

# Closer - Abiding In The Word

Sermon Title: **Closer - Abiding In The Word**

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Speaker: **C. Elijah Bronner**

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C. Elijah Bronner: When there is no natural hope, we are able to hope in God's Word.

Female: You are listening to BrothersoftheWord.com. This is part two of the sermon titled, "Closer" subtitled, "Abiding in the Word" by C. Elijah Bronner. This sermon is number 7852.

(Music Playing: 00:00:15 - 00:00:27)

Female: And now for, "Closer Part 2: Abiding In The Word".

C. Elijah Bronner: Thank you for joining Brothers of the Word because brother, you need the Word.

We welcome all of you joining us by television and those of you joining us online at BrothersoftheWord.com or social media, we welcome you to today's service. Always a wonderful delight and joy to have you to tune in and join us. I would like to share just a little humor.

This person says, "I have sure gotten old. I've had two bypass surgeries, a hip replacement, I have new knees, I have fought prostate cancer and diabetes, I'm half blind, can't hear anything quieter than a jet engine. I take 40 different medications that make me dizzy, winded, and subject to blackouts, have bouts with dementia, have poor circulation, can hardly feel my hands and feet anymore, can't remember if I'm 85 or 92, have lost all my friends. But thank God I still have my Florida driver's license."

Well, we are sharing a series entitled Closer. The first part of Closer is Abiding In The Word and this is part two, and we'll later do Abiding in Prayer, which is really the second essence of drawing closer to God. It's really those two primary ways; abiding in His Word and abiding in prayer.

So, right now, we're dealing with abiding in His Words so this is Abiding In The Word Part 2. We use as a text John 15:7 and we'll actually look at several scriptures but John 15:7 says that, "If you abide in Me, and My Words abide in you, you will ask what you will and it will be done for you."

And so, notice, Jesus makes Himself synonymous with His Word. He didn't say, "If you abide in Me and I abide in you." He said, "My Words," and so, He makes Himself synonymous with His Word because earlier in that chapter, He did say, "If you abide in

Me and I abide in you,” and so this time, He just clarifies it. He said, “If you abide in Me and My Words abide in you, then you’ll ask what you will and it will be done for you.” So, Jesus makes Himself synonymous with the Word. Jesus is the Word.

Then we talked about Colossians 3:16. Everybody knows John 3:16, “For God so loved the world,” but, I think this is also of vital importance, Colossians 3:16 so that will make it easier for you to remember. John 3:16, we all know, but Colossians 3:16 says simply, “Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly.” Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly. Let it live in you, let it have his home in you, its permanence in you. Let it abide in you in other Words. Let God’s Word abide in you. So, we’re talking about abiding in the Word.

And then, we also talked about Proverbs chapter 4. You’ll find in Proverbs and also in Psalms quite a few sections that really highlight God’s Word. I love David and Solomon. They just really had a love for God’s Word. Proverbs chapter 4 says, “My son attend to my Words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart for they are life unto those that find them, health to all their flesh.” And so, God’s Word is life to us and health to all of our flesh. That’s one of the benefits of God’s Word, it brings life to us, and it is health. God’s Word is life to us and health to all of our flesh.

Then, in Proverbs 3:1-2 says, “My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments; For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall be added unto thee.”

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Then I stumbled across a new one. I guess I knew it a long time ago but I had forgotten it. But in Proverbs 7:1-3, it talks about keeping His commandments, laying up His law and making His law the apple of your eye. One translation translates laying up as treasures. So, make God’s Word your treasure, treasure it up, which goes right in line with what Jesus said. Jesus said that, “A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth good things.”

So, the outgoings of your life come out of your heart. And so, if you have God’s Word in your heart, it affects what comes out of

your life. We live from the inside out, not the outside in. So, whatever's on the inside, that's what comes out of a man. And so, that's why it's so important to put God's Word on the inside of you so that it can bear fruit and begin to show up in the outgoings of your life. And so, it shows up in your Words, it shows up in your conduct, it shows up in your behavior. And so, it starts bearing fruit and becomes fruitful in our lives.

