

# How To Get Prosperity

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Nathaniel Bronner: Welcome to Brothers of the Word because brother, you need the word. Amen. Amen. And today is the second part of the prosperity series. And if you haven't heard the first message in the prosperity series, the first message is simply entitled, "What is Prosperity?" All you have to do is go to theonlineword.com and listen to sermon number 5205. That's sermon 5205 on theonlineword. Be sure to listen to the first of that message, "What is Prosperity?" Today's message is sermon number 5206 and the next message in the series called, "What To Do When You Get Prosperity" is message number 5207. And you can listen to in its entirety, you'll even hear some parts, not on the television, it's a radio series on theonlineword.com. So make sure you go there and make sure you listen to all three of these messages concerning your prosperity.

And today, I want to talk simply about how to get prosperity. The first message was basically dealing with the fact that we need prosperity. About what prosperity was and I can't crowd all of that into one message so you really need to go back to theonlineword and you need to listen to that first message, "What Is Prosperity?" But today, I want to concentrate on how to get prosperity. We all want it, we all need it, it's something that we strive for and it's something that God wants us to have. Well, how do you get prosperity? And I want to deal with seven steps to prosperity. And normally, what you hear in church is you will hear dealing with prosperity one thing. Plant a seed, put your money into offering and prosperity will just float. And if you're tired, and give offering, God will open up the windows of Heaven and pour you out of blessing that you won't have room enough to receive. And see, that is true but that's not the whole truth.

Yes, you need to tithe. Yes, you need to give offerings. Yes, you need to be a giver. But when you go and you look at statistical reality, statistical reality says that the rich won't(ph) give less percentage of their income than the poor folk. Poor folk giving more money, they got a high percentage of their tithing. They are giving more of their income than rich folks. So when you look at the truth of the things, you'll say, "Well, obvious somewhere, if giving has to do with prosperity, then surely, the rich folk ought to be the big givers and the poorer folks are not to e."

When you look at the statistics, poorer people give a higher percentage of their income than rich people. So some (00:03:07). There are some keys that the rich people have that those in lack and those that won't have (00:03:16), it's not just giving your money to the church and it's not just giving your money for the preacher. It's more than that. And you need to understand that. That is a part of it. That is a vital part but by no means, if they're all -- I know some folk that really give a lot of money and they are still not in good shape.

Number one, they haven't done it in the right spirit. Because if you're just giving money thinking, you just give and just to get it, it's the wrong spirit. And God even tells you to give your money in secrecy. If you just end up in the line so folk can see you, that's the wrong spirit in the first place. So, you have to -- even when you give, make sure that you give in proper order by how and why the bible tells you to do.

So I'm going to teach you today seven steps to prosperity and I want to teach you some of the stuff that rich folk know. You understand that? And that's a rule of thumb(ph) and I'm trying to teach some of the stuff who the folk who have it. Some of the things that they follow because that's one of the principles, but I'm trying to teach you some of the stuff that the rich folk do.

First thing is you need to set a goal, so that you will even know when you are prosperous. You have to set a goal, that's the first thing. Most people just say, "I want money." Well, how much money? People don't even know how much they want. I just want to be doing well. What is that? See, often times when the thing is (00:04:50), God did not say, "Well, I think I might want to just put a little spot--" He said, "Let there be light."

00:05:01

God has always been a God of specificity. God specified particularly. When God wanted something done, He told us what to do and exactly. He didn't give any vague-kind of thing. When he gave his commandments. So even in your own world, the first thing you need to do is you need to set a goal. You need to put down in your life because see, first of all, prosperity is different by everyone's definition. Your prosperity is not my prosperity. For some folk, if I had what you consider prosperity, I'd be in bad shape. To be perfectly honest about it, I'd be in bad

shape if I had what some of you consider to be prosperity. If someone else had what I consider to be in prosperity, they may be in bad shape. Prosperity, specially in terms of money, is a relative term.

If you read about the lady that was wife to the president want to (00:06:04). So like she was buying \$20,000 worth of shoes every month. That's a different level of prosperity than what Puddin considers to be prosperity. And if that lady has to operate all Puddin's budget, she'd be in bad shape. So, it depends on a (00:06:24). So, you have to set number one in your mind, what is the goal? What do I consider or what do I want? Because see, if you don't set, you won't even know when God has given it to you. So you first must set a goal. Most people have never even set the goal of how much they really want in life. They've never even set.

You see, number one, you have to have what's called an entry, "What do I want?" God gave me an exit point. God gave me a specific limit. He said, "Once you reach this income level, you can't make another dime. Not another time when you take in, that person as you hit this level." So, God gave me a specific level. So I know once I hit that level, anything beyond that, I can't spend myself and I can't take it personally. Anything beyond that. So, I got a limit. I know exactly to the penny exactly how much money I can earn. And that's the goal I am shooting for.

I'll shoot for everything God said I can have. And to be honest about it, that's a whole lot of money, but I know if God gave me the goal, sooner or later, I'll hit that goal. And I understand the psychological point about money. With the world viewpoint, it's never enough. Folk get a million dollar, ain't enough, they want two million. They get two million, ain't enough, they want four million. They get four million, ain't enough. You see, so the point is, unless you get a goal in mind, unless you get to the point of where you have set or where that God had said, "You will never get to the point where you truly have enough."

