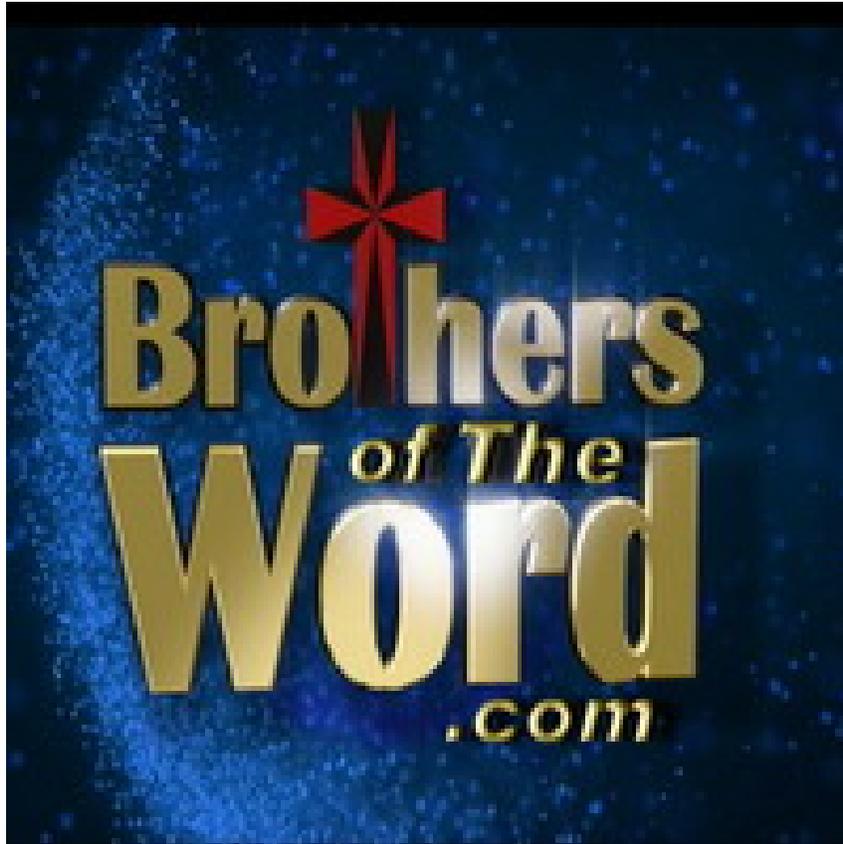


Goliath

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Nathaniel Bronner: And if you would open your Bibles to the book of 1 Samuel, the 17th chapter. And for those of you that was here upon last week as I spoke from the subject of the eighth son of how David, as a young boy, was anointed by the Prophet Samuel and anointed to be king and the Bible says that when Samuel anointed David with the oil that upon that time, that power came upon David and ask me power for what? Turn to your neighbor and say, "Power for what?" Now -- now see, many of you want power. You want to be anointed. You want the experience from the power of the Holy Ghost. For what? I mean, so many people want so much. Ask your neighbor for what? I mean, do you really know what you want the anointing for? For what? Lord -- Lord, just anoint me. Let your spirit fall upon me. For what? And if you don't know for what, what good is it if God put the anointing on you if you don't even know what you're supposed to do with it. If you don't know and if you don't understand it, for what?

So, when God anointed David -- you see, anytime God gives you an anointing of something, don't you know it's for something? It sucks you to just sit down with it and oftentimes -- many of the times, we don't want to use the anointing, the gift of God has given us. He gave it to you for something and you got to know for what? How it came upon David, for what? And David's first real big test was (00:02:01). And Samuel First -- Samuel beginning of the 17th chapter, third verse. King James' version, "And the Philistines stood on a mountain on the side -- on the one side and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side and there was a valley between them and there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines named Goliath of Gath whose height was 6 cubits and a span and he had a helmet wrapped upon his head and he was armed with a coat of mail and the weight of the coat was 5,000 shekels of bronze and he had greaves of brass upon his legs and a target of brass between his shoulders and the staff of his spear was like a weaver's beam and his spear's head weighed 600 shekels of iron and one bearing a shield went before him. And he stood and cried unto the armies of Israel and he said unto them, "Why are ye come out to set your battle in array? Am not I a Philistine, and ye servants to Saul? Choose you a man for you, and let him come down to me. If he be able to fight with me, and to kill me, then will we be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then shall ye be our servants, and serve us. And the

Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day. Give me a man. You all say, "Give me a man."

All: Give me a man.

