

God Is Real

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Nathaniel Bronner: It changes your whole way of living when you recognize God is real and God is good.

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(Music Playing: 00:00:22 - 00:00:50)

And now for 5842, God is Real.

Male: John Chapter 9. As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither did this man sin nor his parents. But that the works of God might be revealed in him. I must work the works of him who sent me while it is day. The night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

When he had said this, he spat on the ground that made mud with the saliva, anointed the blind man's eyes with the mud and said to him, "Go, wash in the Pool of Siloam", which means "Sent". So, he went away, washed, and came back seeing. The neighbors therefore and those who saw that he was blind before said, "Isn't this he who sat and begged?" Others were saying, "It is he." Still others were saying, "He looks like him." He said, "I am he." They therefore were asking him, "How were your eyes opened?" He answered, "A man called Jesus made mud anointed my eyes and said to me go to the Pool of Siloam and wash. So, I went away and washed, and I received sight." Then they asked him, "Where is he?" He said, "I don't know."

They brought him who had been blind to the Pharisees. It was a Sabbath when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Again, therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, I washed, and I see." Some therefore of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because he doesn't keep the Sabbath." Other said, "How can a man who was a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them, therefore they asked the blind man again, "What do you say about him because he opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews therefore did not believe concerning him that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called

the parents of him who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son whom you say was born blind? How then does he now see?”

His parents answered them, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. But how he now sees, we don’t know or who opened his eyes, we don’t know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself.” His parents said these things because they feared the Jews. But the Jews had already agreed that if any many would confess him as Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore, his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So, they called the man who was blind the second time and said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.” He therefore answered, “I don’t know if he is a sinner. One thing I do know that though I was blind now I see.” They said to him again, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I told you already and you didn’t listen. Why do you want to hear it again? You don’t also want to become his disciples, do you?” They insulted him and said, “You are his disciple but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we don’t know where he comes from.”

The man answered them, “How amazing. You don’t know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God doesn’t listen to sinners but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, he listens to him. Since the world began it has never been heard of that anyone open the eyes of someone born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were altogether born in sins and do you teach us?” They threw him out.

Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and finding him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of God?” He answered, “Who is he, Lord? That I may believe in him.”

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Jesus said to him, “You have both seen him and it is he who speaks with you.” He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgement, that those who don’t see may see and that those who see may become blind.” Those of the Pharisees who were with him heard these things and

said to him, "Are we also blind?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say we see therefore your sin remains."

Nathaniel Bronner: One thing I know, "God is Real". One thing I know, "God is Real". You just heard the entire chapter of John 9th chapter and this of course is the well-known story of the man born blind that Jesus healed. They tried to criticize Jesus and come against him and come against the man they tried to even threaten his parents. And the man boarded down and said, "Look, so, I don't know who or what Jesus is." He said, "Whether he is a sinner or not I don't know. I don't know but one thing." And you have to imagine being born blind which meant you had never seen the light of day or anything in your whole life. You're going through all of life in darkness and all of a sudden here comes somebody and I'm sure the parents had taken him to every healer they could take him to and they said, "Look, this boy is born blind. Nothing we can do."

So, he had resigned himself to his faith and yet a man comes and you heard how it would sound. See, even though he could not see when one sense is removed it heightens the other senses. So, blind people have an extremely acute sense of hearing. They're sensitive to every sound and they learn to differentiate things. So, here this blind man when he hears Jesus hack up and spit in the mud. He knows what that is.

And see, the problem with so many of us, we want to be too sophisticated. And Lord have mercy, many of us we watched the documentary last week that had a few choice words in it. Do you realize if some of us heard someone hack and spit in the dirt and then take that dirt and put it on our eyes? Do you know some of you would say, "What in the blank you're doing?" This is real, "What in the blank!" You have to fill in the blank but some of you all can pull some real choice words in that blank. You have to imagine this now! And he splashes some wet stuff full of spit and spit it on his eye. This is the lowest you can go in terms of sophistication.

And somehow when God works like that, He'll send you to something that you think is not sophisticated and not clean. That's why when he told the man go and wash in the river that was dirty, "Like you send me to a clean river? Got leprosy. Can't you send me to a clean river?" I'm sure some of us would have

thought, “Couldn’t you do something different than put mud and spit on my eye?”