So God gave me that point and I have my goal. I have a goal to get everything God has for me. What's your goal? Do you want just a piece of what God has for you? See, God has for me a whole different -- he's guessing that you'll be in the best shape in your life at 50 years old. I've got my goal for that, but I have to

figure out -- I even modified the goal when I read about a marathon which is a little bit over 26 miles. I said that's what I want to do. I've never been able to run that. I've never even been able to run half of that. That's the goal that I will set on my life, then I hit 50 years old. I want to be able to run a 26-mile marathon. That's my goal.

Now, for some of you, that's way beyond what you want because some of the other said, "Hey, yeah." So, it depends upon your relative point. But you must set your own goal. What do you want out of life? If you never set a goal, you'll never truly know what it is.

When God sent the children of Israel into the promise land, He said the land is flowing with milk and honey. You don't set your goal; you might go down and it might be buttermilk. You might not -- I don't like buttermilk. But someone else -- my mother loves to have some buttermilk and cornbread and butter. I can't stand buttermilk. So, it depends (00:09:17) for men(ph), the promise land will be the land of milk and honey. For my mom, it will be the land of buttermilk and honey. But her promise land is not my promise land so you must set your own goal so you would have an idea and a concept and you will begin to speak this thing so that it will go out in the universe. And it will start to vibrate, and it will come back and it will manifest. But you got to know, you must know where you're going. If you don't know where you're going, you'll never even know when you get there. But more likely, you'll never even get what you're dreaming of.

Second thing I want you to do this is this, and one of the keys of prosperity. This is going to sound a little weird. And most of these, you've heard in one form or another, but a lot of you haven't. Second one is this, bless your bills. What? Bless your bills.

00:10:07

See, prosperity, to a large degree, is still mentality. Stop grapping about all of your bills and be thankful and bless what you can pay. God had to tell me that one day as I was at the gas station. I was pumping gas, the gas at (00:10:21) is up now. And I was pumping gas and I was just questioned by the price of that gas. I said, "Good God, (00:10:28)." I was just a person just

pumping it, you've never done that. I was just pumping and fussing. God said, "Shut up." I heard it just as clear. He said, "Shut up." He said, "You make most of what the average person makes. They have to pay the same amount per gallon of gas as you do." He said, "Shut up complaining and start blessing and thanking that you can even pay for the gas." And it changed my whole mentality.

Now, I had a gas bill just shaking up now when I go to the pump. And I see that the price of gas is (00:11:05). First of all, my question about it, "How much is that going to drop the price of the gas?" I mean you can stand there and point at that pump and curse that pump out. You can fuss at that pump, make all kind of fun and noises and all kind of that, you can shake your head at that pump, you can do all of that. That's not going to -- the pump has graduated in (00:11:27). You can stand there and stand up for (00:11:31) three weeks, fussing and cursing at that pump, it's not going to lower the price of that gas by so much as even one-tenth of one penny.

So all of your fussing and cursing is going to do nothing to change a thing. God told me, "Stop fussing, boy, and be thankful that you can pay the bill." When you get a bill in, if you got the money to pay it, say, "Lord, I thank you. Who will I thank I got the money to pay this bill? Thank you, Jesus. Thank you, have mercy, hallelujah." And it changed this vibration. Instead of fussing about the thing, bless it.

Do you know how many folks can't pay their bills? If you can pay your bills and prosperity as a bottom line as I gave the definition of prosperity in the last message, basically, it's when you are in the will of God and God provides, then there is no lack. If you pay all of your bills, you (00:12:28), you're prosperous. It may not be the level of where you want to be, but bottom line, if you can pay, you bless those bills. Power bill come up, (00:12:38). Now, I'm not saying that you don't try to change a thing when you can't. Look, if you got your window up in the winter time and cold air shoot in, you got cracks or fix the crack. I'm not saying, "Just go ahead and just -- and you can lower the bill." If you can lower the bill, do what is practical but bless the bill. It will change how you view things.

You see, I even bless the bills that I owe when I owe other people. Let me explain. I hire a lot of people. I have a lot of

people that work for my companies that I even directly or indirectly manage. I treat other people like I want to be treated. I pay them well. Some folk, as a matter of fact, I'm over paying. I pay people like I want to be paid. I don't want to go to a job that have a man just cheap me out and squeeze me down to the limit. I pay other folk at the top of market value of what they're worth. Because it's the way I want to be treated.

So even the bills that I owe. If I go to a restaurant, I always leave a big tip because if I was waiting table, I would want someone leave me a big tip. I do the same. See, you want folk to be generous with you and you're cheap with them. So, what you send out is what you're going to get back. So, that's the way I do. I ain't know cheap man, I don't want folks be paying me cheap for my stuff. So if I don't want people to pay me cheap for myself, I don't pay other folk cheap for their stuff. Bless your bills when you owe something. Bless the thing. And if you owe other folk, bless them with it if you can. I'm not trying to tell you don't try to get a bargain, I'm saying, use some common sense. If you can afford it, bless other folk with all of your bills.

Third thing is this. Attach yourself to prosperity. If you want to be prosperous, you have to get around some folk and you're going to have to attach yourself to prosperity. You see, your initial attachment in the world in a material sense is actually to your mother. You are physically attached to the umbilical cord. The main thing that they perhaps make the biggest difference in people's lives in terms of prosperity, who the parents were, who you're attached to. Did you know that makes a difference? That's about the biggest things statistically in your financial life who your parents were.