Nathaniel Bronner: --that we may fight together. When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid. You know, even God is hollering now in this hour. Give me a man! Some of you ladies are hollering the same thing. Give me a man! And Goliath challenged all of the armies of Israel. Give me a man that I may fight him and if he kills me, my whole nation will serve you, but if I kill him, all of you must serve us. And I speak to you today simply from that one word of this giant name of Goliath. That was David was first anointed with power for it was his first real challenge. He had to go against Goliath and people sometimes, you have to put these kinds of things in perspective to even understand what David had to go against and even understand. You see, sometimes, we look at situations in the Bible and we judge them so harshly. Well then, look at all those men of Israel. There, they stood trembling and in fear of this man.

00:05:00

Here are the children of God scared as they could be and you've got to understand something. Goliath was a big man and I'd ask Mr. Shorty(ph) if he would help me illustrate this. Mr. Shorty, if you would just come up for just a second and I want you to look outside the door and get my sword. I put it right outside of the door. Get my sword and I want you to bring my sword and come up on the stage and I just want to illustrate some things to you. You see, sometimes, it's one thing reading it, but you can visualize it a little better when you can see it. Now, Mr. Shorty, how tall are you?

He's 6'11". Do you know how big Goliath was? Goliath was 6 cubits and a span. Now, a cubit is normally measured from the tip of the man's finger to his elbow, it's approximately 18 inches and the span was half of that. Goliath was 9 feet 9 inches tall. Now that's approximately three feet taller than Mr. Shorty. Mr. Shorty, I want you to raise your hand up as high as you can raise it. That's about how tall Goliath was. Now, Michael, I want you to come up. This is a young man here, by David size. Now, understand, this is how tall Goliath was. See, sometimes -

- and that's about how tall David was and you see, back in those days, men were not as tall as they are now. You can even go up in some of the northern cities and you'll see that the houses in Virginia, the average man now is about 5'9" to 5'10". Back then, they were about 5'6", 5'7". So, way back then, the average man was not that tall, about David size and actually, he would be considered tall back in that day. Goliath, raise your hand up again. Goliath was that tall and he had a sword bigger than that. And here, the men are about his size. Looked out and saw a man that size and I want you -- I want you to just (00:07:19). Mr. Shorty say, "Come out and fight me."

Male: Come out and fight me.

Nathaniel Bronner: Good. Now you see, you've got to understand. This is what the soldiers of Israel. It said, "His coat of armor weighed about 125 pounds." Can you imagine how heavy a coat is that weighs 125 pounds? Some of you I believe weigh 125 pounds. Goliath's coat weighs more than David is. So, you have to put this thing in perspective to understand why the men of Israel were terrified when they saw this man who was three feet taller than Mr. Shorty, come out and said, "Come fight me." And all of the men of Israel shivered. People, every single one of you, will have a Goliath that you'll have to face. Every single one of you and when God puts an anointing on you, when he puts power on you, he's going to send you against Goliath. Now, Mr. Shorty of course is a good man. He's just finished renovating covenant halls and after service, I want you all to just go up and see what he's doing and he did this people, by himself. Now, he had help with the Lord, but even with the help of the Lord -- he had help with the Lord. How many days did you spend working on covenant hall? Just off the top of your head. How many hours?

Mr. Shorty: Off the top of the head at least 200 hours.

Nathaniel Bronner: 200 hours. Now, he had to help with the Lord, but he had to put in 200 hard, backbreaking hours renovating and he went out and looked at the covenant and all of the molding and all of the paintings in covenant hall. Look at what he did and even when the night is -- I remember I was preaching and God said, "I'm sending you two mountains of men" and I didn't know who they were, but I knew we had two (00:09:46) big men and the other one was Brother Pete, that's in the back seat. John, you stand up. Now, I don't know and I told him I didn't know

whether they were those two men or not, but they've been there ever since and you can see what this man had done and I don't know what you are anointed to do Brother John.

