

WEBVTT

1

00:00:00.000 --> 00:00:15.059

Carl Racine: For this day we bless you for those who are here and for those who maybe are still coming we pray that our discussion will be fruitful and productive as we seek to learn more about your will for our lives through the scriptures in the name of Jesus amen.

2

00:00:16.529 --> 00:00:17.789

James Williams: The name of Jesus.

3

00:00:17.789 --> 00:00:33.390

Carl Racine: So i've been reading this book called Jesus in john Wayne how white evangelicals corrupted a faith and fractured a nation and it's just an eye opening historical survey going back to the beginning of the 20th century.

4

00:00:34.710 --> 00:00:50.610

Carl Racine: By a woman who is a history professor at Calvin college in grand rapids she is not a wide eyed flaming liberal anti Christian crusader she is a member of the Dutch Reformed Calvinist church.

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00:00:52.470 --> 00:00:56.190

Carl Racine: And so, she and it's largely historical thing.

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00:00:57.570 --> 00:00:59.160

Carl Racine: That just allows.

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00:01:00.420 --> 00:01:09.570

Carl Racine: Christian leadership in the 20th century and into the 21st in America to damn itself by what it has proclaimed and done publicly.

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00:01:11.250 --> 00:01:12.840

Carl Racine: So if you.

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00:01:14.700 --> 00:01:28.620

Carl Racine: If you want to scary but fascinating and and her whole point is how this this embrace of trump is the logical end of what's been going on for over 100 years in the so called evangelical church in America, the White evangelical church.

10

00:01:30.090 --> 00:01:35.670

Carl Racine: So if you want to scary but but worthwhile read.

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00:01:36.930 --> 00:01:38.490

Carl Racine: Jesus in john Wayne.

12

00:01:39.150 --> 00:01:39.810

James Williams: who's the author.

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00:01:41.670 --> 00:01:48.300

Carl Racine: i'm sure you can look at the title Kristen toby's do mess up i'll put it in the chat.

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00:01:49.230 --> 00:01:49.530

James Williams: All right.

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00:01:50.640 --> 00:01:51.420

Carl Racine: um.

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00:01:52.920 --> 00:01:54.000

Carl Racine: It is.

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00:01:55.590 --> 00:01:57.990

Carl Racine: A friend of mine recommended it.

18

00:02:01.830 --> 00:02:03.660

Carl Racine: And it was worth it.

19

00:02:07.050 --> 00:02:17.220

Jack Melvin: I heard a I read a review, you can, if you type it in on YouTube you can hear a review and actually the author herself.

20

00:02:19.020 --> 00:02:23.700

Jack Melvin: describes the book, I agree with Carl it sounds like a it's on my reading list.

21

00:02:25.170 --> 00:02:30.660

Jack Melvin: it's really about how you know how American Christianity has become a heresy.

22

00:02:31.260 --> 00:02:43.920

Jack Melvin: To the fact that it's you know it's sort of absorbed all these non Christian values such as militarism, you know nationalism those I think those are the two you know John Wayne.

23

00:02:44.250 --> 00:02:45.660

Jack Melvin: especially my metro guy.

24

00:02:46.770 --> 00:02:54.600

Carl Racine: National you know Jesus calls us to pick up our guns and fight all those brown skin enemies of America.

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00:02:55.140 --> 00:03:02.550

Carl Racine: and slaughter them and it's very violent it the the the the sort of language and imagination.

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00:03:03.030 --> 00:03:11.520

Carl Racine: And of course it's only white men who should be doing this, or only men at least women should be saying at home there shouldn't be women in the military.

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00:03:12.390 --> 00:03:24.990

Carl Racine: They had to make an exception for Sarah Palin for voting for Sarah Palin as Vice President, because women really shouldn't be in those types of leadership roles, according to the Bible, certainly not in the in the churches.

28

00:03:26.460 --> 00:03:30.630

Carl Racine: that's a very specific vision of.

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00:03:31.740 --> 00:03:35.610

Carl Racine: Essentially, an American cultural Christianity.

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00:03:37.530 --> 00:03:38.040

That.

31

00:03:39.180 --> 00:03:40.800

Carl Racine: goes way way back.

32

00:03:42.930 --> 00:03:45.120

Carole Copeland Thomas: At this weekend, and thank you, brother jack.

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00:03:46.440 --> 00:03:52.860

Carole Copeland Thomas: For double vaccinated jack for for talking about YouTube i'll go there and out i'll look at the interview but.

34

00:03:53.370 --> 00:04:06.180

Carole Copeland Thomas: I was talking with brother Carl earlier about it, and I said embedded in apparently the book doesn't make specific reference to whites or white males or white females, but that's the implied.

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00:04:07.530 --> 00:04:17.910

Carole Copeland Thomas: Approval stamp of approval that you are white that you know you you, you have this white lineage and you're carrying that brand forward.

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00:04:19.110 --> 00:04:29.400

Carole Copeland Thomas: And it just has that all written written all over it, and then I said, you know you look at what's happening with the abortion bill in Texas, the voting rights.

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00:04:29.910 --> 00:04:34.830

Carole Copeland Thomas: bills that are being passed, you know, trying to be passed in Arizona and other places Georgia.

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00:04:35.730 --> 00:04:48.960

Carole Copeland Thomas: And you talk about the Taliban, this is the American Taliban in action so yeah they've got the Taliban in Afghanistan, we have it here, trying to take over and trying to literally yank the country back.

