

WEBVTT

1

00:00:00.359 --> 00:00:02.040

Carl Racine: And I and i'm happy.

2

00:00:03.480 --> 00:00:04.770

Carl Racine: i'm happy that we.

3

00:00:06.089 --> 00:00:16.199

Carl Racine: can have these discussions, because you know, one of the central issues that we've been talking about and will continue to talk about has to do with.

4

00:00:16.740 --> 00:00:35.040

Carl Racine: What god's will for us as as a community as individuals looks like and, specifically, the issue of the sort of righteous justice a compassionate justice, the Bible talks about what does that look like in 2021 in Boston or Honduras or or wherever.

5

00:00:36.210 --> 00:00:37.500

Carl Racine: Excuse me, the cat wants he.

6

00:00:41.040 --> 00:00:42.720

Marie Doubleday: wants to attend Bible study.

7

00:00:47.670 --> 00:00:51.210

Carl Racine: For church and that was back um.

8

00:00:52.410 --> 00:01:03.570

Carl Racine: yeah what does that look like Well, this is a major issue of compassionate justice, it has to do with both having compassion on people, but also establishing a just society.

9

00:01:04.050 --> 00:01:14.100

Carl Racine: Where people take care of one another and America is is so fragmented that that is being made more and more difficult So these are pertinent.

10

00:01:15.720 --> 00:01:24.120

Carl Racine: Discussions that go beyond simply the material that I

have better certainly well connected to it and.

11

00:01:25.770 --> 00:01:38.910

Carl Racine: In connection with that and and and maybe we'll talk about this a little bit more when when lauren is back i'm not sure how long she's gonna be gone for but lauren the woman from temple Israel.

12

00:01:39.570 --> 00:01:40.980

Carl Racine: Who recommended a book.

13

00:01:42.570 --> 00:01:47.100

Carl Racine: On kind of spirituality Jewish spirituality and.

14

00:01:48.720 --> 00:01:51.090

Carl Racine: When we were talking about silence and worship.

15

00:01:52.710 --> 00:02:07.230

Carl Racine: And I got that book this week and looked at it and it's essentially a kind of Jewish version of something like Richard foster's the celebration of discipline, or something like that it has a whole lot of.

16

00:02:08.130 --> 00:02:16.830

Carl Racine: Areas of kind of personal growth and development that you that you look at in your life and and and try to work on.

17

00:02:18.240 --> 00:02:34.110

Carl Racine: And there's probably I can't remember how many chapters, there are with this with there's like 15 or 16 chapters on individual topics like humility and gratefulness and silence and all those kinds of things, the very last one is on the fear of the Lord.

18

00:02:36.090 --> 00:02:37.650

Carl Racine: And he does.

19

00:02:39.750 --> 00:02:46.920

Carl Racine: What i've done in that book he doesn't even use that title in the chapter he uses the Hebrew word Europe because.

20

00:02:47.520 --> 00:02:57.270

Carl Racine: It he says, you can't translate this into English very well because of both has the meaning of fear and of our reverence and those are all bound up in that word, so he.

21

00:02:57.690 --> 00:03:02.040

Carl Racine: He essentially in this little chapter says pretty much.

22

00:03:02.640 --> 00:03:13.200

Carl Racine: Everything i've been saying in this class, even to the point of starting off with an with an illustration from the grand Canyon about standing in on the face of nature.

23

00:03:13.560 --> 00:03:21.630

Carl Racine: He quotes the same book by heschel that I quoted a few weeks ago, talking about that and similar passages out of herschel's book.

24

00:03:22.530 --> 00:03:35.280

Carl Racine: And when he gets to the end of the chapter, we may get to this today, or we may not we may get to it next week, he he introduces one other aspect that I going to talk about that I months ago at already planned to talk about.

25

00:03:35.910 --> 00:03:47.160

Carl Racine: That I actually laughed out loud and susan's upstairs is, why are you laughing so this guy saying the same stuff that i've been saying, so I was kind of not only reassured but kind of happy to see.

26

00:03:48.990 --> 00:03:58.350

Carl Racine: This in a book that I wasn't familiar with that lauren had recommended anyways let's let's um let's move back to our material.

27

00:04:01.740 --> 00:04:10.500

Carl Racine: The fear of the Lord we've been talking last week about the idea of how worship and reverence for God.

28

00:04:11.310 --> 00:04:24.930

Carl Racine: is closely connected to the idea of obedience that in worship, we we really acknowledge god's authority over us and god's claim on our lives and so that what we do.

29

00:04:25.560 --> 00:04:37.080

Carl Racine: is closely connected to our act of worship, to our reverence and that the fear of the Lord then has to do with not just a religious attitude, but our day to day lives.

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00:04:37.680 --> 00:04:51.840

Carl Racine: And we saw that in Israel, the prophets complaint about Israel was not that they were somehow just legalistic Lee following external rules without having a an inner attitude, but that.

31

00:04:52.350 --> 00:05:00.240

Carl Racine: The complaint was that they had plenty of praise and worship going on and we're lifting up holy hands and praying without ceasing and all of the rest of that.

32

00:05:00.570 --> 00:05:14.280

Carl Racine: But they weren't seeking justice for widows and orphans and so God says that their prayers are useless God won't hear them God doesn't want to hear those prayers of what they're doing and saying and church on Sunday translating into dark terms.

33

00:05:15.180 --> 00:05:28.500

Carl Racine: Is is not showing anything in the lives of the rest of the week, so that if they're pressing the poor if they're involved in the idolatry of the surrounding cultures and embracing.

