

## **Interview with the Rev Mario Schoenmaker on Metaphysics for Radio Broadcast 1983**

**Melody to the audience:** How well do you cope with your life, and if you do, how fulfilling have you found it to be? Over the years it seems that we have been encouraged by our predecessors to strive toward completeness through the sanctity of marriage, a home, a well-established career and great status – yet, all this somehow seems to fall short of its expectations. Indeed there are those who reach the peaks of success and profess contentment through it, but all too often there are many others who have come to realise that success still leaves the pangs of emptiness within, and that life is really quite void of any true purpose and meaning.

Tonight we are going to give you an introduction to Metaphysics, a subject, which Rev Mario Schoenmaker says can help to resolve some of the emptiness and in its application give some guidelines as to why it is we sometimes fail, and why we have the desire to accomplish and in that accomplishment, why we still feel unfulfilled. Rev Mario Schoenmaker, better known for his clairvoyant and psychic abilities, is also known for his wide knowledge of psychology, philosophy and counseling. He has agreed to discuss the subject of metaphysics with us this evening.

**Melody to Mario:** Rev Mario what exactly is Metaphysics and on what are the basic principles formed?

**Rev Mario:** There are two answers to this as there are two questions! The first question is what is exactly metaphysics and in my mind I've been trying to formulate for years, a short one sentenced answer to this and perhaps the most basic answer to this particular discipline is that metaphysics is nothing else but the ability to go beyond one's own self. Now in saying this I raise of course, a lot of other questions. For what does it mean to go beyond one's self? Well again, a simple answer is perhaps possible. For instance you may drive in a car and suddenly someone from the right cuts in front of you. The easiest, the quickest and the most normal reaction is to say, "Oh you so and so." The metaphysician will think twice for he knows that in saying that, he is actually cursing that person. So the metaphysician will control and goes beyond himself that is, beyond the ordinary normal human feelings and will either then say nothing for knowing that his words have power or, he will say, "What a pity that this did happen, the man or the woman in the car in front of me did not really know that I was here." Now that is going beyond yourself in other words, you are going beyond your own natural instincts, feelings, emotions etc. Now that's basic. But you can of course go further than that for the word, metaphysics indicates, that which lies beyond the physical. The word, Meta means, to go beyond and the word itself, metaphysics is framed by Aristotle a great philosopher before the birth of Christ, who actually wrote two books. The first book on Physics and then he wrote the second book by which he wanted to come to grips with the origin and being of all things including the human being and in that case, he tried to find what is the ground of our being, why are we alive, what is the purpose of our existence, what is the end of our existence and in metaphysics of course, grapples with all these problems and therefore,

the basic principles of metaphysics lies in the ability to perceive that one, is not just a bit of muscles and blood and bones entering into the world at some stage and disappearing at some stage but that one has within one's self, a great ability than we tend to think of ourselves and therefore, there is what we call a spiritual ground within us and it is on that spiritual ground that we must start working and metaphysics, indeed is doing that.

**Melody:** In front of your literature on metaphysics you mention that metaphysics is a way of comprehending the meaning of life and you mentioned just before that it does give us some idea as to why we are here and why certain things happen to us. In going beyond ourselves would you say that this is a way of positive thinking or discovering some inner potential perhaps, even a super learning.

**Rev Mario:** All these new disciplines which have come onto the market if I may just put it that way, have some basis of metaphysics in it. Super learning for instance, must have a basis of metaphysics in it for metaphysics says that you are an eternal, all knowing, all wise being. That is a statement of metaphysics for instance. And in super learning we would then go beyond the limitations of the mind that we have set ourselves, that our society has set, that our education and system has said to us and we have to go beyond that and then we find that we can learn quite easily. A form of positive thinking, I would dare to say that is actually basic to metaphysics. A Metaphysician will not accept defeat. A Metaphysician will never accept that there is a limitation in terms of his own thinking, in terms of his achievements, in terms of what he can do in terms of success even in terms of making money. So that in that sense yes, metaphysics has something to do with these disciplines as you have mentioned but, metaphysics is not solely occupied with it. For metaphysics will go to the core and says indeed, 'why are you here?' And in this question of realisation, why I, as a spiritual being am in this world, in this body, in this environment, in this culture and what my task is as a spiritual being. To that, metaphysics will give an answer and to give that answer gives also then, the solution to many, many hassles and problems that people tend to put upon themselves unnecessarily.