00:10:06

I don't know. But God knows and he'll put you into your spirit if you do allow the man what you're supposed to do. But this man, he said, "Pastor, I just feel like I'm supposed to take and renovate" and do you know we had already done some things up in covenant hall. He took it and threw all out. Pulled up all of the tile off the floor. Pulled it all out. He said, "This is not good enough. For the house of God, I'm going to put you some first quality stuff." And he said he's got his heart flowing and putting up which is (00:10:43). There's no molding on the wall. I'm going to tie on this stuff down and put some nice molding. He threw it all out and started all over again. You see people, how it came upon him that he had to do stuff (00:10:55). And when he felt it, he said, God has been in two mountains of men and he felt like he had to ask himself, "He's leading for what?" And when he answers the question, he said, "I see in covenant hall, you need some help." He took the challenge and it was a big job. You see, the Goliath will come in peak forms and they'll come in different forms. His Goliath was that place and he's the path to everything in the world came against me. He said, "When I started and say everything in the world came against me. Send the Goliath. (00:11:35) Goliath. I'm the Goliath, but Goliath was not a puny (00:11:44) and when you set out to do God's will, when you set out to do God's work, you don't have to deal with Goliath and you're going to look up and you're going to see this nine-foot tall giant with a big old sword with all that armor and you're going to feel so puny all by yourself. You're going to say, "How in the world can I tackle this big thing off by myself?" Have you ever felt like that?

And you'll sometimes have the prophetic -- they'll come over you and the destiny and David was a young boy, out in the shepherd and he had come to the prophet talking about, "You're going to be a king." don't you know that sounded ridiculous to a boy coming out of the shepherd's field, and I'm sure David had to ask the question, "How in the world? Here I am, as small and as puny as I am, how in the world am I supposed to be king?" Sometimes, God will prophesy some things into your life. The first question you'll ask is, "how in the world?" How in the world

am I ever going to do what God has said that I would do? And the minute you set out on the path, here comes Goliath to stand in your way. Brother Shorty(ph) and Brother Michael, I think they understand the point and I think they can see it very clear that you have some big stuff to deal with. And the Bible says that, and the Philistines stood on a mountain on the one side and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side and there was a valley between them. You see people, they had to meet Goliath in the valley. They couldn't meet him on the mountain. See, the church is the mountain. When you leave here, you're going to the valley. You see, most of your challenges people in reality, they don't come sitting up here in church. Sitting up in church is as sitting up here you and your spouse, just holding hands, (00:13:45). That's not where your challenges are going to come, you are the mountain. You don't have to deal with your job sitting up in church. You in church could feel the spirit. You can sing, you can pray, you feel good, you feel happy. You are the mountain. Goliath is waiting on you in the valley and see, it's no accident that this church is even positioned on a mountain. When you leave out here, you got to do what? Which way do you walk? You got to walk. When you leave out here, you got to walk down and the very physical location of this church, you must walk down into the valley the minute you leave this church. And when you walk into the valley with the anointing on you, the first thing waiting on you is going to be Goliath. And you're going to have to deal with it. Big, big, big stuff. And the Bible says now, David was the son of the Ephrathite of Bethlehem of Judah whose name was Jesse and he had eight sons. And the men went among men for an old man in the days of Saul, and the three eldest sons of Jesse went and followed Saul to the battle.

00:15:01

And the names of his three sons that went to the battle were Eliab, the firstborn and the next unto him Abinadab and the third Shammah and David was the youngest. And the three eldest followed Saul, but David went and returned from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem and the Philistines drew near morning and evening and presented himself 40 days. Do you know Goliath stepped out and challenged the army of Israel for 40 days?

You see, there's a symbolism and even the time cue because 40 days is a long, long time, but 40 is the number of trials, probation and testing and it always has been in the Bible. It's the number of trials, probation and testing. And for 40 days, morning and night, Goliath came out and challenged the men of Israel. Come fight me. you scaredy cat. And every man shivered. 40 days, that was the length of time Jesus was tempted in the wilderness. And the Bible says that the Holy Spirit led upon Jesus and immediately after that, right away, where did he go? Into the wilderness for 40 days to be tempted by the devil, to face Goliath. It is the time of trial, of testing and probation. How long does the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness? 40 years. It was a time of trial, of probation and testing and they wandered in the wilderness for 40 years because they murmured about trying to go in and take the Promised Land when Joshua and Caleb came back with the report. They murmured for 40 days and God said, because you have murmured, I'll make you spend the year of everyday you complain. Because when went over into the Promised Land, what was in the Promised Land? Giants, not just Goliath. They came back and said, Moses, I thought you understand? It's a whole nation of Goliaths over in my Promised Land. So, Goliath is nothing new. They had to face them all through the Bible every time a Promised Land came, every time a promise came, every time God, in his words, they are between the fulfillment of it and the speaking of it, stood a Goliath. You got them in your own life and every time God will tell you something, here goes a Goliath.