34

00:05:30.540 --> 00:05:34.890

Carl Racine: embracing what their their their pagan neighbors are doing.

35

00:05:36.810 --> 00:05:44.520

Carl Racine: Their acts of worship, are not praise, but blasphemy their their offensive to God they're not blessing God.

36

00:05:45.810 --> 00:06:01.890

Carl Racine: So the fear of the Lord really should result in in obedience in following the way of what we've talked about compassionate justice that God has set out for his people and here is is where we're Torah.

37

00:06:02.910 --> 00:06:11.070

Carl Racine: really has a trim has had a tremendous effect on the whole world and how the world thinks.

38

00:06:11.910 --> 00:06:22.830

Carl Racine: Torah has innovate, has an innovation, essentially, and that is that in Torah for the first time in at that we know of in human history.

39

00:06:23.370 --> 00:06:35.910

Carl Racine: The idea of Holiness, which we saw doesn't so much refer to being good but refers to the whole realm of the divine world, the difference separateness of the divine world.

40

00:06:36.870 --> 00:06:46.680

Carl Racine: And what we might call religion holiness and Torah is broadened to include all of life, not just a separate religious fear.

41

00:06:48.000 --> 00:06:56.910

Carl Racine: That has nothing to do with how we treat other people, so in leviticus 19 which starts off by saying be holy for for God for your God is holy.

42

00:06:57.330 --> 00:07:06.120

Carl Racine: It defines Holiness, not just in ritual terms and what you do and church on Sunday, or in the temple on whatever day of the week you go to the temple.

43

00:07:06.510 --> 00:07:13.410

Carl Racine: Holiness is also defined in leviticus 19 is loving your neighbor and is loving the immigrant in your midst.

44

00:07:13.830 --> 00:07:26.220

Carl Racine: it's defined as not seeking to maximize business profits but leaving something for the poor it's defined in terms of fair Labor practices honest dealings with all people.

45

00:07:27.030 --> 00:07:30.780

Carl Racine: concerned for people with disabilities, respect for the elderly.

46

00:07:31.230 --> 00:07:42.630

Carl Racine: And a thoughtful restraint in the use of natural resources, all of that in just one chapter and and that's expanded upon as we've seen in the rest of the scriptures.

47

00:07:43.080 --> 00:07:55.950

Carl Racine: But all of that just in this one chapter leviticus 19 underscores god's interest in every aspect of our lives there's no separation between what we think of as our religious life.

48

00:07:56.580 --> 00:08:19.500

Carl Racine: And what we think of as social responsibility or political and communal life in the world, so biblically and i've said this before many times biblically the phrase social Gospel is redundant, it is simply the Gospel and it's the Gospel we find first in Torah even in the book of leviticus.

49

00:08:21.030 --> 00:08:31.410

Carl Racine: And this is not simply in what we call the Old Testament the New Testament also connects fear of the Lord with a proper conduct of our lives with how we live in the world.

50

00:08:33.060 --> 00:08:36.180

Carl Racine: sister Carol if we can see slide number 13 please.

51

00:08:36.510 --> 00:08:37.020

Yes.

52

00:08:53.430 --> 00:09:06.960

Carl Racine: And I just picked a few verses here to make my point X nine the life of the Church is described as living in the fear of the Lord and in the strength of the Holy Spirit.

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00:09:08.370 --> 00:09:17.100

Carl Racine: and also in the book of acts and the next chapter Peter when he is sort of call to go talk with cornelius a Gentile.

54

00:09:18.150 --> 00:09:27.390

Carl Racine: He comes to the realization that in every nation, the one who fears God and works righteousness or justice is acceptable to him.

55

00:09:28.170 --> 00:09:40.830

Carl Racine: Again, it has to do with how you live, your life, the fear of the Lord Paul in second Corinthians five says, the fear of the Lord is the basis for his Ministry for the base of what he does.

56

00:09:43.020 --> 00:09:54.060

Carl Racine: In though in the whole world his Ministry of persuading others to share in his fear of the Lord and Peter says that if we consider God to be our father.

57

00:09:55.410 --> 00:09:58.350

Carl Racine: Then we will live lives of Holiness.

58

00:10:01.170 --> 00:10:11.430

Carl Racine: He says he who called you is holy you also should be holy and all your conduct since is written you shall be holy, for I am holy and there he's quoting leviticus 19.

59

00:10:12.000 --> 00:10:23.070

Carl Racine: If you call on him as father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile exile for for Peter meaning.

60

00:10:24.600 --> 00:10:27.420

Carl Racine: Just the life that they're living in the world.

61

00:10:29.130 --> 00:10:42.570

Carl Racine: being wholly has to do with how you live, your everyday life, fearing the Lord has to do with how you live, your everyday life so Peter is telling the gentiles he's writing to that they're to leave behind their former way of life.

62

00:10:43.980 --> 00:10:47.640

Carl Racine: Their pagan way of life and.

63

00:10:52.980 --> 00:10:53.310

He.

64

00:10:54.540 --> 00:10:56.130

i'm sorry i'm hearing stuff from the other room.

65

00:11:03.570 --> 00:11:10.590

Carl Racine: So, by doing so, they become a Community the bears witness to the god, who is the Holy one of Israel.

66

00:11:15.780 --> 00:11:17.070

i'm sorry hold on a second.

67

00:11:18.330 --> 00:11:19.980

Susan, can you please shut your door.

68

00:11:24.240 --> 00:11:28.710

Carole Copeland Thomas: Sorry susan's talking to somebody else but we can't hear her brother Carl.