If you came from a family where mommy and daddy were always scraping and never handle money right. Now, you can break the pattern, but the tendency is strong. They're going to be (00:15:06) you're doing the same thing.

00:15:07

If you came from a family where mom and daddy have plenty and they manage money well and invested money well, and they have that same tendency. See, all of the stuff, to be honest about it, that we've got in terms of our prosperity came from my daddy. My daddy was a prosperous man. My daddy thought

business life, my daddy thought positive and as a result, the things spread on all of his sons. Then, even my daddy thought like that, he went and marry the woman who also thought like that. When he went to marry my mother, he saw her beauty when he checked first of all how she handles money.

When went to get my wife, I checked how she was handling money. I said, "What kind of bills you owe?" I just asked (00:15:48). She said, "I got my student loan." And she had a big credit card bill but you know what's on the credit card bill? She had charged the money to invest into stock market. Now, I said, "That's the kind of mentality that's unusual." Most folk got clothes and shoes and all those kinds of. She did put up money in stock market. So I saw this investment, I want to make (00:16:10). That's what I dealt with. So I saw an investing-type of mentality. Attach yourself to prosperity. Now, you cannot do anything about your parents but you can get born again. You understand that? You can't do a thing about your parents if your daddy blew through all the money, there's not a thing you can do about that. But you can get born again, and you can get a new set of parents. You can get a new set of associates. You can start attaching yourself. You get to hang around folk and prosper. That will change your mentality.

If you hang around folk who brought what they're talking about are bills that they can't pay. You understand that? If you hang around folk that's broke, that's all they talk about. The bills they can't pay. If you're hanging around people that's prosperous, what they're talking about is potential. They're talking about what can be done with this. "I see an idea. I see this concept." They're talking about potential. Poor folk are talking about problems. And sometimes, they're both in the same situation but you have a different mentality. If you're in business, you don't go through the cycles, and if cycles says, "I've been down but I had never dealt with a problem."

I remember with my business. And when it was struggling, when it lost all this money, I had a poor person coming to me back then. And what I mean, I mean poor mentality. He said, "Man, you're just going to lose all this money, and then that's just --" I'm saying, "No shame." I said, "This is an investor." I said, "Look, if I had a child out of wedlock, when I've got to pay, on the note(ph) to pay all of these bills is equivalent to that child support payment." I said, "This is my baby." And that was the

mentality. That's exactly what I said. So now, they even can't get there.

So, that's the mentality. So who you hang around will make a difference. You need to go to theonlineword and you need to listen to the sermon, "Your Past Determines Your Possibilities" and it goes into biblical detail on why that is so. You need to hang around and you need to attach yourself to some folk that's prosperous if you want prosperity. Because if you've been poor, and you've been broke, and you hang around (00:18:21), and you hang around broke, all that spirit just going to spray it all on you.

I'm not trying to talk down. I'm trying to talk down, I'm trying to tell you, look down or stop. But if you want to go to a different place, you've got to make some changes. That's just a point-blank truth about it. If you want to go to a different level, you're going to have to get around some folk on a different level. And you'll be surprised -- the stuff that will just rub off on you. It's just rubs off on you. If you're around this, it rubs off on you. So, whenever you want it rubbed off on you, get around.

Fourth thing is this. You have to study the habits of prosperous people. I mean, make a conscious effort to see what prosperous people are really doing. It's life. If you find someone with a super body, and you want a super body, you need to ask them and see what they're doing. Because they're doing something. So, all you need to do is ask them, "What are you doing?" And if you follow them and if you do what they're doing, it won't be long before you get what they have. So find and study the habits of prosperous people. And you need to get around, you need to be around everybody, you need to be around prosperous people if that's what your goal is.

When you're helping people, that's a different thing. But as far as association, if you want prosperity and see, no matter what level you're on, there's always someone prosperous in your area. I remember even in the plant. Everybody back working on the line. Everyone making the same amount. You have 12 folks on the line.

Eight of the folks have financial problem. Two of them, they're even and two of them prosper. All making the same amount of money. You all know on your job, as always, somebody can go through, just who needs to borrow some money. You know what I'm talking about? You're making the same amount of money. But as always, someone, you can go through the bar. You need to hang around and see what they're doing. If they're borrowing and they're lending, you need to get around the one that's lending. And see what they do because they draft on to some cheese of prosperity. That if you hang around them, that stuff will rub off. Fifth thing you need to do is this, you need to work efficiently. I didn't say work hard, I said, "Work efficiently" they're not the same thing.

Most people work hard but if you don't work efficiently, you're still never truly become prosperous. You see, I make money from two things in my business, and I don't make it from the church. You all know I don't get any salary at all, no love offering, none of that from the church. I make money from two things; number one, repeat businesses, the stuff that we're making. It costs too much money for me to just sell it one time and never again. Because you have to go through the market, I make money from repeat business.

In order to make money from repeat businesses, you got to make sure the stuff that you do is so good, folks want it again. So that's number -- whatever you do needs to be good where folks want it again. The best advertisement you'll ever get is word of mouth. Somebody is telling somebody about what you got. You got to work efficiently. Now somebody, you're doing some and folks, (00:21:42). That's why whatever you do, your repute -- that's what the bible says, "A good reputation is worth more than silver and gold. A good reputation is silver and gold." In businesses, that's exactly what it is. It is silver and good. If folk can't speak well in you, and what you do, you're not going to get much money. I'm just telling you that because you got to go to somebody new every time, who don't know you. Works efficiently.