39

00:04:49.410 --> 00:05:00.180

Carole Copeland Thomas: 100 years not 50 years but 100 years back to the days of picking cotton, and you know my people were either outside in the field, or they were in the House sweeping the floors.

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00:05:01.380 --> 00:05:09.420

Carl Racine: Well, the other thing that's happening in Texas and other and some other states is is directed specifically at the educational system.

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00:05:10.230 --> 00:05:21.990

Carl Racine: So Texas has passed draconian laws that teachers are just scared about what they can even say in the classroom regarding things that are matters of history, like slavery and the Holocaust.

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00:05:23.190 --> 00:05:23.640

Carl Racine: A.

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00:05:27.060 --> 00:05:40.500

Carl Racine: One of the leaders of the whole school system in the Dallas Fort worth area big school system in Texas this week said had a teachers meeting that.

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00:05:41.490 --> 00:05:53.160

Carl Racine: In response to this law and I don't think I sort of read try to read a little bit about her I don't I think she was making a kind of dumb statement, but I don't think she was being.

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00:05:54.480 --> 00:05:59.310

Carl Racine: mean spirited I think she was thinking about the teachers and just not thinking about what she was saying.

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00:05:59.670 --> 00:06:16.980

Carl Racine: She said the teachers, need to be careful that if they have a they've they've got it down to the literally what books, you have in your classroom like on the bookshelf So if you have she said, if you have a book on the Holocaust, make sure you have something from the other side.

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00:06:18.630 --> 00:06:22.830

Carl Racine: And people in the meeting we were like what's the other side.

48

00:06:23.670 --> 00:06:23.970

Carole Copeland Thomas: To the.

49

00:06:24.540 --> 00:06:36.360

Carl Racine: same thing as about slavery, we don't want to teach this is this is this critical race theory that we don't want to teach about slavery, because you know that makes America look bad so we.

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00:06:36.360 --> 00:06:36.840

James Williams: kind of.

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00:06:36.870 --> 00:06:47.160

Carl Racine: Literally whitewash over the thing, and if you are going to present something about slavery, you have to present the other side and, again, the question is so what's the other side.

52

00:06:47.640 --> 00:07:02.640

Carl Racine: Apart from this sort of basis accusation assertions that the that the slaves are really happy that way and that all this stuff was you know they weren't you know that they were being treated cruelly This is just all slander against American.

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00:07:03.210 --> 00:07:04.440

Carole Copeland Thomas: Taliban yeah.

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00:07:04.500 --> 00:07:09.810

Carl Racine: yeah so yeah so so if you're getting to that level of trying to control what teachers.

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00:07:10.980 --> 00:07:12.990

Carl Racine: What books, they have in their classroom.

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00:07:16.290 --> 00:07:18.750

Carl Racine: This isn't even American, let alone Christian.

57

00:07:20.310 --> 00:07:42.840

Carole Copeland Thomas: Little saving grace this week, last week I had my my summit us UK summit on race between the U s in the UK had it was a wonderful turnout it's on the website, you could watch it anytime at MSs connect calm and as a result of that, I met and was a part of a Wikipedia.

58

00:07:45.210 --> 00:07:54.360

Carole Copeland Thomas: At a font, and so the only way I can describe it where they're trying to increase the number of women who edit

articles on Wikipedia.

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00:07:54.660 --> 00:08:07.740

Carole Copeland Thomas: And anybody can be a Wikipedia editor which I now am you can set up an account it costs nothing at all, but they do have guidelines which I was very impressed with in terms of how you can.

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00:08:08.640 --> 00:08:18.810

Carole Copeland Thomas: submit an article and how you can edit an article, and if you don't follow the guidelines they'll reject it, they won't put it on so Wikipedia used to be a bunch of junk.

61

00:08:19.230 --> 00:08:26.160

Carole Copeland Thomas: 15 years ago, but now it's pretty pretty good in terms of getting information and one of the things.

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00:08:26.640 --> 00:08:35.820

Carole Copeland Thomas: They have a guideline in terms of how you write the articles, whether it's subjective or its objective, whether it's it's to bias.

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00:08:36.390 --> 00:08:48.660

Carole Copeland Thomas: And, and if you and you have to quote sources so your articles have to be based on sources academic sources, what I have there's an article on Wikipedia they reference me.

64

00:08:49.740 --> 00:08:52.560

Carole Copeland Thomas: Really yeah I said that's.

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00:08:55.320 --> 00:09:02.940

Carole Copeland Thomas: My website so so it's interesting what they say about you know how things you know who the experts are or whatever, but.

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00:09:03.810 --> 00:09:13.140

Carole Copeland Thomas: I was very impressed, because when you take this test about your bias or your objectivity, one of the one of the examples used.

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00:09:13.680 --> 00:09:21.600

Carole Copeland Thomas: One of these far right people who they just totally dismiss it said no piece of fringe group you can't use him as a source.

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00:09:21.900 --> 00:09:29.940

Carole Copeland Thomas: So I think I was impressed with the fact that they're at least trying to make sense of the craziness that brother Carl is talking about these people.

69

00:09:30.300 --> 00:09:44.940

Carole Copeland Thomas: who are trying to hijack the educational system, the religious system, the healthcare system women's rights, etc, and and they're trying to make that website sort of balanced and remove these Taleban like people.

70

00:09:46.650 --> 00:10:07.140

Peter Barrant: You know I recently was just reading through Jeremiah and the the situation sort of reminded me of Israel in terms of you know, if you think about when Jeremiah was writing you look at pretty much all of Jeremiah it's about the destruction, you know their Israel is going to.