69

00:11:28.770 --> 00:11:31.350

Carl Racine: I know that I can I call you can't help OK OK.

70

00:11:31.800 --> 00:11:43.350

Carl Racine: So anyway, so the new the the general point here is a New Testament uses the fear of the Lord in the same way, to talk about the the kind of lives we live, not simply as a kind of religious.

71

00:11:43.890 --> 00:11:58.200

Carl Racine: obligation but something that affects our everyday lives, but that obedience to God is not depicted in the scriptures as being a burden and obedience sometimes we think of as being burdensome as being.

72

00:11:59.190 --> 00:12:07.350

Carl Racine: A chore a task, and yet the scriptures talk about it in a very different way if we could go to the next slide number 14 please.

73

00:12:13.140 --> 00:12:19.830

Carl Racine: The scriptures talk about the obedience and the fear of the Lord as a matter of delight and love.

74

00:12:20.430 --> 00:12:28.170

Carl Racine: The person who fears the Lord is fortunate blessed because they delight greatly in god's commands.

75

00:12:28.890 --> 00:12:41.910

Carl Racine: In psalm 112 or in the book of nehemiah nehemiah talks about god's servants people who do god's will, as people who delight in fearing god's name nehemiah 111.

76

00:12:42.300 --> 00:12:48.930

Carl Racine: And for nehemiah, it is precisely this great and fearsome God, who is loved and obeyed by his servants.

77

00:12:49.560 --> 00:13:04.230

Carl Racine: So somewhat paradoxically obedient fear of the Lord is closely related to love and someone 19 we have this verse I love your statutes your commandments my flesh trembles in terror of you, I fear, your laws.

78

00:13:05.340 --> 00:13:17.580

Carl Racine: So Torah this sort of makes this really interesting point, what does the Lord your God ask of you, but to fear the Lord your God to walk in all his ways to love him.

79

00:13:17.940 --> 00:13:36.330

Carl Racine: And to worship or serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your being to keep the lord's commandments and his statutes, for your own good so again Moses connects the fear of the Lord with love and obedience and worship and service and and when I read that verse.

80

00:13:38.520 --> 00:13:53.580

Carl Racine: The translation, we have here on your screen says to worship the Lord your God others say service and the reason for that is that in Hebrew the word for serve or worship can also mean to serve and that's also true in Greek.

81

00:13:54.720 --> 00:14:07.140

Carl Racine: Which is why in the verse that we know well Romans 12 one to present your bodies as a living sacrifice holy and acceptable to God, which is what.

82

00:14:07.710 --> 00:14:17.160

Carl Racine: The translators are divided in the King James Bible says it's an act of service, then IV says it's an act of worship.

83

00:14:17.880 --> 00:14:28.470

Carl Racine: And the new American standard says it's a service of worship, they essentially add both words, knowing that the Greek word there can be translated either way.

84

00:14:28.830 --> 00:14:42.360

Carl Racine: So the two ideas are closely connected worship and service and we still speak of having a worship service, did you ever wonder why do we call Sunday morning a worship service.

85

00:14:43.230 --> 00:14:57.150

Carl Racine: Well, in Hebrew and Greek those were those words are very closely connected in meaning, who are what you worship is also who or what you serve who you worship, what you spend your time adoring.

86

00:14:58.140 --> 00:15:14.580

Carl Racine: Focusing your attention on shapes how you live in this world, and so, if you're actually worshipping God serving God and loving God and obeying God, are all part of living a joyful life before God.

87

00:15:15.930 --> 00:15:16.590

Carl Racine: So.

88

00:15:18.090 --> 00:15:32.670

Carl Racine: Despite the verse that we sometimes hear quoted out of context first john four which says perfect love casts out fear as if fear and love were completely separate things in the Bible.

89

00:15:33.870 --> 00:15:51.990

Carl Racine: There doesn't have to be a tension between love and fear, what john is actually saying, if you go look at the context in first john four is that if we've developed a mature love and mature is probably a better translation there than perfect.

90

00:15:53.310 --> 00:16:04.680

Carl Racine: mature love for other people, so that our lives are characterized by faithful service to them, and he talks repeatedly about loving your brothers and sisters in this chapter.

91

00:16:05.970 --> 00:16:19.230

Carl Racine: He that's the kind of love he's talking about a love that

is involved in service to other people john says, if you have that kind of love then you'll have no reason to fear god's judgment.

92

00:16:20.670 --> 00:16:30.660

Carl Racine: So that's a very high standard but it's also a recognition of the close connection between the fear of the Lord and our obedience to god's will if we love one another john says.

93

00:16:31.080 --> 00:16:38.880

Carl Racine: We will have no need ultimately to fear anything from God and our fear of the Lord then will be reverent worship.

94

00:16:40.650 --> 00:16:42.450

Carl Racine: Comments questions.

95

00:16:44.100 --> 00:16:50.700

Carole Copeland Thomas: i'm still stuck on worship service that's right that's a nuance for me yeah.

96

00:16:51.060 --> 00:16:57.360

Carl Racine: I mean we say that all the time, but we don't ever think, why do we say worship service, why is it a service it like.

97

00:16:59.760 --> 00:17:00.390

Carl Racine: pizza pie.

98

00:17:02.880 --> 00:17:05.160

Susan Racine: Well, we call it a service and not a meeting.

99

00:17:07.620 --> 00:17:09.030

Susan Racine: yeah interesting.