So first, I make money by repeat business. Second, I make money through the hands of other folk. I don't have to do that, to do all the work. If you're ever going to another level, you cannot do all the work yourself, you'll learn to do things where eventually down the road, the things that come self-sustaining

and it can multiply without your own effort, even administer what we're doing with theonlineword.com. I don't have to preach all sermons every time to reach all those folks. I preach it one time and set up a system, and the thing repeats over and over forever. It's the same thing with work sometimes.

When you think of something, if you can think long-term and think big enough, you'll realize that it's just so much money you can make with your own hands. You got to use the hands of others to multiply your fruits. That's if you want to go to that real upper level of prosperity. And it's the difference in learning how to work efficiently instead of just working hard.

Sixth thing you need to is this, you got to learn how to delay gratification. So if we want all that stuff right now, I mean as soon as you get a little increase, you go right up and buy something else with it. You got to learn how to -- do you know when I started my businesses, it took me seven years before I've ever gotten my first paycheck. Seven years, I had to invest, set, work for all of that and build foundation, get it going. It took me seven years before I ever got a dime out of it. You have to learn how to delay gratification, the stuff just doesn't come all overnight. It takes right, if for not just -- it takes right effort to ever make a success out of anything. So learn how to delay gratification. Don't be in such a hurry to try to get this thing working overnight. All stuff in life is like that, that's (00:23:58) good. So you got to learn how to delay gratification.

Seventh thing is simply this, as a man thinking, so is he. Prosperous people think prosperous. Number one, L'Oréal, which is a competitor of ours had a slogan, "Because I'm worth it." Prosperous folk think they worth it. Do you know that? Prosperous folk think they're worth it. You got to think that you're worth it, you got to know in your soul if you're worth it. And when you start thinking this way, it will start changing the vibration of the things around you.

That's why (00:24:41). Sometimes, you just got to look, prosperous folk especially -- I mean, let me tell you, do you know money will make you look better? I've seen some athletes on the street, but pay a better attention to -- I'd rather be (00:24:57) got a \$20 million contract.

(00:25:02) women talk about, “He’s too (00:25:05). He looks just like Denzel.” Money makes you look better, that’s all it is to it. So there is the principle as the man or woman think. You see, all this stuff is in your mind and it begins in your spirit. You got to be able to think.

I’ll never forget one time on Dallas when someone told Ms. Ellie. They told Ms. Ellie, they said, Ms. Ellie, you’re looking like a million dollars. Ms. Ellie said, I ain’t looking that cheap.” See it depends in your mentality and what you think. Ms. Ellie said “Look, I’m worth a billion dollars.” I ain’t worth no million dollars, I’m not even looking like a million dollars. So it depends on where your mentality is and no one can say your mentality or your children’s mentality but you and you have to make it up in your mind that you are a child of God. You’re not meant to be broke, you’re not meant to be poor, you’re nor meant to be in lack. You’ve got the understanding of things, and these things must imprint and they must impact on your spirit.

And then you got to set for and you got to get it done. It does not change overnight. God has always meant for his people to be prosperous and that’s always been the truth. But sometimes, the people get wired in darkness.

God had me preaching this for a particular reason because prosperity is very much like spiritual things. Why does the path that leads us to distraction (00:26:36). Now is the way that lead us onto life and (00:26:39). Most people will never experience prosperity in this life and it’s not just money, but money is a major component of it. Most people would never experience true prosperity. But why? Because most people would always be blinded by the illusion and then we become what I would call entranced by the advertising.

You’ll see, 2,000 (00:27:10) a day as an average, all for you to buy stuff. And buyers are always broke, only sellers are the prosperous. You can’t have them make money and buying stuff. All you see from the world is to buy stuff, and you got to learn how to transform spirit and mentality from a buyer to a seller. The world will advertise stuff. All the world’s stuff is designed to keep you broke, to keep you in debt and to keep you in struggle and in strain.

The very thing will break out of their cycle. Even in one of the men's meeting, we were talking and they were -- we were talking about how to improve your credit rate. I said, "I ain't interested in good credit. "Now, I've got good credit, but improving -- and having an excellent credit score is not really my major focus. I don't want to be borrower, I'm working to be the lender. See, the man would -- if you have the money to lend, it doesn't matter what your credit score is. You understand that? You see, the credit score is for the borrower.

So if you have the money to lend, and nobody check your credit score when you're going to put money in the bank. So that's the mentality difference. There are three levels of life, economics and I'll compare it to sports. Most are at the level of the spectator, we watch, we watch the Super Bowl, we watch the World Series, we watch the Stanley Cup, we watch Wimbledon and we watch the master. Most are at the level of the watcher.

There is the second level which is the player. And most of the watchers aspire to be a player, they want to play on the team. They want to be out there in the action, they want to get to glory and they see the multimillion dollar contracts, that's the second level. In all of professional sports, there are 2,000 paid athletes in the US. That's a lot of very big fee. So most in the vast majority are watchers, a smaller percentage are players. That is the third level of thinking which most of us never get to and that's to own the team.

Because the man that owned the team, he's playing the salary of the player. And I'm a generous man and the people that work for me, I pay them well but they'll never make as much as I do. They will never make it, I'm a holy spirit filled man of God but they will never make as much as I do, never. So I don't care even if you get honored the most spirit-filled man in the world, you'll never make as much as the owner.