How long did Moses stay on the mountain without food and water? 40 days. And when Moses stayed on that mountain for 40 days, the children of Israel, in those 40 days were completely haywire and when he came back, that's why 40 is that number of trial and testing and probation. When Moses killed the Egyptians that set him on the path to free his people, do you all know how old Moses was? 40 years old. That was significant in that number of 40. It is that number or period of testing and people, many of you have had a Goliath that has been taunting you and that has been testing you and that has been calling you out of this thing. Just come and fight me, come and conquer me, but there you have stood shivering and afraid to deal with this thing and you never get to your Promised Land. You'll never get to your king -- you'll never get to the throne of where you're supposed to be until you go by Goliath and there's no way around it. You got to go by your Goliath and all of some of these

things. James told you, he announced to you about the upcoming prophetic revival that we're having and he told you that God told me that I can do it. That ain't all the story. That's a piece of the story and that's the last piece of the story. God told me I can do it after James kept hounding me about it and hounding me about it and hounding me about it and hounding me about it. He said, "Look, you, it's time for you to go full. We need a man that at least has his life together. You reach out. You can do it.

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You ask God and he will tell you. I wouldn't even talk about it because I didn't want to fool with it. And it has been prophesied over me, over and over and over, but it was a Goliath. And oftentimes, we don't want to tackle Goliath, but you'll never get to your destiny until you make up your mind that I'm going to fight Goliath. And you see, when the opportunity presented itself, when David went to bring food unto his brothers, he heard Goliath. David said, who is that man that's ridiculing and making fun of the army of God. Who is he that you all are so afraid and so terrified and so scared of him and instead, that the men heard David's word and they told him that the king said that anybody who kill his man, the king will give money, exempt his family from ever having to pay taxes and even give him his daughter in marriage. All you got to do is just kill this nearly 10-foot giant, that's all. And not a single man would take on the challenge. 40 days, we're talking about it and we're moving into a new beginning for the people here at the Ark. You see, eight is the number of new beginning. Five is the number of grace and it is the symbolism of a fivefold ministry and when you take the fivefold ministry with a new beginning, you get 40. Eight times five is 40 and people oftentimes, for you to even go through and get through to that new beginning, you're going to have to have everyone of that five ministry. You'll have to be taught, you're going to have to be preached to, you're going to have to be prophesied to. You're going to have every single one of them come into your world to sometimes -- it was eight times five to defeat Goliath, the 40 days of testing. And you see, it weren't just fivefold ministry because there were five Goliaths, not one because Goliath has four brothers and all of them were giants. That's why when God gave David the ammunition, that's why he did not give him one stone, he gave him five stones because it was five giants. People, let me tell you not only do you not only

have a Goliath, you got several big things to deal with. How many of you have just got one thing? Raise your hand. I mean, if you just got one thing, anybody? You don't have just one thing. You got this thing and you've got that thing. I mean, you've got one thing after another. We completed the fast. That was one Goliath. After you got the fast (00:23:35), there were four brothers waiting on you. You had other stuff to deal with now. One of the problems many of you got is eating too much. You come off the fast and you went through that period of not eating. Now, you're just eating everything you can see. So, you beat one Goliath and there's his brother. That's why God sent David out with a stone for every giant he had to face. God, when he sends you out to do a job, he'll give you ammunition for everything you have to face. He'll give you a stone for every single giant in your life that you have to face. All you have to have is the obedience and the willingness and the faith to do it. And people, it doesn't just affect you, it's your whole household. That's why when Goliath came out with a challenge, he said, if you defeat me, my whole nation will serve you, but if I defeat you, not only will you die, but your whole nation must serve me. People, did you realize that even when you're head of a household and you let Goliath hoop you, your whole household goes into slavery.

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It's not just you. If I let Goliath whip me, my whole household comes into bondage. My whole household goes into servitude. Whatever happens to me is going to affect the whole household, it's not just me. Even in the church, when something happens to the pastor, the pastor gets into a scandal and brings scandal over the whole organization. Even with ministry, you get a big ministry, a big ministry gets into scandal, it brings a -- it brings a cloud over the whole body of Christ. It's not just one, it's the whole thing. Goliath said, if I whipped you, not only will you die, your whole nation, all your kinfolk, all your relatives, your king and everybody else (00:25:59). You're not just fighting for you people, you're fighting for your whole household and it's a principle that's not just me. I don't just go to work for me. If I don't go to work, my whole household (00:26:14), not just me, my whole household. So, it becomes a string of where the men were challenge and they were challenge not just for themselves, but for their whole household. God has made you promises people, but standing in the way between the promise and the fulfillment, stands a Goliath. Come unto me, all ye that labour