100

00:17:09.690 --> 00:17:19.740

Marie Doubleday: That the way that they defined fear, and this is something i've thought about for a long time, is it seemed to be a contradiction of how we define it.

101

00:17:23.160 --> 00:17:32.940

Carl Racine: Yes, well it's it's just that the word him sort of has both concepts much more closely related.

102

00:17:34.260 --> 00:17:37.230

Carl Racine: In in Hebrew than they are in English.

103

00:17:38.520 --> 00:17:39.030

Marie Doubleday: Okay.

104

00:17:39.750 --> 00:17:51.720

Carl Racine: And I mean we've seen this over and over again in the scriptures that the the words that are translated as righteousness and justice in English Those are two pretty separate ideas righteousness.

105

00:17:52.200 --> 00:18:12.720

Carl Racine: At least the way we tend to use the word refers to kind of my personal morality that's how most people think of righteousness whereas justice has to do with social morality, shall we say, but biblically those two things are one in the same they're not separated and so, if you.

106

00:18:14.460 --> 00:18:19.080

Carl Racine: Well, in English, when you come to translate the Bible, you have to pick a word.

107

00:18:20.220 --> 00:18:31.920

Carl Racine: And so, when Jesus says seek First, the Kingdom of God and his righteousness or his justice and all these things will be added to you.

108

00:18:33.030 --> 00:18:42.840

Carl Racine: Think of how different that if if the King James translated has had us justice, which is a perfectly legitimate translation for that word in the Greek and said seek ye first.

109

00:18:43.200 --> 00:18:54.570

Carl Racine: The Kingdom of God and his justice and all these things will be added to you how different our reading of the Gospel might be and there's Other passages like that.

110

00:18:55.590 --> 00:19:10.350

Carl Racine: The King James Bible never wants use the word justice in its translation of the New Testament because the translators are

beholden to the King and they wanted to limit stuff to personal morality.

111

00:19:13.020 --> 00:19:13.500

Susan Racine: Clever.

112

00:19:14.640 --> 00:19:15.240

Marie Doubleday: Though.

113

00:19:15.660 --> 00:19:23.880

Carl Racine: When when you see worship and service you and again that verse in in Romans 12 one that we're very familiar with.

114

00:19:24.510 --> 00:19:36.390

Carl Racine: You there's usually going to be a footnote in your Bible that how it can be translated because there's no great way of translating in English, although that one translation that I cited just uses both words and that's perfectly legitimate.

115

00:19:37.680 --> 00:19:46.410

Carl Racine: It embodies both ideas for Paul, the idea that we are worshiping God and serving God is is.

116

00:19:47.040 --> 00:19:58.920

Carl Racine: The same idea and the prophets make it really clear that unless you're serving God in the world you're not actually worshipping God your worship is a waste of time you're religious activities that you call worship.

117

00:20:00.420 --> 00:20:08.280

Marie Doubleday: But but it's interesting that you talk about the English definition of fear, because I think.

118

00:20:09.030 --> 00:20:22.230

Marie Doubleday: it's been brought forward in some amount, you know churches in America, I mean like when I grew up in a Catholic Church and malden you know basically Boston.

119

00:20:22.710 --> 00:20:32.850

Marie Doubleday: You know I think the definition of fear is different than what maybe might be in the AMA and in the me.

120

00:20:33.450 --> 00:20:51.030

Marie Doubleday: i'm you know the it isn't, it is an encouragement to be intimate with God now, if you so you're now got the PhD in English or Irish studies, when you look at the Gala word fear, how is that defined you know.

121

00:20:52.410 --> 00:20:53.580

Carl Racine: I have no idea.

122

00:20:53.580 --> 00:20:54.990

Marie Doubleday: is interesting.

123

00:20:55.050 --> 00:21:03.870

Marie Doubleday: But it's interesting because it's got an impact on how people kind of view God to the definition of fear, thank you, though.

124

00:21:04.620 --> 00:21:18.090

Carl Racine: Well, and that's true, but there is an element I mean translating that word as fear is a legitimate translation in some in some passages that's clearly what it means being afraid of something that's going to hurt you.

125

00:21:19.530 --> 00:21:20.730

Susan Racine: Think of I think of.

126

00:21:22.590 --> 00:21:34.380

Susan Racine: People who have a lot of authority and who, yet I highly respected and love dearly and I think of people like my grandfather's who were stern.

127

00:21:35.220 --> 00:21:53.190

Susan Racine: But loving and I was just blessed to have wonderful grandfather's but you you behave when you are, but you love them, but you behaved in their presence and you didn't want them to know that you hadn't behaved in and they weren't around.

128

00:21:53.700 --> 00:22:08.250

Carl Racine: And that's a that's a very good example, though the sort of parental authority thing there's a certain element with children

have an actual fear of their parents, but that's doesn't have to.

129

00:22:09.960 --> 00:22:14.100

Carl Racine: exclude a close loving relationship with their parents.

130

00:22:17.010 --> 00:22:17.190

Jack Melvin: The.

131

00:22:17.940 --> 00:22:20.880

Bill Hughes: point of this is about charity as well.

132

00:22:22.140 --> 00:22:34.740

Bill Hughes: I was thinking back on on what the scriptures talk about in terms of me, you know you should be able to handle me but right now, you just can't handle milk, because you don't know how to how to digest and.

133

00:22:35.790 --> 00:22:41.040

Bill Hughes: process the things of righteousness so you know, the idea of like.

