

## A Realist?

2 Corinthians 5:7

(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

Someone said, "I'm a Realist"

I wanted to say, "Oh really?"

Rationalist

- Pragmatist
- A realist does and says and believes things that are logical
- Things that are obvious

Someone would say, "I believe in the natural."

- I believe what's I can touch and feel.
- I believe in this right here... (Stomp ground – earth)
- I'm a realist...

But you have to understand something – This... (Earth)

- This thing that you are standing on.
- This thing that seems so concrete to you.
- This thing that is rock solid...
- Is hanging on nothing.
- It has no foundation
- It has no fixed or attached point.
- It is balanced on nothing.
- It sits on nothing
- It rests on nothing
- It hangs only by the Faith of God.
- It rests upon His Word
- It sets in the middle of His will.

Hebrews 11:3

King James Version (KJV)

3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

“So that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.”

That does not make sense...

- Unless you understand “Faith”.

Understand... God had nothing to work with when He began creating in Genesis 1.

- All He had was His Faith and His Word.
- What He wanted did not exist.
- What He wanted to design had never been designed before.
- He had no blueprint.
- He had no Architect to tell him how to put it together.
- He had no bank to back Him up.
- He had no advisors.
- He had no counselors.
- He had no mentors.
- He had nobody.
- And I’ll tell you something else He had...
- He had nothing...
- And I’ll tell you one other thing He had...
- He had nowhere to put it all.

So you know what He did?

- By Faith He spoke it into existence.
- And made it all out of a bunch of stuff that didn’t exist.
- And He hung it all on nothing that we call outer space.
- And it’s still there today just resting in the same intricate balance of gravitational rotation that He set it in millenniums ago.

### **God is not a realist.**

- God does not operate in the realm of realism.
- Practicality is not in His vocabulary.
- His miraculous works are never attached to something called “Reality as you know it...”

### Hebrews 11:3

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

- How do you do that?
- How do you make something out of something that no one can even see?
- How do you build something without the materials to build it with?
- How do you create, when there is nothing to create with?
- If you can't see it, how do you make something out of it?

### **I'll tell you how...**

- FAITH!

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things that are seen were not made of things that do appear.

If God had not had faith on the day He started creating things, nothing would have ever happened.

- You and I would not be here today had God not used something called Faith.
- Not reality...
- Faith!

### Here was the reality...

**Genesis 1:2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep.**

- The earth did not exist. It had no form.
- There was Void – void means emptiness.
- Nothing but darkness...
- No light anywhere.
- No hope anywhere.
- No possibility anywhere.

- Just empty darkness.

Folks, that sounds like hopelessness to me.

- That sounds like despair to me.
- That sounds like the last place someone might expect something REAL to happen.

So be careful what you call REAL.

- What you are calling REAL could very well be a genuine miracle.  
(Earth)

So you're a realist?

- There is not a realist in this room.
- In fact, there is not a realist on this planet if they are breathing today.

Someone might say, "I am a realist", but the next breath they take tells the truth about them.

See, your chest rises and lowers 12-18 times per minute of every minute of the day.

- It does this because "by faith" it believes it is going to receive what it needs to survive for 5 more seconds.

Air we breathe is made up of approximately

- Nitrogen-78%
- Oxygen-21%
- Argon-0.93422%

- Co<sub>2</sub>- 0.03811%
- Water vapor- About 1%
- Other- 0.002%

Too much Nitrogen and something called "nitrogen narcosis" occurs, which is a drunken-like state that is deadly

- This happens when nitrogen gas is not allowed to diffuse out of the body in a very slow, controlled manner, the gas can come out of solution in your blood and result in an extremely damaging, very painful and possibly fatal condition called "the bends".
- It's like having mini-strokes all over, everywhere in your body.

If a person gets too much oxygen then he or she might experience headaches, confusion, nausea and increased sleepiness... even coma or death.

- If it was all oxygen we would not be able to breath.
- We have a very small range in which we function.
- Below about 15 percent we are in real trouble and much over 21 percent we will start oxidizing (rusting) our cells.
- Not to mention that oxygen at a certain point is an explosive gas!

Too much CO<sub>2</sub> or Carbon Dioxide and you experience nerve damage, coma or death.

This equilibrium of gasses in the air we breath...

- This precious balance is in itself an amazing miracle and Your Body...
- This (Pound chest)...
- This tough guy right here...
- Reaches out by faith 12-18 times every minute of every day for a phenomenon.
- My lunges reach for a wonder
- This "realist" if you will, gasps not for something that can be seen, or touched or heard,
- But it reaches for a miracle.
- This realist "BY FAITH" reaches for something that only God can provide.