**Melody:** Rev Mario how would you say then that metaphysics differs from other philosophies of life? For instance how would it fit in with the help we get from psychology?

**Rev Mario:** It differs from psychology to a certain degree in that psychology essentially is not based on what it's supposed to be that is - a 'soul' knowledge. Psychology is based upon the mind, the function of the mind, the thinking, the expression etc, etc. and although we agree that these are necessary disciplines within themselves, metaphysics says we are occupied with the soul and the soul is not the mind. That's another basic principle of metaphysics. So in saying that we have to go beyond the mind, we have to work our way through the mind until we come to the soul essence of a person. For let us be frank about it, the mind is being brainwashed, conditioned by society again, our churches, religion, philosophies, systems and we tend to accept that and we tend to believe what is put before us. Metaphysics says make yourself free of all these beliefs if you can, and you can, and with a clear eye, with a clear view look at situations and in daring to ask questions, come to a position where you, as an entity can freely operate.

**Melody:** Well, this is all very well but how does one manage to get to this level of being able to separate themselves from the things that society puts upon us?

**Rev Mario:** That has to do with learning or should I call it re-learning or re-education and of course I realise that I have to be careful in my use of language because again, language is also conditioned. When I use the word, education immediately a picture springs to mind and it's a picture of a child sitting in a classroom and we call that education. The Metaphysician says "no", education comes from the word, educara which is a Latin word and means, to pull out. While we in fact, when we educate a person we pour it into them. Now the Metaphysician is trying to pull out of you that knowledge and that wisdom which is there from eons and eons and eons of time. In fact Dr. Carl Jung who is now such a well known figure of course in modern psychology and psychiatry, indicated this by talking about an Orr consciousness. He indicated that there is a thinking level beyond the rational that is combined with the whole world, that we are not just entities on our own, and that from that pool of consciousness, we can derive our wisdom and our inner knowledge. And how this applies to practical things is the difficult answer because you cannot teach metaphysics in half an hour. Metaphysics is a life discipline as psychology is and as any medical science is and even certain philosophical disciplines are concerned. They are life things and by learning and experiencing these principles one gradually, gently, alters one's thinking, one's emotions, one's lifestyle and then one starts automatically, naturally becomes a Metaphysician. It's like becoming a musician. The first time you sit by the piano you can perhaps hardly play the notes. But after say ten years of playing a piano you can be a virtuosos and in that sense you have mastered the piano and you naturally do this and it's the same with metaphysics. It is a free making technique by which one's own natural abilities come to the fore in a positive creative uplifting sense.

**Melody:** One of the things that has always puzzled me is that people in general strive towards attainment in material things and finally, or even before they even reach that stage, they become totally dissatisfied with their lives. Now why is it that we always feel this need to strive for something?

**Rev Mario:** That lies within the human soul. It is the human soul that wants to achieve because that is why it is born. And so the human soul regardless whether it is through material things, whether it is through religion, whether it is through business, whether it is through money-making, whether it is through marriage, whether it is through relationship, the human soul wants to achieve and wants to become a success. When through the negativity around you, through the none existence of real encouragement and help from your environment – your family, relationships, etc, you become discouraged then your soul will dry up. Then you become dissatisfied. Then you give up. Then you start becoming negative. You start criticizing and then you will eventually become nothing else but a person who is a dried up person and who has nothing vitally alive to say anymore either to self or to others – where imagination has stopped and where life just becomes a drag.

**Melody:** This is probably why in the past, religion seemed to satisfy the needs of people but now with the decline of the Church it no longer seems to be doing this. Is there a way that metaphysics can help us here?