134

00:22:42.120 --> 00:23:00.870

Bill Hughes: The word here for me the mature view is a reverence and all and a lot of the different facets that come around relationship and and it's and there's a different in a different kinds of relationships with it, or they can be people who use feel as a weapon to.

135

00:23:02.100 --> 00:23:12.900

Bill Hughes: And that's a very different kind of learning Center character, so all those two things to come together i'm not an exercise.

136

00:23:15.450 --> 00:23:17.850

Bill Hughes: Of discernment that we're called to do.

137

00:23:20.430 --> 00:23:34.560

Carl Racine: yeah and I think that's a very good point and it, this is only one asked, this is only one aspect of understanding God in the scriptures, this is not the whole story, this is one small topic we've talked at length about.

138

00:23:35.070 --> 00:23:45.720

Carl Racine: god's love and compassion and all of the rest of that sort of stuff and none of this is meant to exclude it that's that's sort of why i'm kind of trying to connect the two ideas.

139

00:23:46.080 --> 00:23:53.520

Carl Racine: But it is there in the scriptures and it is there in our tradition and as bill says, some people have used it as a weapon.

140

00:23:54.000 --> 00:24:06.900

Carl Racine: As a club and anytime you use the Bible as a weapon or a club over people's heads, you need to be maybe pull back from that, but it is, it is an aspect of biblical teaching.

141

00:24:08.370 --> 00:24:10.860

Susan Racine: Can I say one more thing about god's commandments.

142

00:24:12.360 --> 00:24:21.360

Susan Racine: I was reading leviticus 19 when you're recording it and you know some of the things I find in the Bible i'm like Well, yes, of course, but you know.

143

00:24:22.590 --> 00:24:33.000

Susan Racine: In terms of don't do this because if God hadn't Given these as laws, maybe other surrounding cultures were doing this, like so it says.

144

00:24:33.540 --> 00:24:40.530

Susan Racine: don't turn don't allow your daughters to be prostitutes don't or don't force your daughters to be prostitutes and you're like of course now.

145

00:24:41.520 --> 00:24:51.030

Susan Racine: That might have been something that other cultures, were doing, because you know, there was no law against it and she's my property and and it all it'll it'll increase the family income.

146

00:24:54.030 --> 00:24:54.480

Carl Racine: or.

147

00:24:55.620 --> 00:25:08.550

Carl Racine: yeah probably it probably an act of desperation on the part of people who were pretty poor as opposed to people who just wanted extra luxuries in their life but yes.

148

00:25:14.460 --> 00:25:26.400

Susan Racine: I mean people sometimes need like basic laws to to keep them on the right road, sometimes you have to state the obvious, I think yeah.

149

00:25:29.550 --> 00:25:40.140

Carl Racine: All right, let me move on to one last point here before we before we end we've got 15 minutes and I think we can do this, is that this is, to me, this is the the the.

150

00:25:41.130 --> 00:25:54.630

Carl Racine: The capstone to this whole discussion of Ob fear and obedience because elsewhere in the Bible contrast, a proper fear of the Lord with a fear of human beings and what they can do to you.

151

00:25:55.650 --> 00:26:06.750

Carl Racine: And we we've seen a passage from Isaiah eight which talks about not worrying about people who, who are crying conspiracy at every level, which has a very modern sound to it.

152

00:26:07.560 --> 00:26:19.710

Carl Racine: don't let human fears and conspiracy theories rule your life, but rather the fear of the Lord should direct your life again pastors talking about the doom scrolling.

153

00:26:21.840 --> 00:26:31.650

Carl Racine: is connected to this is ECO beginning of ezekiel we saw his awesome vision in Chapter one of God, this bizarre.

154

00:26:32.850 --> 00:26:42.030

Carl Racine: Almost indescribable vision of the celestial Chariot as his ego begins his mission has a profit.

155

00:26:42.480 --> 00:26:57.210

Carl Racine: That vision is meant to strengthen him and and then in the beginning of Chapter two, it says it's meant to prevent him from

fearing the reaction of hostile human beings to his message, because God knows that not everybody's gonna be happy with what is profit is saying.

156

00:26:57.780 --> 00:27:08.610

Carl Racine: And so that that fear some both in both in this, but in both senses really in the sense of on a sense of a little bit of scary it's a scary vision.

157

00:27:09.510 --> 00:27:22.980

Carl Racine: That is to kind of inoculate ezekeiel against the the human beings who may be threatening to him, as he preaches, but I think this point.

158

00:27:23.610 --> 00:27:39.870

Carl Racine: The fear of the Lord is supposed to counteract our fear of human beings is most vividly made by a wonderful story and Torah if we go slide number 15 please at the beginning of the book of exodus.

159

00:27:45.480 --> 00:27:56.700

Carl Racine: Really timmy one of the most remarkable stories in the whole of Torah the two midwives Shifa and Puma and this isn't necessarily a real picture of them obviously i'm not even sure who this is supposed to be a picture of but it looked like.

160

00:27:57.870 --> 00:28:00.900

Carl Racine: Egyptian women and we're going to talk about that in a minute.

161

00:28:02.400 --> 00:28:11.670

Carl Racine: They refuse to follow pharaoh's command to kill the newborn Hebrew boys this isn't as an exodus one first chapter of exodus.

162

00:28:12.360 --> 00:28:20.340

Carl Racine: And usually this passage is translated to suggest that the midwives were Hebrew women themselves.

163

00:28:21.210 --> 00:28:42.240

Carl Racine: But the text is ambiguous literally it reads midwives of the Hebrews and that could mean that they were in fact he rule women, but it could also mean that they were midwives, to the Hebrews or for

the Hebrews, that is, they were Egyptian women helping the Hebrew women.