- “And God Blew The Breath Of Life Into the Nostrils Of Adam.”

This gives new meaning to:

Romans 1:17

For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith:  
as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

So you're a realist?

2 Corinthians 5:7

(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

- I know what you are looking at looks dark.
  - I know it looks bleak.
  - I know there's not much to work with there.
  
  - But understand something...
  - Faith does not need much to work with.
- In fact all God needs from you right now is Faith.

Hebrews 11:4-5

4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

Hebrews 11:7-9

7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the

which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

Hebrews 11:27,29-31

27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

29 By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

31 By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

Hey folks, if I listened to my circumstances, I never would hear God's voice.

- I've lived by my circumstances before...
- I've tried that route.

I've looked at my situation and accepted my circumstances...

- And I'll tell you what all that got me...
- NOTHING.
- NOWHERE!

I've sat with a desk full of bills and no way to pay them.

- I've added up all the late fees and over the limit fees and interest and all it got me was worry and depression and fear and anxiety.
- I'm going to throw this in here... "The miracle that's needed in the offering plate is not a miracle that's going to bless the church, it's the miracle that's going to bless you."
- "I pray that everyone here learns sooner than later how Kingdom Economics work."
- God woke me out of a dead sleep 18 years ago and shouted so loud to me that I nearly jumped out of the bed. I heard this voice as clearly as you hear mine right now....
- Do you know what He said to me?
- "The Kingdom of God is the best Investment!"

I've looked at my upbringing and it didn't offer me much.

- I've considered my education and my college degree and it brought me nothing.
- I've tried using my intelligence.
- I've tried using my strength.
- I've tried doing it my way and it got me nothing.
- In fact it brought me a worse condition.

**But FAITH on the other hand!!!**

- Faith in Him!
- Faith in His Word!
- Faith in His Purpose for My Life!
- Faith in His promises to me!
- Now That Got Me Somewhere!
  - Faith brought me a beautiful woman who loves the Lord!



- Faith gave me two beautiful children!
- Faith blessed my finances!
- Faith blessed my ministry!
- Faith has done more in the last 15 years of my life than all the 34 years before it.

Every breath I breathe is a stretch for the miraculous.

- Every move I make is a reach into the unknown for a miracle.

Some of us here need a miracle in our lives.

- Some of us here need God to do what we cannot do by ourselves.
- A realist?
- I don't think so...

No sir, I need a miracle.

- I need what your eyes can't see!
- I need what you can't imagine happening anyway!
  
- I'm grasping for the unknown.

How did my life get so blessed anyway?

- How did this church get so far and do so much in less than a year?
- How did a young congregation with only a couple thousand dollars in the bank buy a building for ¾ of a million dollars last week?
  
- How did he give us a building that would cost over 1.5 million dollars to build on? Land that would cost over 350,000 to purchase that sets on the main thoroughfare of this county?
  - It didn't happen because we were realists for sure!

It happened because we believe God for His Providence.

- We believe Him for His purpose in our lives.
- It happened because we are reaching for something that is not there just yet,

- But let faith begin to operate
- And let God's will and purpose become aligned and watch what happens.

**Somebody here needs to get their eyes off of their circumstances and begin to believe God for the impossible.**

In all the 30 plus years I've been in ministry, I've heard countless people complain to me that they have too little.

- Too little money.
- Too little health
- Too little time
- Too little resources
- Too little house
- Too little car
- Too little you name it...
- But I have yet to hear anyone say that they have too much of any of these things.

Hey folks, I think we've been living on the wrong end of the spectrum of faith.

- I think we've been looking at darkness and void for too long.
- How about we begin to operate on the other end of this thing where Faith is creating things out of stuff that none of us even knew existed.
- Let's get ourselves aligned with God's purpose
- And then let's start speaking the same thing He is speaking.
- Faith!
  - How do I earn my living? – Faith
  - How do I pay my bills? – Faith
  - How do I pay my tithe? – Faith
  - How do I stay out of debt? - Faith
  - How does my ministry reach tens of thousands of people worldwide every week? – Faith
  - How did this church purchase that building? – Faith

- How I do we plan on reaching this community and the communities around it? – Faith

### Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

- A Realist?
- I don't think so!
  
- Reality's not offering much folks!
- But faith on the other hand is promising so much more.