71

00:10:08.490 --> 00:10:09.300

Peter Barrant: Be.

72

00:10:11.280 --> 00:10:15.900

Peter Barrant: Basically, destroyed and dispersed and and.

73

00:10:16.500 --> 00:10:23.790

Peter Barrant: Then I thought about the fact that, if we were living in Israel at the time that Jeremiah live there were a lot of other prophets.

74

00:10:24.030 --> 00:10:29.340

Peter Barrant: who are saying, Israel is going to flourish and you can do whatever you want and that sort of thing.

75

00:10:29.730 --> 00:10:43.020

Peter Barrant: And it's not unlike what we're seeing in the Christian Church is that we've got some people saying this, and some people saying that and how do you make sense of who's who is actually speaking from God.



76

00:10:46.500 --> 00:10:47.160

Carl Racine: yeah that's a.

77

00:10:48.810 --> 00:10:49.920

Carl Racine: Very good example.

78

00:10:51.960 --> 00:10:57.090

Carl Racine: Well, on a more positive note this week, as we move into our material.

79

00:10:58.260 --> 00:11:07.800

Carl Racine: Just in terms of stuff connected to this class i've had a couple of interesting developments with our relationship with temple Israel, the first is i've gotten.

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00:11:09.660 --> 00:11:12.930

Carl Racine: approval from the habitat Boston.

81

00:11:14.370 --> 00:11:21.000

Carl Racine: leadership to have a joint well have a have a work day on a Sunday.

82

00:11:21.750 --> 00:11:34.020

Carl Racine: To accommodate temple Israel where they were little really even though they're reform synagogue their little reluctant to have an official event on shabbat right.

83

00:11:35.790 --> 00:11:36.390

Carl Racine: and

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00:11:38.670 --> 00:11:48.120

Carl Racine: So we're going ahead with that and we're hoping at some point to have a work day with devil and temple Israel at habitat Boston.

85

00:11:48.390 --> 00:12:01.380

Carl Racine: Nice, and it will be on a Sunday, may I mean they're still trying to figure it out, but if it's on a Sunday, I will simply bill it as as.

86

00:12:02.460 --> 00:12:04.260

Carl Racine: an outing for this class.

87

00:12:04.740 --> 00:12:05.910

Carole Copeland Thomas: you'll trip yeah.

88

00:12:07.860 --> 00:12:09.000

Carl Racine: field drift and mission hill.

89

00:12:11.550 --> 00:12:18.750

Carl Racine: The second thing is i've been in conversation with lauren the pot who sister Carol knows, at least from our.

90

00:12:20.490 --> 00:12:28.170

Carl Racine: From our thing this summer and we're on two different fronts and one she suggested to me that it might be interesting.

91

00:12:28.770 --> 00:12:40.110

Carl Racine: In sort of in the spirit of the red tent to have a discussion group with Bethel and temple Israel people, but to have a sermon discussion group she came to Bethel that Sunday.

92

00:12:40.590 --> 00:12:49.890

Carl Racine: In September, and was really fascinated with the sermon and really wanted to talk about it more and the things she liked in the things she didn't like.

93

00:12:50.460 --> 00:13:00.660

Carl Racine: And so, she thought would be interesting if we had a sermon discussion group with a sermon from a temple is a rabbi and a sermon from a Bethel preacher whoever.

94

00:13:02.070 --> 00:13:08.820

Carl Racine: and use that as a jumping off point for discussing sort of things we have in common and things we We disagree of and.

95

00:13:09.570 --> 00:13:16.380

Carl Racine: So we're still thinking about that, but one of my thoughts this week was that might that might be something this class

could morph into.

96

00:13:16.680 --> 00:13:22.920

Carl Racine: As we move ahead into the future, so that i'm keeping that in the back of my mind The other thing that lauren.

97

00:13:23.610 --> 00:13:34.290

Carl Racine: May has made the comment all summer long she wanted to be part of this class, so I reached out to her this week, and she said yes, she still does so starting the next two Sundays we're not gonna have classes.

98

00:13:35.310 --> 00:13:39.540

Carl Racine: But, starting in November we're gonna have a temple Israel Member as part of our class.

99

00:13:40.890 --> 00:13:41.460

Carole Copeland Thomas: Nice.

100

00:13:41.790 --> 00:13:43.530

Carl Racine: hey so.

101

00:13:43.620 --> 00:13:44.760

authenticity.

102

00:13:47.970 --> 00:13:52.980

Carl Racine: move in directions that are perhaps somewhat unconventional but i'm getting.

103

00:13:55.680 --> 00:13:57.720

Carl Racine: used to that role, anyway.

104

00:13:58.440 --> 00:13:59.970

Carole Copeland Thomas: I have i've excuse me.

105

00:14:00.300 --> 00:14:11.070

Carole Copeland Thomas: brother Carl i've put up last week's class if you weren't here you'll be able to go there and then i'm systematically going to get caught up with whatever I didn't upload with the last.

106

00:14:11.640 --> 00:14:23.640

Carole Copeland Thomas: With the spring classes, so when I put it in the chat Sunday teaching calm is the link for the page, where all the classes are being kept Thank you.

107

00:14:24.420 --> 00:14:34.980

Carl Racine: So just one more cultural note that I that I thought of this week, Monday this past Monday was a holiday that we used to call Columbus day.

108

00:14:35.670 --> 00:14:44.760

Carl Racine: And when I was a kid we we would celebrate it with a little rhyme and 1492 Columbus sailed the ocean blue right and we learned about.