164

00:28:43.500 --> 00:28:49.560

Carl Racine: And that to me makes more sense of the story and rabbi Sachs argues for this understanding of the text.

165

00:28:49.980 --> 00:28:58.830

Carl Racine: And he points out that other Jewish commentators have understood the story this way, not everybody, obviously, but other Jews kind of just to the story this way because it's doubtful.

166

00:28:59.190 --> 00:29:06.750

Carl Racine: That pharaoh would have expected Hebrew women to kill the children have their own people, or that he would have trusted them to do so.

167

00:29:07.860 --> 00:29:13.680

Carl Racine: So, to me it makes more sense to see Shifa and Puma as Egyptian women.

168

00:29:14.940 --> 00:29:37.590

Carl Racine: And this to me is reinforced by the story that immediately follows their story in Chapter one about pharaoh's own daughter, who rescues a Hebrew boy from the River adopts him and named Moses, and I think those stories are intentionally put together there at the beginning of exodus to.

169

00:29:39.330 --> 00:29:46.500

Carl Racine: begin the story of the exodus, the story of god's miraculous deliverance of the Israelites.

170

00:29:47.460 --> 00:30:06.660

Carl Racine: With the civil disobedience of three Egyptian women as a sign that what God is doing is completely unexpected and that God is working in marvelous ways and those stories are as miraculous as anything that will come later in the book of.

171

00:30:07.890 --> 00:30:25.980

Carl Racine: exodus as as we see all of the plagues and all of the rest of that but to me the stories of these three Egyptian women in Chapter one are equally stunning equally miraculous and equally sign

of god's deliverance.

172

00:30:27.510 --> 00:30:35.760

Carl Racine: Now, significantly, we are told twice in this very short passage, just a few verses about shift from who.

173

00:30:36.300 --> 00:30:53.550

Carl Racine: We are told twice that they acted the way they did because of their fear of God, and you see here verse 17 the midwives feared God and did not do what the King of Egypt had told them to do they let the boys live.

174

00:30:54.060 --> 00:31:07.380

Carl Racine: And then, a few verses later because the midwives, and this is the end of their story that because of midwives feared God he established households for them, he gave them their own families.

175

00:31:09.960 --> 00:31:27.570

Carl Racine: Despite the absolute power that pharaoh held over his subjects, he was a dictator, the absolute ruler his word was law, he had the power of life and death over these women.

176

00:31:28.710 --> 00:31:34.800

Carl Racine: Despite that power despite whatever fear they might have had of the pharaoh.

177

00:31:35.730 --> 00:31:46.830

Carl Racine: These women because of their fear of the Lord refused to follow his immoral order they refused to take up the sword, in the name of national security.

178

00:31:47.730 --> 00:32:02.460

Carl Racine: because their fear of God was greater than their fear of the state and because of their reverence for God they valued the lives of immigrant children more than their own lives.

179

00:32:03.270 --> 00:32:14.970

Carl Racine: And rabbi saxes shifren poo as two of the great heroines of world literature, the first to teach humanity, the moral limits of power.

180

00:32:16.830 --> 00:32:32.880

Carl Racine: So a well developed healthy fear of the Lord enables us to know what to do and to stand firm in the midst of a brutal and threatening and fearful world and be life, giving servants of that world.

181

00:32:35.250 --> 00:32:36.900

Carl Racine: Comments questions.

182

00:32:39.240 --> 00:32:40.680

Marie Doubleday: This is phenomenal.

183

00:32:44.460 --> 00:32:45.360

Marie Doubleday: seriously.

184

00:32:47.070 --> 00:32:49.830

Jack Melvin: What what happened what's the end of the story.

185

00:32:51.840 --> 00:32:52.440

Carl Racine: What do you mean.

186

00:32:53.010 --> 00:32:58.290

Jack Melvin: Ah, they didn't they didn't feel the they were they arrested, where they.

187

00:32:59.490 --> 00:33:03.120

Carl Racine: They made up an interesting I can't I can't remember off top my head.

188

00:33:03.270 --> 00:33:04.920

Susan Racine: I have it here, I can read it.

189

00:33:05.100 --> 00:33:10.290

Carl Racine: Interesting excuse for why why these babies weren't dying.

190

00:33:10.710 --> 00:33:20.280

Susan Racine: So the King of Egypt summon the wind wives and ask them why have you done this, allowing the boys to live there were supposed to let the girls live but kill the boys.

191

00:33:21.300 --> 00:33:29.490

Susan Racine: The midwives answered pharaoh the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women, they are robust and give birth before the midwife arrives.

192

00:33:30.600 --> 00:33:31.830

Susan Racine: And he let them off with that.

193

00:33:37.590 --> 00:33:42.540

Carl Racine: They lie to the Nazis when they come and say, do you have had a Jews hiding in your attic.

194

00:33:42.960 --> 00:33:52.230

Jack Melvin: yeah that that that doesn't seem like a great Defense, but it must have been a miracle that they're all accepted it well, I can I contributed to God.

195

00:33:54.840 --> 00:34:07.320

Carl Racine: that's what i'm saying, though again the fact that we don't know this story right, this is the first chapter of exodus, this is how exodus begins and we don't know this story we haven't taught it to our children in Sunday school because we've been busy with all the.

196

00:34:08.280 --> 00:34:11.700

Carl Racine: You know the the sound and light show that comes later.