00:30:03

So sometimes, we have to elevate ourselves from just watching the world go by. And see, when you're watching, you're at the mercy of what happens on the field. When you're planning, you've got some control. But when you're the owner, and we have to move to the level of ownership in economics, in our finances, but that's third-level thinking and that takes a lot of

strength, and it's risky. That's a great deal of risk, but there's risk in all of it, because even if you just watch, there's a risk. We have to change our minds, people, if we really want something better. The world has painted an illusion. We've got to change our thinking to move to the levels of true prosperity, and it's not all about money but I'll tell you, people. Without money and, you know -- you do need it.

And most, even relationships, I haven't seen a single relationship having problems, that didn't have money problems, not a single one. Now, I know of some that do. Some of these are some of the stars and the millionaires and all of that, but I don't know them. I know somebody here, but I know and I dealt with. I don't know a single relationship having problems, big problems, doesn't have big money problems, that money is an issue. We need to have our prosperity levels (00:31:48), never meant his folk to be broke.

Let's go back and listen to that first message, what is prosperity, and it fills (00:31:54). We're trying to elevate mentalities, and one of the things you have to get rid of is habit, number one, and fear, number two. Habits, habit, habit, habits. When my father went to marry my mother, and their sisters, my mother and her sister. Our father said he discerned that my mother would hold a quarter until it (00:32:24), and money burned a hole in my mother's sister's pocket. Is that, right?

Burn a hole (00:32:33) she couldn't wait to spend it. Couldn't wait to spend it. Most people are like that because that's what the world tells you to do. It teaches you, you see the cars, and the clothes, and all of the stuff about what you need to spend your money on, and all of that is done by (00:32:53). You all need to move to the seller. That's what I am. My main job in my company is to make a good product and sell it, and get money.

Now, I deliver a value and (00:33:08) but bottom line, I've got to get this folk's money. That's just plain and simple. I've got to get the folk's money. That's just all it is, and that's what my main -- and that's any business's job. It's to get your money. About any business is to get your money. And when we set our - - recently, we did our company mission statement. And folks thought I was going to have all of this and it has some spiritual stuff in it, but there's another one thing I have on the mission

statement, I said, “We got to be financially viable.” Meaning that we got to have some money in this company. We’ve got to have more money coming in than going out.”

I don’t care whether I was a preacher or how holy I was, that’s the number one thing on my company’s mission statement. We’ve got to have more coming in here than we have going out. That’s the number one thing. Because if we don’t have that in order, stuff is going to fall apart.

So, you have to even get priorities and understand some of this stuff, and it’s the same way in your own lives. You’ve got to have more coming in than you have going out for it’s heading towards collapse. And the world is all geared to making it go out. So you’ve got to go against what the world is telling you and start having the stuff more coming in than going out, and start moving to the third level, third level, third level. You are not supposed to be the borrowers. You’re supposed to be the lenders.

So, here, I want you to have good credit. You ought to have good credit because that’s -- you’ve got parallel (00:34:37), but that’s also going to be your main focus for you’re just so stuck together, so you borrow some more money. That ought now to be your focus. Your main focus here is, “I want to be a lender. I want to be an investor. I want to be the one with a savings account down at the bank or the CDs or the mutual funds or the stocks and bonds.

00:35:01

I want to be the one that they’re borrowing my money and paying me interest.” So, you know, folks, when you get interest paid, do you know you’re making money while you sleep? But you have to know, you have to know divine guidance and purpose, and I’ve told you all. God told me not to invest, to have any of my money, let James have it. James, we went to Italy. When did we go to Italy? In March. So, two weeks ago, James, what did you tell me exactly about what happened to my money? Just in one of the accounts while I was in Italy, what did you tell me?

James:

(00:35:41)

Nathaniel Bronner Now, I was on vacation. Do you understand that? Teach a man how to make \$10,000.00 and they (00:35:50). I was on vacation. That's the difference between the borrower and the lender, that if I borrowed money, I'd still be having to pay, it just no matter where I went. I said that if there's no -- but because whenever you have money invested, you are the lender.

He made me \$10,000.00 in one account while I was on vacation, and that's the difference in levels. That's the difference, and that's where you need to go, but you've got to have a change of mentality, and you've got to, first of all, set your goals. Set your goals, set your goals, set your goals.

You see, I have the divine guidance. If I haven't had that, that account may have been zero because I haven't done very well investing my own money, but I have the divine guidance because I'm in covenant. So, since I've been tied and offering since I got out of college, I've been -- God had set an obligation. So when he saw my weakness, and all of us have weaknesses. When he saw my weakness, and he said, "You're too weak in here." And you know why I'm a bad investor? Because I'm too big of a risk-taker. I'm just saying. I'm just an adventurer, and I don't believe in the slow-growth theory. And I invest everything and I'm just -- I'm a gambler. And God says, "Your nature, you need to let your brother, James help with all of your stuff."

Because I was in covenant, God had an obligation. If didn't listen to what he told me, he would leave an obligation. So, what God is speaking to you is to follow the rules, set your goals, start blessing your bills, and you just start hanging around some prosperous folks. If you just do all three things, you'll start changing some stuff in your life. Just do them, three things. Just set your goals, start blessing your bills and start hanging around. And I'm not -- I'm not talking about billionaires. No, I'm not talking about that. Everyone I know that's handling their money well, sometimes this old grandma.