and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yolk upon you and learn from me for I am meek and lonely of heart and ye shall find rest unto your souls for my yolk my easy and my burden is light. That's what Jesus said, that's the promise. That's the promise. But most, even in Christianity, are (00:27:10). Yolk shall change a founder with so much stuff on their shoulders and on their neck, but Jesus said his burden was easy and light, that's the promise. I believe the promise was -- why is it the fulfillment, why it didn't happen? Because you have whooped Goliath? That's the promise. But after the promise, there stands the Goliath in the way that says, you got to beat me or you're going to get deprived. You got to whip all these giants before you can have this Promised Land. And people, the thing that David so symbolizes to us, David was a small fellow. Goliath said, why did you send a boy out, sending in front of a man. Because he was a small fellow. Probably, he was sent and let us know the power waiting in David. You can whoop your Goliath, but you can with God's anointing. But let me tell you this people, David would have never fought Goliath. I don't care how much anointing he has, if he had never gone out to fight. I don't care how much anointing David has. He would have never whooped Goliath if he had not gone out to fight him and some of the things that you have been dealing with. (00:28:51) fight? Some of you have just resigned yourself that this thing is too big. It's been like this for so long. Goliath has been hiding at least for 40 years. 40 years! And pastor, you expect me to whoop it now after 40 years? I've been like this all my life. Don't you understand? It's been 40 years. And this big thing is beating on me all this long time. How do you expect me now to whoop Goliath? If David had never stepped out to fight Goliath, he would've never beaten him and some of you are going to step out. I don't care how long he has been whipping on you. I don't care how long that big thing that you've been dealing has been beating on you. If you've been anointed by God and if you got his anointing and the problem may look at you and think you're small, but it's not just you. Sometimes, the problem can't see who's with you. And -- and it's not you, it's who's with you that makes the difference. And there are some things that I've known beyond the shadow of a doubt how am I supposed to be able to do because I'm too small.

There's no way in the world we have seen that even in business sometimes, we have seen giants all around us have fallen and yet we -- we stood and we prospered in the midst of all of this stuff. What luck? And I got sense enough to know that it was the anointing, but I would have still never been prospered if I hadn't stepped out in the first place and doing the fighting. So, you have to step out even though it was scary. You have to step out to even fight. How are you going to get blessed if you're not even in the position to be blessed? You've got to take some time and -- and oftentimes, people we have simply given up like all of the armies of Israel did. These men of God were just scared to death because they're looking out of what was hidden just coming out and some of you all are dealing with some hidden folk, some hidden things and got you trembling in your boots, and you're supposed to be children of God, with the anointing on you, with the (00:31:05) and you're letting this stuff just grip you. Some of you are -- some of you are even letting the (00:31:12) beat the mess out of you and hidden little bit of things just whipping you all sides (00:31:20). It's a Goliath to you. Some of you got other things just in the flesh and in the material just beating you to death and you don't know how to handle the Goliath. Now, see David, he went out and dealt with Goliath. To be honest about it, Goliath was David's easiest fight. It was his easiest battle. He had no fear. He didn't even have any armor. When he went before Saul, Saul said, here let me put this armor and let me give you the sword and David put the armor on and he tried to wear it and he said, "No, see, I can't wear this on." You see, you can't walk out there when another person's anointing. You got to go on your own anointing. You got to understand and because I don't try to preach like somebody else preaches because that's not my anointing, but other people and you got to know what you're anointing is. That's why we often mess up. We're trying to be like somebody else, do what someone else is doing and it's not our calling, it's not our anointing, it's not what God has told us to do. God didn't call everybody to do the same thing. You got to know what you -- you might not even be supposed to be fighting Goliath. That was David's job. And if a man came out and said, look, I'm going to go out and whoop this man. I'm just going because I think I can whoop him. And if the one he's anointing to whoop Goliath, he just have to go right out there and Goliath would've chopped his head off because it wasn't his anointing. So, you got to know what your anointing is and you've got to be able to walk in your anointing and to know that this is a gift that has given you and

