



Mind Blown - When waht We Thought We Knew Was Wrong

by John Himmelberger

Intro

What if the beliefs you've clung to aren't as solid as you thought? This teaching challenges us to ask honest questions about our faith, just like Peter, Job, Nicodemus, and the disciples had to. From unlearning inherited traditions to recognizing when our theology needs an overhaul, Mind Blown invites you into the uncomfortable but freeing journey of surrendering your assumptions to the truth of Scripture. Because the goal isn't to be right; it's to know Him.

My Intention and Assumptions

I hope that your relationship with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit is strengthened through this teaching. My assumption is that you have read or are reading all 66 books of the Bible for context. This is meant to be 'salt' and make you thirsty. You're welcome.

About the Author

John Himmelberger is a teacher, pastor, and lifelong learner. With decades of experience walking with Jesus and leading others into transformational truth, John brings a grounded yet radical perspective rooted in Scripture, personal growth, and kingdom living.

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Mind Blown: When What We Thought We Knew Was Wrong

Intro: The Courage to Ask, “Is It True?”

We all assume we've got it mostly right; our theology, our worldview, our framework for faith. But what if we're not just a little off; what if some of what we call “truth” is just tradition dressed up in spiritual language?

The Bible is full of people who had their minds blown when God confronted their assumptions; Peter, Job, Nicodemus, even Paul. They thought they understood God, only to be lovingly but radically corrected.

If they had to unlearn things... why would we be exempt?

That's why I've always come back to four simple but challenging questions: 1 What do I believe?

2 Why do I believe it?

3 How do I believe it? (Does it shape my life or just sit in my head?)

4 Is it actually true?

Truth doesn't fear your questions. But are we afraid of the answers?

Part 1: When God Wrecks Your Framework

Let's walk through some of the most mind-blowing correction moments in Scripture:

- **Acts 10 – Peter's Kosher Crisis:**

God tells Peter to kill and eat unclean animals. Peter refuses; he knows the law! But God's response flips the script: “What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy.” This wasn't about bacon. It was about people. God was including the Gentiles, and Peter had to abandon his framework to embrace God's heart.

- **Job 42 – Job's Humble Pie:**

Job had an airtight theology; until God shows up. “I had heard of You... but now I see You.”

Job repents, not for sin, but for speaking confidently about a God he didn't actually know.

You can be devout... and still be wrong.

- **John 3 – Nicodemus the Scholar:**

A respected teacher comes to Jesus to talk theology. Jesus tells him, “You must be born again.”

Nicodemus is like, “Huh? Crawl back into my mom?”

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Jesus responds: “You’re the teacher of Israel and don’t understand this?”

Translation: Book smarts aren’t the same as revelation.

- **Luke 24 – The Disciples Missed the Plot:**

On the road to Emmaus, Jesus breaks down the entire Old Testament and reveals it was all about Him.

These guys had the Scriptures memorized; but missed the Messiah in front of them.

Part 2: The Barriers to Change

So why is it so hard for us to admit when we’re wrong?

1. **Belief is tied to identity** – Letting go of a belief can feel like losing yourself.

“If I’m wrong about this... what else am I wrong about?”

2. **Social pressure** – We don’t want to be rejected for changing our mind.

Peter knew the truth about Gentiles but caved to peer pressure (Galatians 2). Even apostles struggle with this.

3. **Confirmation bias** – We look for things that agree with us and ignore what doesn’t.

The Pharisees saw miracles but rejected the Messiah because He didn’t fit their box.

4. **Fear of the unknown** – Rethinking means losing control.

The Israelites wanted to go back to slavery in Egypt because it was *familiar*.

5. **Comfort over truth** – Some beliefs are emotionally satisfying, even if they’re false.

Job’s friends *needed* him to be guilty; because that’s how they made sense of suffering.

6. **We resist surrender** – Romans 12:2 calls for a renewed mind, but renewal is uncomfortable.

Paul had to tear down his entire religious worldview when Jesus showed up on the road to Damascus.

Part 3: More Mind-Blown Moments

- **Matthew 22 – Jesus Destroys the Sadducees’ Trap:**

“You are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures *or* the power of God.”

Religious guys. Smart guys. Still wrong.

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- **Mark 7 – Jesus vs. Tradition:**

“You nullify the word of God by your tradition.”

Ouch. That still happens today.

- **Luke 15 – The Older Brother's Meltdown:**

He thought following the rules earned him a better place. The Father reminds him: it's all grace.

Grace offends those who think they've earned their seat.

- **Acts 19 – “Wait... There's a Holy Spirit?”**

Paul meets believers who were never even taught about the Holy Spirit.

Imagine following God without knowing the full picture.

Closing Challenge: What Needs to Be Unlearned?

We're not called to defend old beliefs just because they're familiar. We're called to truth; and to the One who *is* Truth.

Ask yourself:

- What assumptions have I made about God?
- What beliefs are more about tradition than Scripture?
- Have I allowed comfort or community to prevent correction?
- Do I want to be right; or do I want to be transformed?

Final Thought: Truth Sets You Free, Not Your Ego

Truth doesn't need to be protected. It just needs to be pursued.

Jesus never rebuked someone for asking honest questions; but He did challenge those who refused to be changed.

The goal isn't just to have the right doctrine.

The goal is to know Him.

And when He speaks... will we listen?