109

00:14:45.240 --> 00:15:02.730

Carl Racine: The Nea and the pinta and the Santa Maria and Spanish King Ferdinand and queen Isabella Columbus was Italian, but he was commissioned and funded by the the Spanish monarchy his trip or his trips.

110

00:15:04.290 --> 00:15:17.460

Carl Racine: What we didn't learn was in the same month in 1492 that queen Isabella and King for an instant Columbus on his way they also issued an order.

111

00:15:18.060 --> 00:15:31.350

Carl Racine: In Spain, that all the Jews should be completely driven out of Spain or convert under penalty of death, you either had to leave or become a Christian and.

112

00:15:32.550 --> 00:15:41.070

Carl Racine: The goal was that the country could then become a purely Christian country they had already successfully conquered the Muslims.

113

00:15:41.640 --> 00:15:51.090

Carl Racine: And now it's time to get rid of the Jews now for the last hundred years or so, a lot of Jews that are either been slaughtered are driven out by the Spanish Inquisition.

114

00:15:51.510 --> 00:16:08.400

Carl Racine: And this was really the culmination of the inquisitions efforts in Spain so 1492 is remembered in Jewish history but completely differently it's a black mark, it is a year of tragedy.

115

00:16:09.690 --> 00:16:12.060

Carl Racine: So I just want to kind of.

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00:16:13.530 --> 00:16:17.610

Carl Racine: connect us with that part of what we've been thinking about as well.

117

00:16:21.960 --> 00:16:25.020

Carole Copeland Thomas: i'm putting in the chat from brother Carl that.

118

00:16:26.400 --> 00:16:45.690

Carole Copeland Thomas: couple of TRIPS back when we went to India, we visited the oldest synagogue in Kerala within coaching coaching, which is a city in Kerala and those Jews who were kicked out of Spain, some of them ended up in Kerala where this where they started this synagogue.

119

00:16:47.130 --> 00:16:58.950

Carl Racine: yeah I mean there was a thriving Jewish population and made great contributions to Spanish culture Spanish economies Spanish intellectual life and.

120

00:17:00.390 --> 00:17:07.080

Carl Racine: Other to other countries took them in northern African countries, especially with Turkey, the the ruler of Turkey said.

121

00:17:08.100 --> 00:17:21.840

Carl Racine: You know this is just a good example of how i'm paraphrasing I don't remember the exact quote, but this is just a good example of how stupid the leadership is in Spain to get rid of these valuable people they are bet they will be a benefit to our.

122

00:17:22.710 --> 00:17:25.080

Carl Racine: Culture, and this was a Muslim ruler, and Turkey.

123

00:17:27.240 --> 00:17:33.360

Carl Racine: And, and he was right and Spain still has one of the lowest populations of Jews anywhere in the world.

124

00:17:34.590 --> 00:17:36.750

Carl Racine: Something like point 02 percent or something.

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00:17:37.800 --> 00:17:38.400

Jack Melvin: anyway.

126

00:17:38.940 --> 00:17:39.720

Jack Melvin: At one point.

127

00:17:40.410 --> 00:17:43.020

Jack Melvin: yeah and Spain is trying to make amends.

128

00:17:43.410 --> 00:17:45.660

Jack Melvin: There I don't know how well it is going, I think, if you have.

129

00:17:46.230 --> 00:17:49.350

Jack Melvin: Separate Sephardic ancestry that is.

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00:17:49.380 --> 00:17:49.710

Carl Racine: Right.

131

00:17:49.860 --> 00:17:54.420

Jack Melvin: Here, from one of these truths that was picked out, you can have citizenship.

132

00:17:54.900 --> 00:18:09.990

Jack Melvin: exam Spanish citizenship and that's good news for people in Latin America, because you know where their passports, they can't go anywhere, and so, so if they have a Spanish passport, they can go the United States, for example, yes.

133

00:18:10.860 --> 00:18:12.810

Carl Racine: yeah I think that was started in about.

134

00:18:14.430 --> 00:18:15.750

Carl Racine: by the Spanish.

135

00:18:16.320 --> 00:18:19.950

Jack Melvin: glass yeah and I also heard it's not going to well.

136

00:18:20.880 --> 00:18:24.720

Carl Racine: I don't I don't know that the Jews are being very receptive to it, the.

137

00:18:24.750 --> 00:18:36.150

Carl Racine: 1492 is really a for all the awful things that happened to juice throughout history that's one of the ones that is remembered by Jews as particularly traumatic.

138

00:18:36.750 --> 00:18:41.310

Carl Racine: I mean the Jews have been kicked out of lots of other countries by that timing and kick them out in the 1200s.

139

00:18:42.420 --> 00:18:47.640

Carl Racine: But there's something about for the 1492 solutions from Spain that really.

140

00:18:48.690 --> 00:18:57.300

Carl Racine: has stuck in them in the minds imaginations of Jewish people as being particularly bad, so I don't think.

141

00:18:58.290 --> 00:19:07.380

Carl Racine: yeah they don't think they're getting a lot of takers it means you say it may help some Latin American people, but they don't want to go to Spain, they want to come here or to go somewhere else right.

142

00:19:10.050 --> 00:19:17.310

Carl Racine: Anyway, last Sunday, we basically just we chatted about how our summers are gone and we looked a little bit.

143

00:19:17.310 --> 00:19:17.880

At.

144

00:19:19.290 --> 00:19:26.670

Carl Racine: What we've been doing for the last two years, I kind of quick overview, so we you you're not missing anything.