to move into that. And David said, King I appreciate your armor, but it's not for me. You see, I came out of the field. I -- I've been tending sheep for all of these years. I've never had armor. He said, "King, don't you understand? I -- I knew I can handle Goliath because one day, a lion jumped out at you and I grabbed the lion and (00:33:34). So, I knew I can have victory over Goliath because God was with me and he delivered me from the claws, the paws, and the claws of the lion and the bear. I slain the lion and I slain the bear. See, God will take you through the lion and the bear before you get to Goliath and some of you right now are dealing with lions and bears, he's preparing you. And you're cursing the lion and cursing the bear. And that's one of the things God has -- he revealed to me. He said, I'm going to send you through some things to prepare you, but let me tell you something folks. Even though David whooped the lion, (00:34:18) wrestling with the lion even though he killed the bear, wrestling with a big gold stinking bear. It's -- it's not easy wrestling with the bear, but he had to go through those battles to prepare him for what was coming in his future. Some of you right now, you're just going through lions and you're going through bears and you've got to learn how to -- some of you are right in front of the lion. And if David had ran from the lion and ran from the bear, he would've ran from Goliath. But he told Saul, I don't need the armor. I don't want the armor. I don't even need the sword.

00:35:00

And here, Goliath saw this boy coming. No armor, no sword, but a slingshot. And oftentimes, God would have to do some things that everybody knows, including you that it's not you. You see, heck, David walked out in the king's armor with a well balanced and finely honed sword. People would have said, well, you know David had all the king's armor and you know the king had the best armor made. The king had the best and the most exquisite, the most expensive armor you could buy. You know it is. Do you know the king had the best sword? The devil has no question about it. So, if David had come out with the best armor and the best sword, folk would have said, "Well, David was on with the best weaponry", but there's nothing they could say about the slingshot. They knew beyond a shadow of a doubt that a man coming out with a slingshot, it had to be and sometimes, God will have to do that to people. Sometimes, God will have to work in your life and strip you all of your armor, all

of your sword so he can give you a slingshot to work with so you can boast in your own power that this was me that did it. I slew the giant. No, you didn't. It was the power of God. All you had was the willingness to go and to do the fighting. Five smooth stones is all that he took. And you see, when we hear the story of David and Goliath, there were really two great epochs of David. One was David and Goliath and that's why I say it was his easiest battle. After he slew Goliath and Saul elevated him and David became a great military leader and the people started saying, Saul had slain his thousands, but David has slain his ten thousand, Saul got jealous and Saul began to seek to take David's life. And it was in this that gave David turmoil that gave him problems that anguished his heart. He was happy while he was in the field of the shepherd, but he was now a great military captain, elevated, admired by all of the people in the land. That is just a notion. Sometimes, people in their hearts, is not the way that you think it is. You see, sometimes there's some stuff elevated that you don't have to deal with when nobody knows you. Sometimes, there are things that come with being at the top that you have no idea about. You can go some places sometime without folk getting recognize you. You lose all of your power. People come – everywhere David was, I want to go to David. There goes David. They come and (00:38:18), David, that's the man who killed Goliath. You see, there is a point where it blows you up and it pops you up and sometimes they can artificially pop you up. Sometimes, all that fame and fortune is not what is cracked up to be. First of all, you can't ever relax. Deal with the limit of exposure that I have. Everywhere I go in the city, I can't ever relax. There's always somebody watching me. I'll go out in the store and even though people don't say it, you can feel them and you see them just looking at you. Folks are always watching you. It takes away a certain amount of your freedom. And I've been on the last vacation. We were down in Orlando. I said, "Well, at least down here, I can walk around free. I don't have to worry about anybody recognizing me." I was down in the (00:39:13), getting ready to go into Mickey Mouse and, "Pastor Bronner" I said, good for you. You see, you can't go anywhere. Sometimes that stuff is not all that is cracked up to be. David was happy when he was in the field as a little shepherd before. The minute he got up, he had to deal with King Saul who was now jealous of him and tried to kill him. And that's why he wrote most of the songs and there, he was hiding out and running from this place to that place and said, "Lord, how long do I have to go?" You see,

sometimes people it's not an easy road to the throne of the king. Sometimes, we want all of this. I want to be king. I want to be president of my own company. I hear that so much. (00:39:57) king. That's all you're saying in (00:40:00)