197

00:34:12.750 --> 00:34:21.300

Carl Racine: But this is just an absolute remarkable story, whether or not they were Egyptian if their Hebrew women, they still what they were doing.

198

00:34:21.870 --> 00:34:35.520

Carl Racine: would have would have exposed them to pharaoh's wrath as well, I think the argument that they were probably Egyptian makes more sense but, but the the point that i'm making is true, whether they are Egyptian or Hebrew women.

199

00:34:39.480 --> 00:34:52.680

Marie Doubleday: It it's interesting though I remember being taught this as a child in school, I mean it, but you know now this has got an

adult arm version of it, and thank you, brother call.

200

00:35:01.200 --> 00:35:02.220

Carl Racine: anyone else have.

201

00:35:06.780 --> 00:35:08.820

comments or reflections on this.

202

00:35:15.000 --> 00:35:33.840

MARC GERMAIN: I guess one thing which I would say, is, I think one of the things I appreciate from this from this sort of analysis that you brought is so often I think when we learned about the story it sort of one side the Egyptians were pitted against.

203

00:35:35.310 --> 00:35:47.850

MARC GERMAIN: The Community of faith and it's like you know outside of pharaoh's daughter everyone else was against you know the Hebrew people until yeah actually I like I like the fact of civil disobedience.

204

00:35:49.050 --> 00:35:52.950

MARC GERMAIN: I think it's very interesting piece that needs to be lifted up more often.

205

00:36:01.980 --> 00:36:02.280

awestruck by.

206

00:36:03.600 --> 00:36:09.930

Bill Hughes: The teaching and analysis on premise behind it, so thank you for that oh.

207

00:36:11.010 --> 00:36:21.390

Bill Hughes: The other thing that strikes me from earlier in the conversation was you know when you talk about how Holiness.

208

00:36:22.500 --> 00:36:34.530

Bill Hughes: is not something that the new concept for the Torah brings around holding this has to do with it being integral into the lives.

209

00:36:35.880 --> 00:36:37.860
Bill Hughes: Of the people and makes me.

210
00:36:38.970 --> 00:36:41.940
Bill Hughes: think that you know if you're.

211
00:36:42.990 --> 00:36:43.980
Bill Hughes: If you're in.

212
00:36:50.820 --> 00:36:51.540
Bill Hughes: A profession.

213
00:36:55.980 --> 00:36:56.940
Bill Hughes: To the person.

214
00:36:58.470 --> 00:36:59.520
Bill Hughes: That ultimately.

215
00:37:00.540 --> 00:37:03.660
Bill Hughes: Choose rose up from exodus in the world.

216
00:37:04.740 --> 00:37:09.570
Bill Hughes: And how you don't have the luxury of simply.

217
00:37:12.480 --> 00:37:13.830
Bill Hughes: You know we're thinking.

218
00:37:22.110 --> 00:37:24.930
Bill Hughes: wonder what the Green arrow was born.

219
00:37:31.980 --> 00:37:34.920
Carl Racine: couldn't quite catch that last point you're a little bit muffled.

220
00:37:37.860 --> 00:37:38.580
Bill Hughes: To.

221
00:37:44.400 --> 00:37:49.980

Carl Racine: what degree the Torah was was born out of Hebrew suffering, I mean it, it clearly.

222

00:37:51.390 --> 00:37:52.950

Carl Racine: comes out of that.

223

00:37:53.970 --> 00:37:54.960

Carl Racine: Because.

224

00:37:56.340 --> 00:38:12.090

Carl Racine: With a with a few minor exceptions, most of the time Israel was a small and and you know beleaguered nation in the midst surrounded by much bigger and more powerful.

225

00:38:13.980 --> 00:38:23.250

Carl Racine: empires really I mean the Egyptian empire and the time of the exodus was the largest empire in the world, but wasn't the only one.

226

00:38:24.630 --> 00:38:44.010

Carl Racine: The hittites which we're going to talk about in a few weeks were equally in the north were equally large and and and prosperous and and then it goes on the Assyrians, and the babylonians and the Persians and the Greeks and the Romans it's a constant part of their story.

227

00:38:45.480 --> 00:39:05.220

Carl Racine: And so, how do you remain faithful to God to the one true God when you've got all of that going on and and your life would be a lot easier if you just gave in and said yeah we're gonna be Egyptians yeah we're going to be babylonians yeah we're going to be a Syrian.

228

00:39:08.250 --> 00:39:21.270

Carl Racine: But God gave them a way of charting a path that was different this is, this is one of my main arguments in this course Israel was called to be a nation that was completely different from all those other nations.

229

00:39:22.830 --> 00:39:23.580

and

230

00:39:24.660 --> 00:39:33.030

Carl Racine: The Torah is really their constitution their mandate, I mean we we talked about this last week a little bit, but but.

231

00:39:33.720 --> 00:39:46.470

Carl Racine: You know the idea of humans being created in the image of God well in Egypt pharaoh was in the image of God, but not anybody else and, and this was certainly true in other ancient cultures.

232

00:39:47.730 --> 00:40:00.690

Carl Racine: We tied in deuteronomy 17 about the king is is subject to the laws, subject to Torah well pharaoh wasn't subject to the law his word was law and again this is true in other empires so.

233

00:40:01.290 --> 00:40:09.990

Carl Racine: The the whole idea of how Israel was supposed to be as a community as a people as a nation was very different from the surrounding cultures.

234

00:40:11.310 --> 00:40:13.380

Carl Racine: And they've survived.

235

00:40:20.100 --> 00:40:26.610

Carl Racine: And it it it's it's again a wonderful bit of the story, here in the beginning.