See, sometimes God has to work in your world and there’s mud and spit. You don’t want mud and spit. You want champagne. You don’t want spit but sometimes God has to work in your world and something you don’t think is sophisticated enough for you because you don’t know who I am do you? That’s what a layman said, “You don’t know who I am? You won’t send me out to that dirty river to dip into that river some time. You don’t know who I am. You don’t know my education. You haven’t seen my bank account.” Literally, I preached a sermon when I analyzed all of the value of today of what he brought the prophet it was over \$2 million. So, he would say, “You don’t know what’s in my bank account. You want to send me to something nasty and dirty? You going to put spit and mud on my eyes?” And they came to the man and said, “Look, what did he do?” “Spit mud on my eyes.” “Who was it?” “I don’t know.” “Where did he come from?” “I don’t know.” “What medical school did he graduate from?” “I don’t know.” “Was he valedictorian?”

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“I don’t know.” “Was he salutatorian?” “I don’t know.” “What was his GPA?” “I don’t know.” “Was He magna cum laude?” “I don’t know.” “Was he summa cum laude?” “I don’t know what Lord he was. All I know, he was the Lord!

Sometimes, people, you’ve got to boil some stuff down to what they call the lowest common denominator and, see, let me tell you something. I’m not a stupid man in my own eyes. I’m really not. I’m well-educated.

When I left my elementary school, the teacher came to me and she said, “Little thing, you have the highest IQ in the whole school.” I wasn’t stupid. I was intelligent, but there’s a whole bunch of stuff I don’t know. I don’t understand it, I can’t figure it out. I’ve got a chemistry degree, but there’s a whole lot of stuff about the world I can’t put in a formula. I can’t predict it. I don’t even have a clue as to why or what and to be perfectly honest about it, I don’t even know what or who God is. I’m going to just tell you that right after that. I don’t know!

It's like what God told Job. "Where were you when I created the leviathan? Where were you when I told the sea to come this far and no further? Where were you?" I can't understand all of it. Even physicists now, they're seeking what's called the Higgs Boson particle, and they have a nickname for it called the, "God particle." And then, they found a whole lot of stuff, but they can't find God and because they said there's this particle that holds all of matter, they found the leptons and the quarks, and they found all of these other subatomic particles, but there's something missing and they've been searching for it, and they called it the God particle, and they can't figure it out.

They've now come to the conclusion of where scientists, for the longest, could not believe how the earth could be created in seven days, and now the theoretical physicists and the particle physicists, they've come to the conclusion that the universe really didn't appear with the big bang. They say it appeared in literally a billionth of a second, not seven days. They didn't draft it from seven days, with God created the world, but to a billionth of a second. They said from all of the science that we can study, and now that we're getting deeper and having more understanding, it looked like this stuff just showed up.

There's no explanation of time and space that will explain something that just showed up. Not in a billionth of a second. They don't know how it happened but it's like the deeper we get, it's like a light switch was just turned on and all of this stuff just showed up.

These are the physicists. These are the great thinkers. These are the scientists. These are the folk who don't believe in God, and they're looking for a God particle that's something that goes beyond their explanation that they can't understand. They said all of this stuff in a billionth of a second. It just -- not the Earth, but the formation of the universe, and it's scientifically impossible because you cannot go thousands of lightyears in a billionth of a second, they just showed up, and they're trying to understand, even though they are most educated. They've been to the elite schools. They've had all of the courses. They've got computers that are the fastest than there'd ever been. Even with all of this, their conclusion is, "It just showed up," and they're looking for the God particle to try to explain it.

You see, I'm like that blind man. I don't know who God is. Black Pastor, I don't know who God is. I don't. You can't see His face and leave. So, how are you going to understand Him if you can't see His face and leave? So, I don't understand who. I don't understand what. I don't know what's in the 7th Heaven, or the 1st Heaven. I don't know what's in Hell. I don't want to know.

So, from the bottom of the depths of Hell to the upper levels of Heaven, I'm smart. You all say, "Pastor's Smart." I am technically and verifiably smart. I am smart, but I don't know what's from the bottom of Hell to the of Heaven, and most of the stuff here on this Earth, I don't understand, and I understand way more than most folk. But there's so much that I do not understand, and there's so much you don't understand.

I want you to just take this thing and just wiggle it like that. Do you know what makes your finger wiggle? And see, you hadn't even thought about, "I've got to send the nerve impulses down the neuron, through the synapses."