00:40:00

I want to be king of my own kingdom. I want to be president of my own company. It's not as easy as it sounds. You had to first of all, go through Goliath, then you got to go through Saul and then you got to go through Bathsheba. David handled Goliath easy. He wrestled with Saul. Saul tormented him. Saul beat his spirit. Saul had bent him. Saul sent him to his knees to beg, "Lord, how long do I have to endure this?", but he handled Saul and he made it to the kingdom. And he was King David, honored and revered among men the world over and (00:41:01). And then came another Goliath. You see people, your Goliath never ends. Now, this Goliath was nine feet nine. She was probably 5'2". She probably didn't even weigh as much as Goliath's coat weighed, but David saw the sheep bathing on the roof and though this was a man that has conquered the mightiest giant in the land, this was a man that it even handled Saul, but he saw that little bit of woman bathing on the roof and what Goliath the giant could not accomplish, Bathsheba did. But you see, the mistake that David made was David walked out of the anointing and out of the law of God. It was written plain as day. Thou shall not touch another man's wife. So, it was right there and as long as he -- I don't care who you are. I don't care what you've accomplished, I don't care what you've accumulated, I don't care how many folks you have delivered, I don't care how much you have preached, I don't care how much you have sung, I don't care how much you have prayed, I don't care how much you have prophesied, I don't care all of that stuff. When you walk outside of the law of God, you're setting yourself up for a Bathsheba. And David was a man after God's own heart and the (00:42:50) of Jesus. With all of these, he ran across Bathsheba and that's why sometimes, people, the thing -- the real thing that gets oftentimes don't look like it's the thing. Everybody could see Goliath. Everybody could see how we was rough(ph), but Bathsheba, you couldn't fight to see that real clear. Do you know, Bathsheba takes more ministers down than almost any other things? Do you know -- you understand I'm like men of God. Do you know Bathsheba takes more men down than virtually any other things? It's not becoming, you know,

you hear about (00:43:38) cast a curse on the preacher and all ended up with a curse over the church and you got demons? That is not. That's not what takes most ministers down and get most ministers in problem. The number one thing that gets more ministers in problem more than any other thing is a Bathsheba, the same thing that got David in trouble but it's a Goliath. It's a big thing. It -- it looks like a little thing, but it's a big thing. But people don't get out of that will and that word of God because when you step outside of God's command and you step outside of God's word, when all David had to do was just to rely on the word. If it's right there, he knew when he was king, he understood it. It's in the 10 commandments. It was clear as day. But it was a Goliath and it was one that he did not have and did not successfully defeat because he stepped out of the will of God. Ready for a new beginning, you got to go by Goliath.

00:45:00

We came to the (00:45:01) and that was one Goliath, but you've got five stones. All of his brothers, all of the other things that are coming after you and you've got to be anointed to handle all of that stuff. And the new beginning is real. And that's why God even wanted me to take up another offer because even some of you right now, you got difficulty and even a hesitancy of even giving him covenant by giving your money. But that's the big thing because when Moses went up on the mountain in 40 days, when he got back, he saw the created a golden calf that was representative of money and they were worshipping the money. When you won't give unto God what God is due, you're just worshipping your money. That's plain and as simple as that. So, he first of all has to break those golden calves and break those items for you to even see that's a Goliath. And so many of us have so much difficulty that all of the Goliaths live within our lives and do you think they're going to ever stop coming? No. But if you stay into his anointing and if you stay in his law, you'll always be able to slay a Goliath with just a slingshot. You won't need all this heavy duty stuff because you see, the Bible, that's why it puts the word in terms of an armor, a sword, a helmet, a weapon. You got every part of your body covered with the (00:46:47). There was nothing in the description about anything that covers your back, leave the stuff behind. You come through this fast, you've cut some things out of your life. You've broken away from -- leave that stuff behind. There's nothing to cover the stuff behind and if you let that stuff as you

let go come back at you, there's nothing you -- there's -- there's no -- there was no Bathsheba at all. That's why (00:47:15) messed up. So, some of you have gone through and your Goliath is coming at you from behind. He can't bother you as long as you don't turn around. Keep going forward people, don't go back. As you come through this thing, you see, that's the thing that messes up most people on a new beginning, they'll get started but they turn around and go back. They'll walk four of five steps, but after that, they'll hear the old siren song of the thing that used to be and slowly turn around and they go back and the latter state is worse than the former. God wants to take you to a new beginning, but it is a process. It's not an instant thing. It's a step by step process. And he wants you to understand, you're going to run through your Goliaths. But he's equipped you and you were able to handle it. You may think you're small compared to this big thing that you have to go, but you're not because it's not you just fighting the battle, but you got to go to the battle. It's not you just fighting, but you have to go to the battle. Don't curse your lion and your bear for those things are just preparation. And there was a poem that I want to read to you and it's by a gentleman here in Atlanta over at (00:48:50) by the name of Ivan Maddox and it's called Goliath had faith in himself. Goliath had faith in himself. He had not one iota of doubt, not iota of fear. He knew beyond a shadow of a doubt even before he met David that he was going to win this fight. Goliath was big. He was the biggest man he knew. When he walked through the valley of the shadows of death, everyone else in the valley trembled because Goliath was the toughest man in the valley. Goliath prepared himself to win. He practiced with his weapons every day. His sword was an extension of himself. He did not have to think about using it. It did whatever he willed it to do., instinctively, naturally. Goliath was ready for this fight. Every victory he had ever won, every man he had ever killed had prepared him for this fight for this day. Goliath took good care of himself. His body was his temple. He exercised. He lifted weights. He jogs. He ate his wheaties.