Then, there are some other verses, Psalms 1, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." It talks about God's Word.

Then, Joshua 1:8, "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

So, those are some of the primary scriptures that kind of give us a foundation for God's Word. I love something that Jesus actually said. Jesus said in John, the Gospel of John, He says, "If you keep My Words and if you love one another," He said, "I'll love you. The Father will love you, and we will come and make our abode with you. We'll just move in with you." I like that, I love that.

So, He said, "If you keep My Words and love one another, I will love you, the Father will love you, and we'll come and make our abode with you." So, when God's Word is in our heart in abundance, it makes it a comfortable dwelling for the Father, for Christ Jesus, to abide with us and live with us on the inside. And so, Jesus is the Word, and so, when His Word is in you richly, He is in you richly. He is the Word. And so, when we spend time in the Word, we're literally spending time with Jesus. God actually exalted the Word above His name. He exalted the Word above His name. And there are two primary reasons for that.

Number one, the Word reveals His name. So, you couldn't even know God's name if you didn't have the Word. It's the Word that reveals His name. We find out who He is. We find out what His

name is. And so, all of the covenant redemptive names of God are revealed through His Word. They are revealed through His Word. So, His Word reveals His name.

And number two, if His Word was no good, His name would be no good. Your name is only as good as your Word. So, His Word has to be good that makes His name good. His Word has to be good and that makes His name good. So, that's why He exalted His Word above His name. God's Word cannot be broken. He can't lie. So, His Word is trustworthy.

There are so many reasons for that. I mean, God is holy, He's pure. There's just no lying and He can't lie. And so, everything that He says, it can be trusted. It can be trusted. All of creation hinges on His Word. If God were to lie, there would be no power to keep the sun in place. If God were to lie, there will be no power to keep the earth rotating the way it does. If God were to lie, He would throw everything off in creation because all of creation is upheld by the power of His Word or the Word of His power.

Everything in creation, all of the order of things, all of the seasons, and day and night, God made a covenant with day and night. All of these are ordinances that are carried on by His Word.

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His Word has everything carrying on in nature, in creation. So, if God were to lie, all of creation would come crashing down, would come to a screeching halt because it couldn't be trusted, be no truth in it and it couldn't even uphold very thing that He created by His Word.

That's why God's Word cannot be broken. He cannot lie. He can be trusted. He gives us simple reminders, just go outside in the morning, watch the sun come up. That's a reminder to you of the faithfulness of God to His Word. Watch the sunset every day, that's a reminder to you of the faithfulness of God's Words.

So actually, all of creation is preaching. That's why Paul said in Romans, he said, "actually, nobody on earth will have an excuse for not believing in God because all of creation is preaching." All of creation is preaching. God is clearly seen in everything that He has made. It is ordered by His Word and is established by His Word.

So, God's Word is -- here are of the benefits of His Word. We are enlivened by His Word. I remember Dr. Lilian B. Yeomans, she opened a home for the terminally ill. So, these are people who medical profession had given up on. There was no hope. She opened up a home for the terminally ill and she would bring in patients. When the patients would arrive in her home, most of them would be literally half dead and she would just read the Bible to them for hours, hours and hours.

She said they would begin to liven up, like wilted flowers after a spring rain. They begin to liven up. Well, God's Word enlivens us. We're enlivened by the Word. We are quickened by the Word. The Psalm, as he cried out, he said, "Lord enliven me, quicken me according to thy Word, Oh, God." So God's Word, enlivens us. It enlivens us.

They we're strengthened by the Word. We also receive direction. We are guided by the Word. There's a light unto our feet, a lamp unto our path. So, it gives us guidance. We are made wiser by the Word because wisdom comes out of God's mouth. So, we are enlightened by the Word. We gain insights from God's Word. God actually talks to us through His Word. He speaks to us through His Word and the Word will actually speak to you itself. The Word actually speak to you itself.