You know your grandmother and you know grandma's never broke. Do you know what I'm talking about? Grandma -- and she sometimes -- grandmama didn't have money in the First National Bank, but she had money in the Twin Towers, and grandma would go down to the Twin Towers. Grandma was never broke. And see, they had that old mother whip, and grandma would always have money, and grandma had children.

They had college degrees, master degrees, PhDs, and grandma would have to lend her children and grandchildren money, with no degree, because grandma has some old mother whip wisdom, and she wasn't bamboozled by the modern advertiser.

Sometimes, you just need to get around. Grandma, someone who could pay all of their bills and still have got money in the Twin Towers. And just ask Grandma. And grandma says, "Child, you ain't got no business buying it. You just ain't got no business buying it," and listen to grandma. You need to quit using money wherever for your rainy days. Just listen to grandma! You'll be surprised -- and it's not the modern, sophisticated kind of thing, but if you just listen to those who have the key to prosperity, they will be, "Don't listen to posters. Don't buy this. That's what. I'm trying to improve your life. Don't try to get out of -- This is somebody broke. Just don't do it. They will take you every time."

00:39:59

So, you've got to listen to those who have done what you're trying to do, and everyone knows someone. Don't try to run and show to the to the Bill Gates if you got a grandma, or grandpapa, or someone who has handled money well. Go and start hanging around them.

There was a story once of a young man who went to an old rich man. He said, "Look." -- it was at night and he had gone to his house, and he said, "Look, I want you to just tell me how did you get this much money? How did you accumulate it?" And the old man said, "Look, before I get started," he said, "Let me just extinguish this candle so we won't burn up the candle." And the young man said, "That's all right. I see right now how you did it." Just hanging around someone who is prosperous will impart gems on to you, partaking you for the third level. It will pull up your mentality, slowly but surely. God want you you prosperous.

Do we have anyone here, and this is a time where you'll want to turn finances around? I want you all to bring the altar table up and finally put it here. And I hear God just speaking this, and you all know I'm not -- we don't take up special offerings with this, very rarely but I'm hearing God trying to speak, he said, "You want to show money turned around. First of all, you need

to put a seed at the offering. There is even a principle in that, where God always demands a sacrifice along with the leaves, and it is one of those principles. It's just one -- I don't give a damn with this money, so don't think. It's not for me. It will go to the church, but this is a part of a principle.

If you'll ever go and get your prosperity together, you will have to make a sacrifice. You cannot steal like you've been spending. You're going to have to have to make a sacrifice. So the thing begins with some principles. If you're going to start with your sacrifice, you need to start with God first. If you're ever going to get your prosperity in order, you will have to make sacrifices. I'm not telling you what to put up. First of all, I want you to become sensitive. Then before you decide, you need to become sensitive to the Spirit of God. Close your eyes and say, "Lord, speak to me and tell me what do I sacrifice."

You see that, but the other thing about God with his specificity. God told the folks what to sacrifice. Ask him in your heart, "Lord, what do I sacrifice unto you this day? Most of you have got something in your spirit right now, and if you need -- I'm not going to handle them. It just begins with a sacrifice. If you need your finances, just turn around. Just come and bring your sacrifice to the altar and then go back to the seat. That's it. Just bring your sacrifice to the altar.

If you need your finances, just turn around. Hear what God is telling you. For some, he may have told you a little something, he may have told you your whole life. I don't know what God told you, but whatever, heed it, and just bring your sacrifice unto the altar of God. It is not really a seed, it's a sacrifice. This is a sacrifice. If you need your finances, turn around. You need that money. You need that money. It's a sacrifice. It is a sacrifice. It is a sacrifice. It is the Lord that gives you the power to get well. I have seen it.

And while you're coming here, again, the story of what happened in my business, after those first five years, I had lost a lot of money. And I remember after I had lost all of that money, but I had things planned out extremely well. I was always logical. I had it mapped out and I said, even when I started this business and even if I had the debts, I will make sure that my salary from my company, from the company that I worked for our family business, can pay the debts. So I wasn't worried about it, until

my salary got cut. Because Bronner Brothers went through a tough economic time, and my salary got cut, and I said to myself, "Oh, my goodness. How am I going to pay this debt now? And I never will forget, I was out shopping, and I was out at Sam's Club.

00:45:00

And I went and I got something, and I put it in my buggy, and I thought about something. "Oh my goodness, my salary has been cut, let me put this thing back," and I put it back and God spoke to me, and he said, "I'm going to change your thing, and have this money." Now, this is divine, and thinking whenever you -- don't ever go against logic unless you're sure you have divine knowledge in that. He said, "I'm going to change this thing and have this one bit." I put this thing and within the week, a prophet came to me. He came to my office, and he said, "Man, I had a dream, and in the dream, I saw this product." He said, "I saw you making this product." I saw the color, then he described it and everything. I made the product.

And not only did I make the product, I had someone call me and say, "Look, I want to invest in your company," and I said, "Well, I've got -- I haven't been taking in investors, but I was running kind of tight now. And I said, "I've got a new product coming up and I'll let you invest in that." That investment paid every dime of the new product. When the new product came out, it paid every bill from that point forward, but I was in covenant.