00:50:05

He had never been in better shape in his life than he was now. Goliath dressed for success. He wore the mightiest armor. He had the most dazzling helmet. He carried the sharpest sword, the heaviest spear, nothing could penetrate his shield. No one

on the battlefield was dressed better for battle than Goliath. Goliath believed in the power of prayer. He was a religious man. He did not neglect his duty to his God. He blessed his weapon. He cursed his enemies. He was in touch with spirituality. Goliath had the will to win. He was fighting for his country. He was fighting for glory. Poets for ages would sing the battle that Goliath would win today single-handedly. Goliath went to the battlefield expecting a challenge, a worthy folk, a cunning adversary. Instead, he found an underage -- a child, not even worthy of his time, without armor, without training, without sword or spear. Goliath was mortally insulted. Goliath had faith in himself, but he was defeated by an untrained youth who trusted in God instead of himself. In order for you to have a new beginning people, you need a new thrust. You need to believe that God is going to watch over, lead you, guide you, show you the way and give you the victory. You're going to have to fight the fight, but you fight a good fight and the race belongs not to the swift, but to him that endures until the end. When you walk out of this church and walk down those steps to the valley, Goliath will be waiting for you, but turn to your neighbor and tell him, "I'm going to be ready."

All: I'm going to be ready.

Nathaniel Bronner: I've been anointed.

All: I've been anointed.

Nathaniel Bronner: It is my destiny.

All: It is my destiny.

Nathaniel Bronner: Goliath was not made to defeat me.

All: Goliath was not made to defeat me.

Nathaniel Bronner: I am a child of God.

All: I am a child of God.

Nathaniel Bronner: I am bigger than anything--

All: I am bigger than anything--

Nathaniel Bronner: --that Satan can send against me--

All: --that Satan can send against me—

Nathaniel Bronner: --because I've got God--

All: --because I've got God--

Nathaniel Bronner: --in me--

All: --in me--

Nathaniel Bronner: -- and with me.

All: --and with me.

Nathaniel Bronner: Amen.

All: Amen.

Nathaniel Bronner: And when you know and understand that, there is nothing that Goliath will be able to do. Ushers, I want you to come now and I want all of those that really are going to make a new beginning just in that one area. I want you to ask – ushers, I want you to come and ask to bring your offer here and put it on the altar because what it is, it's a sacrifice and it always has been and I understand now why some ministers would even do this during the offering. It could change people and it may not be many. Oftentimes, these things may only be for the one, but I know beyond the shadow over doubt, there's always the one and God has been speaking to you and -- and some of you -- you got -- but you can't go in with the anointing. You can't go against the Goliath as a thief. It just won't work. You can't do it. You just can't do it. You just have to open yourself up for the devourer to come in. You just can't do it. So, there's a part of what God wants to begin enlightening out with the beginning for someone and whoever or whomever that is, just come on down, raise your hand and you can get an offering envelope and fill it out and some just take up a second offer. For whoever that is and two people are not supposed to come to tithe for those that are already in covenant and for those who decide they're going to do it and those are always the decisions that you make and no one ever forces you on this. This is a willing thing.

00:55:00

But there are new beginnings even in the arena of finances that some need to make. Just hold up your hand, get your envelope, fill it out, make it out to the Ark of Salvation and bring it up and lay it on the altar and for this day, you make a new beginning in your arena of finances.

Female: Hallelujah!

Nathaniel Bronner: And you're not making a promise to me.

Female: Thank you, Lord.

Nathaniel Bronner: This is not for me, this is for the Almighty God. That's what a covenant is about because let me tell you something people, I don't have the power to deliver you. I don't have it. Never have had and no man has it. It wasn't granted unto men, only unto the Father and Son. So, you make this covenant and you make this commitment unto God, not me. But upon this day, you begin a new beginning.

00:56:11