**Rev Mario:** Yes, the Church and religion in the past have played a tremendous role in what I call the evolution of consciousness in the world. That the Church no longer needs to do this is due to the rise of a more intellectual consciousness in the world and in man. Therefore, religion no longer plays that same vital role anymore. But man, and I include of course the female as well here, with thoughtfulness, will feel within self a certain void; a certain emptiness. Religion in the old fashion sense doesn't satisfy them, the old fashioned sermons don't seem to make an impression anymore. The Jesus Save campaign has very little to say to the ordinary modern human mind and so metaphysics, which is much older than Christianity, tends to be very attractive because it is put in a modern way, it is experienced by those who give it and by which you do not willy-nilly have to believe. All the Metaphysician will ask of the pupils is, 'experience it and see what we are teaching you is in fact reality for yourself.' And of course the very fact that we are here in Melbourne and in other places, have been so successful in metaphysics is proof of eating the pudding.

**Melody:** It's obvious that metaphysics is not a subject that one can grasp readily. I think you've already explained that, but could you be more specific in telling us how we could apply it practically in our lives. For instance let's pick a subject like a person's career, how could they apply metaphysics to their career?

**Rev Mario:** Well, if a person has chosen a career for self say a lawyer, a doctor and he applies metaphysics to his profession he will find that first of all within self, a certain charisma starts growing. Therefore people easily relate to that person. There seems to be a sense of trust that the Metaphysician spreads around. A sense of... 'Yes, I can trust that person. Somehow or another this person loves me without wanting me, without being after me'. So a sense of trust comes in, in that profession. Secondly there is a better ability to communicate. So say for instance, in a lawyer or a doctor's situation communication is not the easiest of any art, communication comes then quite an easy sort of a thing because you do not try to relate to the mind, you try to relate to the soul. Certainly in terms of say a businessman who must charge. He must make money. He will apply certain principles by which he will make sufficient money. He will not overcharge. He will be honest and have a true view of the whole situation without feeling guilty or ashamed of it and these are just the basic results. If I go any deeper then I could say a lifestyle can be changed because of metaphysics in terms of a profession whereby say a lawyer may just be a lawyer because his mum and dad has told him he must be a lawyer and so at 40 years of age he finds he is a lawyer and he hates sitting in his office. He hates listening to all these people who come to him. He hates going through the files. Suddenly metaphysics enters into his life and because of what is happening to him he may now find that he has the greatest opportunity of all to help people and his office now becomes a sort of confessional box and people relate to him better, etc. etc. etc.

**Melody:** We seem to have been so conditioned to think with our minds as though there really is not another part of us. What would be the effects or the results of applying metaphysics personally, on a personal level?

**Rev Mario:** I would say and I would always say this to my pupils. The first thing you always say is “thank you” to any and all situations. “Thank you”. Not passing things by, not passing the buck, not excusing yourself, but taking responsibilities wherever responsibility is asked of you. A would-be Metaphysician is one who will show initiative and give energy to whatever he is doing and the biblical injunction – “Whatever your hands find to do, do it with all your might” is applied to the Metaphysician. Here of course we find that then personally even from the very beginning when you start studying metaphysics, metaphysics becomes a very, very applicable thing. Instead of being rough and ready and thereby disliked by people, but having a smile on your face and the ability to say “thank you”; the ability to say “bless you”; the ability to give credit where credit is due already changes a tremendous area of your own existence and the existence of others who come in touch with you.

**Melody:** Society seems to place upon us this sort of guilt feeling if we go beyond the normally accepted boundaries. Is there any way that we can deal with this on a metaphysical level?

**Rev Mario:** Well, I would say that society is built on giving you guilt complexes. Mum and Dad will give guilt complexes to a baby. Mum will give guilt complexes to Dad. Dad will ask Mum, “Would you make me a cup of coffee?” Mum says, “I’m too busy dear.” Dad says, “But Mum, if you love me you’ll make me a cup of coffee.” And Mum says, “I do love you but I have not time.” Dad says, “Obviously you don’t love me.” Now that’s a guilt complex! Under whatever circumstances this is giving one another guilt complexes. So metaphysics deals with that type of situation. First of all by saying to society, “Look your values are wrong. You do not let me be as an entity, an individual. I have to perform for you be that in business, be that in political, social or educational lives I have to perform. I have to do what society tells me”. And that’s okay to a certain degree but there are certain areas where you cannot for honesties’ sake, play the game any longer and this may well be in relationships. This may well be to your children, this may well be to your work etc. etc. and it’s hear then that you have to say at times to yourself, “Well whatever society demands of me, I must be honest to myself”. And here is where then metaphysics may at times ask great choices of you.