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00:19:28.020 --> 00:19:40.980

Carl Racine: In terms of the material that we've been covering if you weren't here last week, but today we're going to move back into the topic that we left off when we stopped in June.

146

00:19:43.080 --> 00:19:52.650

Carl Racine: And I continue to push us and push myself to reconsider Russell with various parts of the Bible that we generally avoid.

147

00:19:53.730 --> 00:20:01.200

Carl Racine: And this topic of the fear of the Lord, I think, is one of those things that you don't hear a whole lot about in church.

148

00:20:02.610 --> 00:20:14.670

Carl Racine: But I think it's an important topic that runs throughout the scriptures the the the proverbs 910 says, the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

149

00:20:15.480 --> 00:20:24.570

Carl Racine: And, essentially because I always I always had it in my head, so I looked it up for this, I was had in my head that that was at the beginning of the Book of Proverbs it says sort of how it starts off.

150

00:20:25.230 --> 00:20:37.770

Carl Racine: But proverbs one nine has a similar verse with slightly different it says, the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge and that's not quite the same thing as the beginning of wisdom.

151

00:20:40.050 --> 00:20:41.490

Carl Racine: But any event that's.

152

00:20:43.290 --> 00:20:50.310

Carl Racine: that's a I think that's a biblical perspective on this whole idea, but so, then what the question, what is the question is, what is the fear of the Lord.

153



00:20:50.730 --> 00:21:06.030

Carl Racine: And when we when we talked about it, last year we saw that the word fear has been generally interpreted to mean and even translated in modern English translations as reverence for or.

154

00:21:07.680 --> 00:21:23.010

Carl Racine: Rather than fear, but we saw looking at the biblical passage is that there's actually a strong sense of that word meaning to be afraid it's the normal word of referring to fear, both in Greek and Hebrew the Greek word is phobos from which we get phobia.

155

00:21:24.570 --> 00:21:38.370

Carl Racine: But so that kind of both ideas that sense of fear and that sense of reverence are both part of that one word and so unpacking what that means means looking at different passages.

156

00:21:38.820 --> 00:21:52.170

Carl Racine: and different aspects of what it means to fear the Lord and again last year we we when we started and sister Carol if we could get slide number three please, I have the outline of where we are.

157

00:21:57.270 --> 00:22:05.340

Carl Racine: Last year, when we started, we looked at two of the four aspects of the fear of the Lord that I wanted to talk about in this class.

158

00:22:16.290 --> 00:22:25.680

Carl Racine: Fear and punishment and fear in Holiness, and what so one of the sources of actual fear in the Bible is the threat of punishment by God.

159

00:22:28.020 --> 00:22:32.070

Carl Racine: Again, so we don't talk about a lot, but we do talk about it and.

160

00:22:33.480 --> 00:22:37.080

Carl Racine: We saw that when we're thinking about punishing children.

161

00:22:38.430 --> 00:22:43.290

Carl Racine: disciplining children that instills a sense of fear.

162

00:22:44.880 --> 00:22:49.710

Carl Racine: In the children that is intended to keep them on the right path.

163

00:22:51.180 --> 00:23:02.610

Carl Racine: But, as with children and punishment that that fear is only the beginning of wisdom it's not the goal to have people cowering in terror.

164

00:23:03.540 --> 00:23:21.120

Carl Racine: At God or or their parents, for that matter, but it is part of biblical teaching that sin carries consequences and that while yes God is a forgiving God God also punishes people from time to time and the hope with children is that they learn to do what is right for.

165

00:23:22.590 --> 00:23:33.870

Carl Racine: Other more noble purposes right for good reasons not just simply because they're scared but humans, sometimes need the threat of punishment to keep them in line.

166

00:23:34.680 --> 00:23:37.950

Carl Racine: And that's a part of the fear of the Lord in the Bible.

167

00:23:38.280 --> 00:23:51.600

Carl Racine: We don't like to talk about God that way, but the Bible does Christians when they do talk about judgment, they tend to think about it in terms of people out there non Christian people in the world, the sinners and all of that.

168

00:23:52.320 --> 00:24:01.590

Carl Racine: worldly people, but we saw when we talked about both the topic of crime and punishment, as well as when we talked about this aspect of the fear.

169

00:24:02.190 --> 00:24:14.730

Carl Racine: Fear of the Lord that the biblical message of judgment, whether it's the Old Testament prophets or Jesus himself that the biblical message of judgment is almost always directed at god's people.

170

00:24:16.080 --> 00:24:25.590

Carl Racine: At the Church, in other words it's precisely by entering

into a covenant relationship with God that makes you particularly liable to god's judgment.

171

00:24:26.310 --> 00:24:40.830

Carl Racine: And so I think the church needs to rediscover a genuine fear of the Lord in order to be able to consider more carefully how we have failed to live up to our calling how we failed to do what God wants us to do.

172

00:24:42.690 --> 00:24:53.010

Carl Racine: A second source of our fear that we talked about is probably one that again people don't think about with the relationship, the fear, with the Bible does, and that is god's Holiness.

173

00:24:53.820 --> 00:25:10.050

Carl Racine: And we saw that in ancient times holiness doesn't primarily refer to moral behavior being good, which is how we tend to use the word, but rather to the strange and dangerous otherness difference of the divine being.

174

00:25:11.430 --> 00:25:30.930

Carl Racine: The heart of the meaning of Holiness is separation being distinct from the natural the ordinary, everyday life holiness means association with the supernatural it refers to what is unique and beyond our power to control or understand.