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"I've got to activate some of acetylcholine." You don't know all of that, but there's not a single one of you that cannot do this, and you're doing this, and you don't even know how you're doing this. All you know is that you can take this finger and you can wiggle this finger. That's all you know. You're not sure how it's done.

So, here, this blind man and all of the Pharisees, these were the preachers of that day, all of them trying to get him to disavow Jesus. Trying to get him to say, "Well, you know, maybe he used some magic or some sort, but I don't know what he did." He said, "I don't know whether he is a sinner or not. I only know one thing. That's all I know," and then they went to his parents. "Was this born--?" "Yeah. He was born blind. We know that." "Is he your son?" "Yes, he's our son. We know that, but I don't know how he got healed. I don't know who healed him. I don't know any of that."

There used to be a program called Hogan Heroes, and Sergeant Schultz, whenever something went wrong and they went to Sergeant Schultz, he was supposed to be interested. "Sir, I know nothing. I know nothing."

So, the parents basically had to say, "I know nothing. All I know is this is our son. He was born blind, and now he can see." And when they went to the man, it boiled down to this common denominator whereas, "I was blind. Now, I see." What in your world do you know for sure? What do you know for sure?

I took a class when I was in school and the teacher asked, "How do you know you exist?" And I actually was the only one who was in the class who figured it out. How do you know you exist? And, basically, the answer that I gave the teacher was the same answer that I later read that Descartes came up with. "I think, therefore I am."

And I told the teacher, so look, "The more I think about this thing, I can't tell you that I'm not in a dream. I can't tell you that I'm not a figment of someone else's imagination but because I'm sitting here, thinking about it, it means I least exist in that dream, and I least exist as that figment. I can't tell you what I am, but I can tell you that I am. Whatever it is and whatever I am, I'm sitting here, asking the question, thinking to myself." That is the answer and that's the only thing you know. I know God is real.

I don't know God is real because of education. Education destroys your belief in God. Often, even seminary does, because they'll teach you some stuff that, frankly, you can't preach from the pulpit. Education does not bolster your belief in God.

I had to go through some things. I had to experience a blinded eye being opened. I never was blind but I had some stuff happen that I could not explain, and I still have stuff happen that I can't explain even now. One thing I know is God is real, and there are three basic types of belief. They boil down to three basic, overall categories.

First of all, you've got atheist, and they believe there is no God. The Bible says that a man who has said that there is no God is as hard as a fool. You've got atheists, and they honestly believe there is no God. Then you've got agnostics. An agnostic simply says, "I don't know. I don't know whether there's a God or not. I can't prove it, one way or the other. I don't know one way or the other." And then you have believers, and I'm sad to say some believers are in truth, atheists and agnostics. They come to

church every Sunday, but in their heart, they don't see it, ain't no God.

What is the one thing that you know? You don't know you're sitting on this chair because you might not be. I mean, seriously, you might not be sitting here on this chair. You really don't know what reality truly is, and all of the major religions fundamentally say this Earth is an illusion, called Maya. So, maybe, you don't really know you're sitting here on that chair. You really don't.

You could be somewhere in somebody's nightmare right now. You really don't know, but the one thing I do know, regardless of the form of whatever is reality, one thing I do know, God is real. God is real. I have experienced it and, you see, there comes a point. Jesus says, you know, he said, "Blessed are those who believe in Heaven not seen." I was one of those. I'm just going to be honest.

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God had to just show me some stuff and prove some stuff to me. I was one of those. I got this logical scientific intellectual mind that needs proof and if you ask God for proof, he'll give you some proof. He'd give you some proof. Stuff don't happen.

I remember the first words that I heard God speak. First words I heard God speak, I was 33 years old. I was going to an auction to help a friend of mine buy a townhome. Because he lived in apartments all of his life, I saw this advertisement for these townhomes that were going on auction. And told myself, man look, you need to come out of an apartment. You need to own you something. So, I was going with him to actually get him a townhouse and help him get a townhouse. I heard what I called at that time and I called it that for years, "the voice". And I heard something speak that says, "You will own seven of those units". And I'm driving, what in the -- what in the world, because sometimes when God first appears to you with most of the people in the bible when the angels showed up scared and they left. They didn't just show up, I'm so glad to see you, they were scared to death. Sometimes the very presence of God, when God first shows in your life, shakes you to pieces. You will own seven of those units. And I shook it off but then I couldn't shake it off because it was something that I heard that I've never heard before.

