellow we do not know where he is from