175

00:25:32.070 --> 00:25:51.810

Carl Racine: So the opposite of holy in the Bible is not sinful but common ordinary, everyday so the Sabbath, for example, is to be kept holy as distinct from the rest of the days of the week, and all the days of the week are good, but the Sabbath is holy.

176

00:25:53.070 --> 00:26:02.460

Carl Racine: So basically holiness means belonging to God certain things are wholly or become holy like the sacrificial offerings because they're dedicated to God.

177

00:26:02.910 --> 00:26:16.500

Carl Racine: And therefore, they must be treated differently from the way we treat common ordinary, everyday objects it doesn't mean those other objects are bad somehow it just means they are not in that special relationship to God.

178

00:26:17.940 --> 00:26:18.330

That.

179

00:26:19.350 --> 00:26:33.810

Carl Racine: That we call Holiness, and if you don't treat those objects that way in the Bible, there can be drastic consequences because of who God is remember the man who touched the Ark of the Covenant and was struck dead.

180

00:26:34.320 --> 00:26:48.180

Carl Racine: god's Holiness is fearsome and it's like electricity or nuclear power it's both a blessing and a danger so approaching god's sanctuary we saw the story of native and Abba Hugh and of.

181

00:26:51.240 --> 00:26:52.890

Carl Racine: The sons of Levi, we.

182

00:26:54.600 --> 00:26:59.310

Carl Racine: God god's holy places scary it's a blessing.

183

00:27:00.780 --> 00:27:07.050

Carl Racine: it's a good thing to have there, but you need to treat it properly, and again we don't like to think of God, this way.

184

00:27:07.320 --> 00:27:21.210

Carl Racine: god's our favorite friend or buddy or sugar Daddy whose main purpose is to be our provider and make sure that everything in our life works out for our own personal benefit, so we don't really fear the Holy one of Israel.

185

00:27:22.770 --> 00:27:31.980

Carl Racine: Are there questions about those you know we talked about these last year other questions about those two aspects, before we go on to new material.

186

00:27:33.270 --> 00:27:35.640

Carole Copeland Thomas: it's interesting that you say that because we do.

187

00:27:36.690 --> 00:27:44.400

Carole Copeland Thomas: We will be looking at Jesus you think about going into the temple and turning over the tables of the money changers and.

188

00:27:45.450 --> 00:27:48.990

Carole Copeland Thomas: And just the the passages of scripture that.

189

00:27:50.340 --> 00:28:02.190

Carole Copeland Thomas: articulate the anger of God and what he does when he's angry and the people who can just get wiped out because he's angry of what we're not doing in terms of.

190

00:28:04.050 --> 00:28:15.000

Carole Copeland Thomas: worshipping him so yeah we're always looking at the good savior please save me side of God, but there is that wrath that's um that's ugly.

191

00:28:17.400 --> 00:28:18.090

Peter Barrant: And it go.

192

00:28:18.870 --> 00:28:20.010

Carl Racine: yeah go ahead, Peter.

193

00:28:20.100 --> 00:28:40.170

Peter Barrant: I think, also it brings in the complex issue about eternal life too, because when, God got angry he killed he had people killed and what does that mean in terms of eternal life I, so I think that one of the the underlying areas where the.

194

00:28:41.580 --> 00:28:52.440

Peter Barrant: Dealing with that fear is that we have to kind of come to grips with what does that mean you know what is that, who is that, who is this God, who we need to, we have to fear.

195

00:28:57.510 --> 00:28:58.830

Carl Racine: Again that's sort of.

196

00:29:01.650 --> 00:29:07.290

Carl Racine: You know default question about eternal life comes up but biblically.

197

00:29:09.300 --> 00:29:23.700

Carl Racine: The punishment that happens, most of the time happens in this life that you know, later on, for the rabbi's that didn't necessarily exclude people from the world to come.

198

00:29:24.930 --> 00:29:30.510

Carl Racine: In fact, that may have been the punishment, you know they got their punishment now and now they're okay again.

199

00:29:32.250 --> 00:29:40.650

Carl Racine: So just because you're punished in this, but we tend to not think about that we only tend to think about that punishment in terms of going to hell, you know, in the future.

200

00:29:40.950 --> 00:29:43.920

Carl Racine: As opposed to God actually punishing people right now.

201

00:29:44.310 --> 00:29:52.410

Carl Racine: And it's a tricky thing I don't claim to be a prophet or look around and say this is god's judgment on people I think that's a very dangerous thing to do.

202

00:29:52.680 --> 00:30:08.280

Carl Racine: But biblically it's not it's not a regular occurrence, but biblically from time to time God punishes people in this life now either with death or some other catastrophe, like the destruction of Jerusalem by the babylonians.

203

00:30:09.510 --> 00:30:12.900

Carole Copeland Thomas: I think sister Susan had she was going to say something okay.

204

00:30:14.040 --> 00:30:17.670

Susan Racine: Well i'm just thinking of fear of God and punishment, I think of.

205

00:30:19.140 --> 00:30:36.960

Susan Racine: Those outspoken pastors That said, you don't need to get a vaccine that Jesus has a power over coven and sort of bathing waving the magical Jesus one will protect you because you're a member of our

church and then they contracted the disease and some of them died, and I think.

206

00:30:38.280 --> 00:30:56.520

Susan Racine: That now here I am looking at the other but i'm just thinking that see that that would definitely fit I think under being fear of the Lord and punishment don't don't presume to say that God is going to save you just because you know his name.

207

00:30:57.600 --> 00:30:59.250

Susan Racine: Even the demons know that.