It ended, went to the auction. The units went so reasonably priced, I bought three of them. But then I remember the voice said, "You would own seven of those units". So, I then went to the man who was hosting the auction, I said, look if anybody else in these deals follow through let me know and I would like to buy them. He called me back 10 days later. He said, "Mr. Bronner", he said, "Some of the folk who had bought the unit, their check is not clear and their credit wouldn't go through." And I've got a whole bunch of folks lined up who came to me before you did and said the same thing you did but you bought three of the units and your check cleared.

So, I'm pushing all of the folk to the side and I'm giving you the option to get these other three units. So, I ended up with six units then the fellow who I took to get a unit had bought one unit but his unit had a crack in the floor and the auction people said, well, look if there's anything wrong with the unit, we will repair it to like new. He has had a crack in the floor. He said, "I don't want this crack." I said, man, they told you they're going to -- but I don't want this crack. I said, man, you buying a unit it's one third of the market value, it's a phenomenal deal, they're going to fix the crack. Why are you going to put -- I don't want this crack.

Sometimes, you don't want a crack and then you do with for. He said, "I don't want this crack."

I said, well, if you don't want the unit, I'll buy the unit. I ended up with seven of those units. This is the other half of that story. That same fellow ended up buying a house. Came out of the house years later. He lives in that same unit now and pays me rent. I don't want that crack.

God is real. He is real. And this whole message today just boils down to try and get you to understand that one thing. God is real. He's real. And see, your whole worship life, your whole spiritual life won't really kick into gear until you truly internalize that not intellectualize it. They're two different things. There are some things that you can know from intellect. You know from scripture and the other things that are in your soul. The bible says, you know, you should rejoice on death and weep upon birth. And I didn't understand that until my brother Darrel passed away. And I've told you all that story how James and I stayed in that funeral home and I heard from my brother's voice and I heard him say, it's 100 times better on this side. From that point on,

stuff became alive about the other side but see, if you don't believe in God, there's no other side.

Do you understand me? If you don't believe in God, there's no other side which means you live your whole life differently because if you don't believe in God, if you don't believe and there's something else, you believe that once you leave this body, it's all over. There's nothing else. It's finished. There's nothing but an unconscious blackness and non-existence. That's what you have to believe if you don't believe in God. So, it affects your very outlook on life and it changes the way you live. Imagine if someone told you, you only had one year to live.

00:25:04

You'd live it differently because, I don't got a year left. Suppose you believe that after you left this body, there's nothing else. You live it differently because you don't think there's anything else. God is real. You know, I used to -- I said, Lord, why don't you just show yourself to folk. You got all power. You know sometimes, you've seen in the movies where you got a villain and they just takeover all the TV stations.

I said, look, why don't you just take over all the TV stations and just show up and just -- while they're watching days about lives and all -- why don't you just show up? And just come on the TV and say, this is God. In every TV on earth, you come over and you say, this is God. In every language on every TV. And you just hold the TV for 24 hours. So, they would know without question. Why don't you just appear up in the sky and there would be a thousand-foot image of your face and everybody all over the earth would know without question you exist. Why don't you just manifest yourself in a physical form that can show people without question that you exist? You see, that's what's running through my intellectual logical mind. Why don't you do that? You know, here's what God said, I've already done that.

The people saw me part the red sea. They saw all of the place coming then I let them by a cloud by day and pillar of fire by night. I sat down food from heaven every day. They saw the bread fall from the sky every day and still they wouldn't do right and believe me.

Because I've already done that. I've shown them my grace and my power and my mercy. I've shown them that day by day by day and they get used to it. They take it for granted. They start wanting something else. That's why they honored for a king because they didn't want to hear my voice direct that sinners are king, they rule over us because we don't want to hear your voice direct.

I've already done that. So, now you've got to make up within your own soul. This one thing that you know. God is real and when you know it in your soul, I mean not because you don't read the verse. You got to notice that in your soul, it makes a difference. It makes a difference. He's let him see your meeting there but then a fellow had an issue, I gave him something to look up and he emailed me and thank me for it. And I told him, you need to listen to this sermon. It's called, The Secret Verse of Intendment. It was a three-part series.