Proverbs Chapter 6:22 says that, "When you go, the Word will lead you." It says, "When you sleep, the Word will keep you" and it says, "When you awake, the Word will talk with you." So, God's Word will actually talk with you itself. Try spending some time in God's Word and you will start noticing, when you wake up in the morning, you'll start hearing, you'll start receiving, you'll start knowing. Well, that's God's Word talking to you. God's Word will talk to you when you put it in your heart in abundance. That Word will be waiting on you to wake up in the morning.

You'll be surprised. I've had countless mornings, when I wake up in the morning and God's Word is talking to me. His Word is speaking to me. And so, I'm always reminded of that scripture, "When you go, that Word will lead you. When you sleep, that Word will keep you and when you awake, that Word will talk with you." It talks with you in the morning. He talks with you in the morning.

And then, we can build your hope in God's Word. Abraham, the Bible says that when there was no natural hope, he had to now hope in God's Word. There was no natural hope, he hopes they gain hope. So, when there was no natural hope, we are able to hope in God's Word. We can Hope in God's Word. We get great peace from God's Word. We receive liberty from God's Word.

Notice what Jesus said. Jesus says that, "if you continue in My Word, then are you My disciples indeed." I believe this is John 8:31-32, I believe. "If you continue in my Word, then are you my disciples indeed. And you'll know the truth, the truth will make you free." So, there's liberty that comes from God's Word.

I remember Bishop Deo Singh, that when he was just a young man, he read through the Bible for the very first time. He said, he closed the Bible and put it on his little lamp stand. He said, "Well, that was a good book." He was done. He said, "That was a good book." So, he was done. So, the moment he said that, he said, the holy spirit said to him, "No, if you continue in my Word, then are you my disciples indeed."

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Continue means to remain. If you remain in my Word, then are you my disciples indeed. And so then, he said he realized that this was not just a book you read one time and you're done. No, this is a book you live out of daily. This is a book you join from daily; you're learning from daily; you're studying daily. And so, if we continue in His Word, you'll know the truth and the truth will make you free. So, there's liberty that come from the Word.

In fact, they had laid it right here. She came to me, in fact, I remember the very sermon I was preaching. I had been preaching a series entitled, "The Greatness of God." Just talking about how great God is and that's a lot of fun to talk about how great God is.

Anyway, I did a series on the greatness of God. This lady came to me after I had done about three parts of it and she said, "As a result of sitting under this Word, I have stopped smoking." She said, "For some reason, just from sitting under the Word, I've been free from cigarettes." She said, "Just from hearing how great God is, I realized I don't have to be bound to cigarettes." And she said, "I've been freed from nicotine just by sitting under Word."

Well, that's what the Word does, it brings liberty. So, if you're bound up by any type of addiction, get under the Word. I'm telling you, get under the Word and stay under the Word, I guarantee you, it will cause that addiction to be broken in your life because it frees us.

If you continue my Word, you'll be my disciples indeed, you'll know the truth and the truth will make you free. And so, it empowers us to break addictions. That's the power of God's Word, the liberty of God's Word. And it also keeps us from sin. We also find out our inheritance in God's Word.

I like (00:16:50) said, he said, "I've taken your Word as an inheritance." He just took the liberty. He said, "God, I've taken your Word as my inheritance."

So, if you don't have an inheritance, take God's Word as your inheritance, everything in it belongs to you. He's already said yes and amen to all the promises that are there. They already belong to you in Christ Jesus. Take His Word. So, whatever you find in the Word, it already belongs to you.

Notice this. Under the old covenant, God had given them an inheritance of land and that's why it was called the Promised Land. It was land that was promised. That was the Promised Land. Under the new covenant, the promises of God are our inheritance. It's the same promise. He promised them land. He has promised us everything. That's in His Word. So, you can take His Word as an inheritance. That was their inheritance under the old covenant.