So, God sent a word through a prophet. Now, the prophet was broke, and the prophet never handled his money well before. He was just like. Even though -- he could get revelations, but he could never handle his own money straight. And I asked the prophet, I said, "I will pay you a royalty for you bringing this product to me." He said, "I don't want royalty." He said, "I just want to have cash to pay our rent now." And I said, "How much do you want?" He gave me the figure. I wrote the man out a check.

Now, the seller who made the investment still just paid off his investment right now, and he gets all of this investment back every 16 months, and that's been six or seven years ago. So, he's gotten his investment back multiples fold and still gets it.

Now, the prophet got a one-time payment. That's why he was in bad shape. I still send him money every month now, and that was because of me, in my heart and spirit. And I recognize the gift that God sent through him, and I also recognized he did not have the earthly wisdom to take the royalty option. So God works in mysterious ways, people. But when you are in covenant with him and listen to his Word, even when stuff looks like it's about to fall apart, he'll send the Word through, going to take you right to the top, but you need to be in covenant.

So, as long as you listen to what God told you to do, and I didn't look at what you put down. That's not important to me. I'm like, "I'm not going there too. What's coming to my pocket, I might want to peek down and see what it was," but that's not important for me. This is between you and God. It is between you and God. So as long as you have done what God told you to do when you asked in your spirit, "How much should I sacrifice?" And you heard his word, as long as you've done with what he tells you to do, that's the beginning of the covenant with God. God will not break his covenant with you. I am here to testify that, and God's Word, which He would testify. What C. Elijah preached on Friday, it shall come to rest.

Is there anyone here today and you want to dedicate or rededicate your life to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ? There is no prosperity without salvation, people. And you may have all the money in the world and you don't have Jesus, totally worth nothing. And you can be broke, and if you have Jesus, it's worth everything. But I'd rather have Jesus and not be broke. I want the best that God has to offer. I don't want the middle of the road, and I don't want the bottom of fountain. I want the best. Your level is in Heaven. I want to be on top level, I just don't want to be on the bottom. In every country that I've traveled to, as long as you're on the top, you're in good shape. I want the best that God has to offer me, and I hope you want the same. I want the best that God has to offer.

Is there anyone here today and you want to dedicate or rededicate your life for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ? If so, simply stand and come forward. Amen, amen, amen.

Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen. Normally, we recite the vows, we will report over and I hear God speaking, "Let him say what he's going to."

So, I'm going to -- you just follow the spirit. Normally, we'll stand here and we'll -- you'll repeat after us. God has sent the saying, "Let you say what you're going to do," instead of me telling you and you repeat. So, here you go.

Male

Thank you, pastor. I woke up this morning. God had just -- woke me up and said, "You have everything that you need. Just work on it." So I come this morning to dedicate that I'm going to work on it, being a better father to my son. I wanted him to just follow me, and follow my lead. And working in my business and turning my business around, I want to do all of these things, but God said, "You've got it already." I just need to work on it.

Nathaniel Bronner Amen, amen. What was the first thing of the message today? The first point, number one? It was set your goals, specific goals, and sometimes -- and this, it means that if God wanted me to have you to speak, whenever we want to do something, people, we need to learn how to do this stuff specifically.

You said, "I want to be a better father to my son." Well, that's the nebulous part. If you really want it, you've got to be specific. "I want to spend four hours a week with him. I'm going to do this." You start. You said you want to improve your business, you have to -- you see, all of us people want better stuff and we know it in the nebulous term, but if you don't set it specifically, you're going to say, "I want to get my body in better shape." You know, "I want to do something with --" "I want my marriage--," in what? What you're going to do, specifically. There's not a person in here that doesn't want to be in better shape, in all areas of life. But have you thought about what you're going to do specifically?

Male

Well, I've thought that one thing. I'm up all -- I don't go to bed until 1:00 in the morning. I don't go to sleep. I'm just sitting around and wondering, because I want to get in the bed at 10:30.

Nathaniel Bronner Amen. All right. All right.

Male

And I want to be up in the morning by 5:30.

Nathaniel Bronner All right. You see what I'm talking about? And that gives you -- first of all, you know what you aren't doing. You know what you are not doing. Excuse that bad (00:52:37). But you will know when you aren't doing it. So he says at 11:00, and you're not into bed, you know you've already violated the commitment that you've made, and you know you're all (00:52:48).

If you don't set guidelines, and if you don't set the goal, because I'm telling -- as the first rule is to set them. Set them and write them down. You see, if you don't write them down, you forget them. The things that God has told me, if I don't write them down, I can't -- I have to write those things down to keep them in front of me, and they're very similar with what God told me to do.

Listen to the tapes. You can go to TheOnLineWord. Listen to the message, personal and confidential. One of the things God told him back. he said, "Be on the bed by 11:00, be up by 5:00." So, those are my criteria, and when I don't do that, I knew I had violated it when I look in the mirror last night. And I looked in the mirror and as I looked, and I was tired, and I looked in the mirror and you know what I saw? I saw bags coming around my eyes, and I've never seen that before in my life. I said, "My goodness. I can see the traces of bags around my eyes."

I hadn't been doing what God told me. I had been up working on some stuff, way past up 11:00, get up early in the morning. And as a result, I had some excess baggage. See, whenever you deviate from what God tells you to do, you get some excess baggage. So, that's just one of the things that he sets his goals, and be it by 10:30, up by 5:00. Is there anything else you want to tell the folks?