236

00:40:27.660 --> 00:40:35.430

Carl Racine: That at least a few of the Egyptians were were willing to help them, and this has been true again throughout israel's history.

237

00:40:37.020 --> 00:40:39.390

Carl Racine: That there have been what.

238

00:40:40.680 --> 00:40:50.970

Carl Racine: What modern Jews called righteous gentiles if you go if you go to Israel, go to Jerusalem and go to the Museum of the Holocaust so Yad Vashem.

239

00:40:53.790 --> 00:40:58.650

Carl Racine: Which is just one of the most powerful experiences, you can have in this world, I think.

240

00:40:59.370 --> 00:41:12.510

Carl Racine: They have a whole section, not in the museum that kind of outside a pathway of tribute to to the righteous gentiles to those non Jews who helped save Jewish lives.

241

00:41:13.320 --> 00:41:23.220

Carl Racine: And we talked about a little of that in this course, so a while ago everybody knows schindler's list, I suppose, but there's a there's a whole lot of other less well known people.

242

00:41:24.240 --> 00:41:40.440

Carl Racine: Who who did remarkable things so they've always been non Jews who've been willing to come along and help god's people and shift from poor urged in my mind, just to somewhat overlooked examples of them in in genesis one.

243

00:41:42.750 --> 00:41:47.220

Susan Racine: And all those empires have fallen and we still have a Jewish nation.

244

00:41:47.520 --> 00:41:54.960

Carl Racine: Yes, and we're going to talk about that in a couple of weeks that's that's the next topic i'm going to address.

245

00:41:54.960 --> 00:41:57.720

Jack Melvin: And in this course, as we kind of start.

246

00:41:59.100 --> 00:42:02.910

Carl Racine: heading for conclusions Oh, and speaking of in a couple of weeks.

247

00:42:04.020 --> 00:42:07.140

Carl Racine: sister Carol what's the week that you're not here.

248

00:42:08.670 --> 00:42:10.110

Carl Racine: The 12th is that.

249

00:42:11.700 --> 00:42:13.320

Carole Copeland Thomas: Yes, the 12th.

250

00:42:13.620 --> 00:42:16.830

Carole Copeland Thomas: That three weeks from today, yes, December 12.

251

00:42:18.060 --> 00:42:28.980

Carl Racine: I think sister Carol and I can be able to to do her thing in three weeks and I think rather than me trying to figure out the technology of it will just have a have a day off.

252

00:42:29.850 --> 00:42:38.130

Carl Racine: Because I I just I don't know how I would do it on my own, which again is partly attributed to her in the amount of work that she puts into.

253

00:42:38.910 --> 00:42:39.540

Carl Racine: The class.

254

00:42:41.370 --> 00:42:57.360

Carole Copeland Thomas: Thank Thank you so much, I try to do this every Sunday because I love the Lord and I love Sunday school, but my brother, a couple of weeks ago called and asked me to come home, he is an attorney and as getting a big award in Michigan so.

255

00:42:58.440 --> 00:43:00.840

Carole Copeland Thomas: i've come going home, thank you.

256

00:43:01.230 --> 00:43:06.120

Carl Racine: And that's fine, we will we'll have a week off and.

257

00:43:07.500 --> 00:43:11.670

Carl Racine: People can reflect on stuff that we've been talking about.

258

00:43:13.710 --> 00:43:24.600

Carl Racine: So can someone close us out in prayer will will pick I have one more little piece of have something to talk about with reference to the fear of the Lord but we'll save that for next week.

259

00:43:28.860 --> 00:43:31.980

Carl Racine: even like to offer a prepare Susan.

260

00:43:33.030 --> 00:43:33.480

Susan Racine: I will.

261

00:43:37.980 --> 00:43:52.860

Susan Racine: Your God, we thank you for your law, we thank you for all those who have studied your law so diligently We thank you for all the rabbi's that we're learning from We thank you for.

262

00:43:54.300 --> 00:43:57.120

Susan Racine: Carl and all the work that he's done in.

263

00:43:58.320 --> 00:44:16.920

Susan Racine: Opening up the scriptures to uh to us so that we have a new comprehension of your Holiness, and your goodness, and your righteousness and how those words have other meanings Lord, thank you for this day, thank you for the greater Bethel community, thank you, we have.

264

00:44:17.940 --> 00:44:27.600

Susan Racine: an honorary member in Honduras, thank you for all those who've been able to join this Sunday school class, thank you for our hostess with the most is sister Carol.

265

00:44:28.320 --> 00:44:46.680

Susan Racine: We ask a blessing on this class, and we ask your blessing on all our Members, and we asked for us to gain in wisdom and love through our study and thank you for family, and please bless everyone who.

266

00:44:47.730 --> 00:44:54.030

Susan Racine: Would safe travels over this thanksgiving upcoming thanksgiving holiday in Jesus name, we pray amen.

267

00:44:54.690 --> 00:44:56.550

Carole Copeland Thomas: amen amen.

268

00:44:57.570 --> 00:44:58.950

Carole Copeland Thomas: amen God bless everybody.

269

00:44:59.580 --> 00:45:01.320
Carole Copeland Thomas: Happy thanksgiving.

270
00:45:01.380 --> 00:45:02.460
Peter Barrant: haha alright see you next.

271
00:45:02.460 --> 00:45:04.980
Carole Copeland Thomas: Sunday okay all right.

272
00:45:05.130 --> 00:45:05.880
Carole Copeland Thomas: God bless.