**Melody:** So you’re saying that there is a lesson for us in everything we experience even in every relationship, in everything that we’re involved in?

**Rev Mario:** Yes. I see that nothing is by chance which is another principle of metaphysics. Whatever happens in your life good, bad or indifferent, (relationships, the tearing up of relationships etc, etc,) it all has significance and it is all a lesson, a learning for us. Can we go beyond that lesson? You see, metaphysics always points to the beyond, what lies beyond there. And have you noticed just to take a simple example; here is a boy and a girl, a practical thing. They are in love with one another, they play with one another

and they fiddle with one another and that may go on for two-three years or whatever and then suddenly boy or girl will decide to say goodbye. One of the parties is going to be hurt. But meet that same boy or that same girl twenty years later, that is, beyond the event twenty years later and you ask them, “Do you still feel the same pain, the same hurt that happened when you were twenty now you are forty?” And they will say with a big smile, “No, I am the wiser for it. I’ve learned something from it.” Now that is what metaphysics says. Metaphysics is saying at that precise moment when this happens to you, you can project yourself beyond it, then the pain and the hurt is not as big. It’s still there but you don’t make a great attachment to it.

**Melody:** In order to go beyond ourselves – it seems a difficult thing to do when one has been so indoctrinated right from childhood and birth, that from the time we’re born we’re virtually sinners – there is nothing good about us. How does metaphysics help us overcome these indoctrinations?

**Rev Mario:** Well the doctors or the medical science have come up with that answer actually by saying that if you want to combat an illness say diphtheria then you inject diphtheria into that person and antibodies are created that will fight with it and kill it. So what we are saying in metaphysics on a spiritual and mental level is you do the same thing. You give it the antidote so to speak. In terms of ‘I’m a sinner’ – and I just recently came across a lady 60 years of age – who said, I’m a sinner. I’m a sinner. I’m a sinner. While all the time she is in love with a man and she wants to marry the man, but the man is married, and she thinks she commits adultery, because she has been brought up by the church that this is sin, and that is engraved into her consciousness. So what metaphysics then will tell her is “say to yourself. I feel emotionally sinful. But with my inner Self I feel very good. I feel very happy.” I’m only talking about this particular situation because there are other situations where you may well have to feel sinful such as having murdered or stealing, or a crime that is really against humanity. You know we’re not going to whitewash that one. But I’m talking here about the ordinary normal thing, which you are talking about ‘I’ve been brought up to feel sinful and therefore I need all the time, Jesus Christ and the church’. Or ‘I am a weak and a frail human being’ as we call ourselves. Well metaphysics will not subscribe to that at all. We say a human being is not frail. A human being is very, very strong. One is not sinful; one is in fact accepted by God if I may use that word, God. One must accept one’s Self and that is the antidote we are giving to those people who feel and think that way. And it works.

**Melody:** Finally Rev Mario, you’ve given us so much information this evening just to finish off the program, could you in a nutshell explain to us why the need for metaphysics today?

**Rev Mario:** The need for metaphysics lies in the very fact that mankind has turned away from the old fashioned religion. Man, thoughtful, thinking as he is, feels a void. He feels an emptiness regardless. Man has reached the top in terms of his intellect, in terms of science, in terms of his own learning. Man therefore needs now, and should I call it, a religion, but metaphysics is not a religion. Metaphysics is a system. Man needs a system, a philosophy that is also intellectually based that is. One does not have to commit

intellectual suicide in order to experience and try out this type of discipline and what is more metaphysics doesn't say 'You must not', metaphysics says, 'You must.' And in your trying, in your experiencing of metaphysics, comes then the greater freedom. So that why we would need metaphysics today is in fact to make man more individualistic, more freer and more at one within one's Self.

**Melody:** Thank you very much for your fascinating discussion this evening. We do hope you'll come back and enlarge upon this another time.

*Interview conducted in 1983 by Melody Rawson*