Male: I don't want to share around --

Nathaniel Bronner You don't want to share? That's fine, but that's just one thing. Amen.

And you see, people, that's a part of coming to Christ and back to God. It's what you're going to do. We have too many folks that come down, and you never see them again, or they follow next week, because it's out of emotion, but there is no real, solid commitment that they have truly made in their hearts. So, that's the prime example.

Set that goal and write it down so that you will know and be reminded of it, and you'll be surprised. Once you've set it in your heart and mind, you're halfway to making it so. Amen, amen, amen. Amen. I'm just going to pray over you.

00:54:58

Dear heavenly Father, we thank you for your (00:55:00), dear Father. And we pray that he is able to keep the commitment that he has made upon this day, dear Father, to his son, to his business, to himself, to his family, dear Father. Give him the strength, the perseverance that guides, dear Father. And dear Father, I even pray that you give him the chastisement, so that when he moves off of the path, there is your chastisement to let him know, just as the bags under my eyes let me know, "Get back on the path"

Dear Father, he comes today, to accept your son, to accept his salvation. Renew him. We pray for that, in the name of Jesus, dear Father. But we pray that he keep his commitment, that he keep his commitment and he keep his commitment. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen. Amen, amen, amen. Wow!

This is interesting. I hope -- I'm not going to really say that. I'm looking -- so, I'm going to tell you why. God sent and spoke this to me. He said, "I want you to return double to everyone what they've put in you offering today." But that's what I hear God speaking, "I want you to return double." You all know how much you put in, right? Everybody knows exactly how much you put in. And you know, what some folks are saying, "I wish I had put in more in there." And you never know what are the purposes of God.

Now, a lot of this is cash. If it's a check or if it's an envelope that has a name on it, we have it exact. But for those of you that put in cash, I want you to -- and I've got to make sure all of this stuff balances out because somebody put some more than they had put in there. So, what I want you to do, and just do this because this is a blessing coming to you. Don't sit there and say, "I don't even want it." No. If he says to return it, this is a principle, and it's teaching you some things. I want you to come -- this is only for those that did not identify themselves, and it's not on an envelope or not in a check form.

I want you to come up, write your name down, and write how much cash money you actually put in, or if you put it on an envelope and it was not identified. So, those of you that made a -- that actually put your money and, for goodness sake, don't lie, folks. I mean, I have to say that because somebody will say, "Well, I didn't quite put in that much but I'm going to --" but goodness, that will bring a curse on you. Don't lie. Please don't lie. And God is trying to just show you a principle.

You didn't expect that and neither did I, but he said, "Return unto them double that which they placed." If you trust God with some stuff -- well, just write it down. If she said, "What if he didn't know exactly how much it was, just write a general, as close as you can. As close as you can think.

So, next Sunday, everyone has the envelope with double what you put in today, double of what you -- but I do want to make sure everything that's written down adds up to what's in here. And God is just trying to show you something. You see, you didn't expect it back this fast. You absolutely didn't. You didn't expect it back this fast, and He's trying to teach you sometimes through example and through principle.

Some of you were sitting there, "Well, I don't want to. The church is just trying to raise some more money. I ain't --" You don't know what God is trying to do. If you just follow his lead, if you just follow his lead. If you just follow his lead, God will bless you beyond you imagine, and you do it faster than you can think. Amen.

Well, we're going to just go ahead and you all can just keep writing as we dismiss. And this is just an example. Trust God. Or turn to the person sitting next to you, just tell them, "Trust God. Just trust God. Just trust. Just do what he says." And if somebody (00:59:32) God was speaking a real big figure to you, and you just wouldn't hear it. You just wouldn't do it. You just wouldn't do it, and you didn't know. And I've got to admit, if I had to pay money, I'm kind of glad you didn't -- but by not obeying what God told you to do, look how much it cost you?

All right. Okay, okay. She said my mother told her to come up here and just say it. Amen.

Female

Well, I was sitting here. I had already given my offering and I didn't put my name on the envelopes or anything. So, you know. And when you said that, you know, God told me, "You know that check that you've been having in your purse, and you have some cash in," and said, "Well, maybe I'll do this later, maybe I'll do that with it." I still didn't, and I had it over a week, and it's just in my purse and God said, "Give it." So, I pulled it out and I came and up here, and I put it up there, and it's for \$675.00.

Nathaniel Bronner Whoa! So, now she has to get back -- that's \$1,350.00 that will return onto her. Whoa! Now, that's trust in God. And see, the thing about it, people, even when God led the children of Israel through the wilderness, he showed them miracle, after miracle, after miracle, and they still didn't trust God, miracle after miracle, after miracle, and they still didn't trust God.

Amen, amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen. That just shows you. That's a miracle there. That's a miracle. But the miracle would not have happened without obedience. It requires obedience. Without obedience, it won't happen. It won't happen.

So, I hope you all got the message from there. So if God is faithful with this, he's the same way with (01:01:58). Some of you still won't do it. You just won't do that. "I don't trust you." Going like, "I just don't trust you," and that's what it boils down to. God is trying to take you to a different level and has to show you some things. But he isn't going to keep showing you that. Amen, amen.

I hope you have enjoyed this message. If you want to listen to this message again or the first and third of this series, go to TheOnLineWord.com. Thank you for joining Brothers of the Word, because brother, you need the Word.

Amen, amen, and amen. Amen, amen.

01:02:44