208

00:31:03.270 --> 00:31:28.560

Carl Racine: Both both and the other is both sin and biblically both sin and foolishness have consequences and it's not so much that God arbitrarily zaps you, but I mean there's that sort of thing in the Bible as well, but there's also simply the fact that if you accidentally or if you act foolishly.

209

00:31:29.610 --> 00:31:31.110

Carl Racine: You may have to pay a price for it.

210

00:31:31.110 --> 00:31:34.530

Carl Racine: But not but not all, but not always.

211

00:31:37.020 --> 00:31:38.250

Carl Racine: Okay, somebody else was.

212

00:31:40.200 --> 00:31:45.090

Marc Germain: It was just me I was going to say, sometimes I think in this culture.

213

00:31:47.280 --> 00:32:02.520

Marc Germain: punishment is also a it's kind of frowned upon frowned upon and I just think of like I don't know just one of my references as Haiti, where it's like you know punishment is meted out quickly from the time of your child.

214

00:32:02.970 --> 00:32:09.030

Marc Germain: You know if you disobeyed but here like oftentimes you purchase like no don't punish don't punish and it's always.

215

00:32:09.960 --> 00:32:16.560

Marc Germain: I feel like it's poor select few like you know you can be punished, but I just think it's something which.

216

00:32:17.220 --> 00:32:26.580

Marc Germain: In many parts of our culture it's like frowned upon it's like no give people a second chance and so it's like you know coming from the word and saying like no like there is a role of punishment.

217

00:32:27.870 --> 00:32:34.560

Marc Germain: Like no like that just being too strict don't be harsh and and that's just not the reality that's just not what the word tells us.

218

00:32:37.980 --> 00:32:38.310

Marc Germain: yep.

219

00:32:44.880 --> 00:32:49.980

Carl Racine: Alright well let's um let's move on to the third point in the outline here.

220

00:32:51.330 --> 00:33:03.300

Carl Racine: that's really connected to the idea of god's Holiness, and that is that a real appreciation for god's Holiness, a real sense of the fear of the Lord naturally leads to worship.

221

00:33:04.800 --> 00:33:17.460

Carl Racine: That the fear of the Lord is at the heart of worship, which again may not be an idea that we hear a lot about in the modern church, but biblically worship is an act of reverent fear and and.

222

00:33:19.830 --> 00:33:31.170

Carl Racine: He here, I want to take us on an inch a little bit of an interesting biblical journey, I want to suggest that one of the most important sources for understanding this connection between the fear of the Lord and worship.

223

00:33:31.680 --> 00:33:40.440

Carl Racine: Is the Book of job, even though I doubt that the Book of job has ever been part of a workshop on worship or subject of a praise



and worship song.

224

00:33:41.310 --> 00:33:51.540

Carl Racine: But i'm increasingly convinced of the central importance of the book of job for understanding all sorts of things for our understanding of God and god's dealings with the world.

225

00:33:53.640 --> 00:34:06.600

Carl Racine: The main focus the main sort of theme in the book of job, of course, is this challenge to the comfortable idea that God always has to make things work out well for the righteous and the suffering must be the result of sin.

226

00:34:08.340 --> 00:34:08.820

Carl Racine: Excuse me.

227

00:34:09.840 --> 00:34:18.210

Carl Racine: that's a very popular conception among some Christians, whose God is really Santa Claus someone who rewards those who've been good all year with lots of stuff.

228

00:34:18.900 --> 00:34:29.670

Carl Racine: Now idolatry you remember, is one of the main reasons for judgment in the Bible and Santa is one of america's most powerful idols I always tell people if you rearrange the letters of the name it gets Satan.

229

00:34:31.080 --> 00:34:32.040

Carl Racine: Santa is.

230

00:34:32.400 --> 00:34:33.480

Carole Copeland Thomas: Is wow.

231

00:34:33.690 --> 00:34:34.080

Carl Racine: Most.

232

00:34:34.170 --> 00:34:46.620

Carl Racine: Powerful idols in America, one that has been enshrined in the so called prosperity Gospel that's infected so much of the Church and the Book of job strongly condemns such thinking.

233

00:34:48.300 --> 00:34:57.360

Carl Racine: The other thing about the Book of Job that has fascinated me and I've talked about before, is that it gives us a radically different perspective on the creation story.

234

00:34:58.440 --> 00:35:07.530

Carl Racine: Especially a perspective that sees humans as the Center of God's creative purposes and pastors talked about this, a number of times and various sermons.

235

00:35:08.550 --> 00:35:17.520

Carl Racine: Humans are an important part of God's creation, but not everything was created for human benefit or consumption and we learn that, in the Garden of Eden.

236

00:35:18.840 --> 00:35:30.360

Carl Racine: But Job makes that point pretty clearly and it also disputes the idea that the world was created perfect and complete and that human sin somehow damaged it.

237

00:35:31.080 --> 00:35:49.800

Carl Racine: Job shows us a creation that's still contains chaos and darkness and untamed aspects that are under God's control but they're a challenge for humans so Job is really revolutionized how I read the Book of Genesis, among other things, read the creation story.

238

00:35:50.940 --> 00:35:55.230

Carl Racine: But the fear of the Lord is another central theme in the book of Job.

239

00:35:56.220 --> 00:36:15.180

Carl Racine: And Job I think helps us more than maybe anything else in the Bible to understand that complex relationship between fear being afraid and reverence for God and how that is the basis for worship, if we could see slide number four please the next slide.