Our covenant is better. So, we have better promises. So, we have promises, the promises of God are our inheritance under the new covenant. So, (00:18:04) said, "Father, I've taken your Word as an inheritance. I've just taken all your promises as an inheritance. I've received them as mine." Praise God. Isn't that good? Anybody excited about that? I like that. I mean, that's your inheritance.

That's how you find out that you're free from addiction. That's how you find out that you're healed from sickness and disease. That's an inheritance. That's how you find out that He supplies all your need. That's an inheritance. Well, you find that out from abiding in the Word and begin to take those things as an

inheritance. That's how you find out to have peace that passes understanding. That's how you find out that your sleep shall be sweet. That's how you find out that you reign in life by Christ Jesus.

And so, you take his Word as an inheritance. You take the Word as an inheritance. You start looking at it differently when you view it as an inheritance. That's not just a book, this is your inheritance. This is the last will and testament. It has been bequeathed to you. This is your inheritance. You need to take it to an attorney's office, sit down and find out what all belongs to you. I'm trying to save you a trip. So, I've been trying to let you know what all belongs to you. It's yours, it's yours.

I won't charge you. I'm not even charging you as much as an attorney who charge to tell you what's in your inheritance. That's why I got so excited. I get so excited when I talk about the inheritance because His Word is our inheritance.

I'm thinking about a scripture in the Book of Acts. Paul told some people, he said, "I commend you to God and the Word of His grace which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance." I commend you to God and the Word of His grace which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance.

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And so, we find out we are healed by the Word, our minds are renewed by the Word, it changes our thinking. Faith comes by the Word. Faith comes by Word. And that's why He tells you to continue on the Word because faith doesn't come by having heard. Faith comes by hearing and hearing and hearing and hearing and hearing. So, faith doesn't come by having heard; faith comes by hearing. Present tense. This is continual. If you continue in my Word, then are you disciples indeed. We are constantly able to grow our faith and activate our faith and build our faith and build our trust and build our confidence for what we find out in the Word. The Word produces faith in our hearts.

And then of course we talked about, we're able to bear fruit because of the Word. Now, here are some characteristics of things the way that the Bible says we are to respond to the Word. We are to desire it; we are to delight in it, we are to rejoice in it, we are

to learn it, esteem it, make it a priority. We are to be mindful of it. We are to keep it. We are to obey it. We are to trust in it.

And then the Bible is good and all of these things start with the letter C. The Bible is good to change us, convict us, correct us, coach us, cleanse us. And then Ms. Yvette, she told me one day. She said, "I have another C I want you to add." She said, "The Bible comforts us". So, I added for Yvette.

I'm going to close with this. I learned this from Bishop Deo. Bishop Deo said, "When you read the Bible, put on your specs." Your glasses, your spectacles. Put on your specs, S-P-E-C-S.

Put on your specs, and as an acronym, your SPECS stand for -- when you read the Bible, S is, find out if there is a sin to confess. Sin to confess, that's the S. So, you put on your specs when you read the Bible. The S is, see if there's a sin to confess. The P is, see if there is a promise to claim. See if there's a promise to claim. The E is example, see if there is an example to follow. The C is command, see if there is a command to obey. See if there is a command to obey. For instance, the Bible says, "Rejoice ever more." That's a command to obey. "In everything, give thanks." That's a command to obey. So, you see, the C is command to obey, and the S is, see if there is a stumbling block to avoid. Those are your SPECS.

So, always put on your SPECS when you approach God's Word. Praise God. Praise God. I'm going to stop right there. In part three we're going to be talking about establishing your heart in God's Word and I'm going to give you seven areas to establish your heart. Start establishing your heart in God's Word. Seven vital areas that you can establish your heart with God's Word. So, we'll talk about that next time. Praise God.

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