When I told him, he needed to listen to it, I went back and listened to it myself. I said, did they power -- it's called, The Secret Verse of Intendment. If you understand the three parts of that verse, it changes the way you walk through life. And when I went back, I realized something before you watch the documentary, there were two accidents or crashes that occurred. Both of them were motorcycles. One, the fellow was paralyzed. The other person was killed. When I was 14 years old, I had a motorcycle crash. I had the crash because I was racing. 87 miles an hour, went around a curb, didn't make the curb. And I have met people, paralyzed. And I knew, I should've been seriously injured but I would just ended up. I should've been seriously injured or dead, I should've been paralyzed. And when I went back and listened to that verse, The Secret Verse of Contentment. Listen to that sermon. It brought that back to me. I have been walking literally. I had been walking in God's grace for 50 years because I should've been paralyzed. I have been walking and I walk good too.

I have been walking in God's grace for 50 that' thing happened nearly 50 years. I was 14 years old. I could've been dead or seriously injured or paralyzed. That's what happen with most people with severe motorcycle accidents because it snaps the spine and they're paralyzed. I should've been paralyzed. I've been walking in God's grace and mercy for 50 years. You can't tell me God is not real.

I've seen stuff and I can go write down the list of how his mercy -
- see, God's mercy is necessary because we just don't do right.
That's just all that is to it. We just don't do right. We just don't
right. We just don't do right. And I've had so much stuff when I
was single, when I had all the women, I was protected. It was
unreal. And I saw case after case after case of where there was a
hedge around me and I have to rest.

00:30:05

I said "Lord this is unusual. I don't have all these women
trying to trap me and as like I got the secret service by my
side. So, I knew -- the thing about it I was not doing right.
See you do not need grace and mercy when you are doing
right.

Just like when you are paying your house and what they
got was called a grace period. You don't need your grace
period if you own time. You need a grace period when you
are late. So, you need grace and mercy when you are not
doing right.

And I have had so many instances of where I just have not
done right, when I slack off of what he told me to do when
I should have been making an "A" I have been making a
"C" when I should have been doing "3" and I've been doing
"5". I've been slacking, so many errors of life but still God's
grace.

And, I know whose grace is that, it's just a little question
of how to see it. I see the blessings I see the protection and
I see sometimes the chastisement of it but God is real and
God is good.

When you get this stuff in your soul. You do not feel stuff.
You know, we've had just a massive shootings and focusing.
Well in fact, what about points of police outside the church
and all. What about somebody shoot you up and other
people. A thousand will fall at your left hand and ten
thousand at the right unless you're not calm down.

The worse thing that can happen to me, is I am not going
to have mercy. That is 100 times better that is the worst
that can happen. But what about I did not believe in God,

you do not have a (00:31:42) but the lord did a little bit of time I got to live. I can't risk nobody shooting me and taking that little time away.

It changes your whole way of living when you recognize God is real and God is good. It changes how you live. I do not know what is? I do not what he looks like? I do not know how he made the world but I just speak. I do not understand all of it. I have not found the Higgs Boson. I have not found the God part of it. I do not how, is all hail together. There is a whole bunch of stuff I don't know and the stuff I don't know outnumbers the stuff I do know. I do not know all that but one thing I know. One thing I know, God is real.

I cannot argue with the physicist. I cannot argue with the biologist. I cannot argue with the chemist. I cannot argue with them on a scientific level because even though "Pastor look, you should know him by the things that at made, you will see the stuff do not come by, by accident but sometimes people will not recognize the God power because if they recognized there was a God, they recognize they are responsible to that God and that is what folk do not want to do, they do not want to be a accountable. They want to do what they want to do.

When you recognize there is a God then you recognize you are responsible to that God. I can't explain so much in this world and I only know for absolute sure on thing. I don't know whether God is actually sitting behind a monitor, controlling me in a computer program. I do not know all that.

I do not know all that. There is only one thing I do know. Whatever his nature is, whatever the form, whatever his infinite power that I can't even begin to comprehend, one thing I know God is real. If you get that into your heart. I mean into your heart, it changes you, it changes you. God is real and God is good.

I thank you for joining us today at Brothers of the Word. I did not start out like I normally do. It started out simply with the word of God and no matter what you know, I do not care from talking to those who got masters and doctors

and post-doctorate degrees. I do not care what man has taught you with all of men's knowledge there is one thing that surpasses men's knowledge by an infinite multiple, God is real and God knows more than we do and the third thing is we are not God. Thank you for joining us today at Brother of the Word. Amen.

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