240

00:36:22.020 --> 00:36:26.700

Carl Racine: Alright here's a kind of cheesy picture I got off the Internet, but it serves a purpose.

241

00:36:29.370 --> 00:36:32.040

Carl Racine: Not that not the second picture, but the one on the left.

242

00:36:33.270 --> 00:36:50.760

Carl Racine: job is introduced to us, the first chapter, the first thing we're told in verse one of Chapter one is that God a job is a man who fears God and it's repeated again in verse eight so twice in the first eight verses were told that the job is a God fearing man.

243

00:36:52.050 --> 00:37:00.900

Carl Racine: And in the context of this verse or this chapter, the primary meaning of that is that he lives a righteous life out of respect and reverence for God.

244

00:37:02.820 --> 00:37:10.080

Carl Racine: And you sort of see an artist's rendition here of Joe living this very comfortable life that's described there in the first chapter of the book.

245

00:37:11.940 --> 00:37:25.530

Carl Racine: But immediately and verse nine the writer challenges that idea with the most important question in the book does job fear God for nothing.

246

00:37:28.020 --> 00:37:43.050

Carl Racine: Job one does job fear God for nothing does job's reverence for God come, simply because God has richly blessed him his job faithful only because God is his provider.

247

00:37:44.070 --> 00:37:59.820

Carl Racine: Would he continued to be loyal to God if all of that was taken away from him and he was given a miserable life, and so the whole book serves as a test of job's reverence for and fear of the Lord.

248

00:38:01.530 --> 00:38:10.290

Carl Racine: Now, once the disasters start to fall on job, the fear of the Lord for job takes on a very different sense a very different nature.

249

00:38:10.650 --> 00:38:28.950

Carl Racine: Now he voices his dread of god's presence in his life now he fears God in the other sense of the word he's afraid he's

terrorized by the bad things God is inflicting on him, even though he is innocent and we see this this verse from job 934 and 35.

250

00:38:30.780 --> 00:38:42.660

Carl Racine: Let him take his rod away from me, let not his fear terrify me then I would speak in that fear him, but it is not so with me job is afraid now of God, because what is happening and.

251

00:38:43.020 --> 00:38:52.830

Carl Racine: it's a very different type of fear, he wishes in Chapter 14 he wishes, he could escape from God, all together, perhaps in shield and the grave which we talked about.

252

00:38:53.790 --> 00:39:03.180

Carl Racine: Last year, where he would be safe from any further trouble now note that he doesn't wish to die and go to heaven heaven is the source of his misery.

253

00:39:03.780 --> 00:39:17.580

Carl Racine: So there's little reverence and there's little patience in his angry tirades against the Lord he is now afraid of the power of God holds over his life and praise to be freed from it, God is terrifying him.

254

00:39:19.680 --> 00:39:32.790

Carl Racine: And, in the end job's original positive fear of the Lord his reverence for the Lord is restored to him, not by threatening him with more disaster.

255

00:39:33.390 --> 00:39:48.510

Carl Racine: Nor, by promising to bless him, but by this long dramatic speech that God makes in chapters 34 to 38 asking job to contemplate the bizarre and mysterious wonders of creation.

256

00:39:49.440 --> 00:40:02.040

Carl Racine: Which are beyond human power to control or understand if you could look at slide number five please so God comes in and says let's look at the creation.

257

00:40:03.630 --> 00:40:05.820

Carl Racine: Can you understand this.

258

00:40:06.840 --> 00:40:25.680

Carl Racine: job's response to the unfathomable majesty of God and god's world is a stop talking to bow and silent on reverence before what he calls things to wondrous for me to know and understand but God answers job, out of a storm, out of a whirlwind out of a dramatic.

259

00:40:26.760 --> 00:40:44.100

Carl Racine: tempest and says, who are you asked me all these questions you want some answers here's the answer number one where where you are and I laid the earth's foundations tell me if you understand who marked off its dimensions, surely you know.

260

00:40:44.610 --> 00:40:56.610

Carl Racine: Who stretch the measuring line across it or what we're its footing set or who laid its cornerstone, while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy and.

261

00:40:57.030 --> 00:41:07.530

Carl Racine: God takes job on this kind of imaginative journey throughout whole aspects of the creation that have nothing to do there's no human beings in any of god's discussion in these chapters.

262

00:41:07.860 --> 00:41:14.280

Carl Racine: He takes them out into the wilderness he shows them bizarre creatures and and this one picture I particularly like.

263

00:41:15.300 --> 00:41:25.980

Carl Racine: In chapter 38 God says of your journey to the springs of the sea or walked in the recesses of the deep have the gates of death been shown to you have you seen the gates of the shadow of death.

264

00:41:27.090 --> 00:41:34.440

Carl Racine: These are pictures of actual fish that live miles down in the ocean where it's completely dark.

265

00:41:35.220 --> 00:41:51.300

Carl Racine: And they look like scary monsters from some horror movie you are very imaginative comic joshua did a research assignment on these when he was in like fifth or sixth grade and found all these pictures of these creatures.

266

00:41:52.770 --> 00:42:00.210

Carl Racine: Their worlds that are unimaginable to us that we've only discovered in recent years, because we have the technology to go that deep.

267

00:42:00.990 --> 00:42:10.440

Carl Racine: But there are creatures living there blissfully unaware of human presence on the earth having nothing to do with humanity simply living in their own worlds.

268

00:42:10.860 --> 00:42:30.660

Carl Racine: That are bizarre and this is what God shows to to job and says you can't understand any of this so just sit down and be quiet and that's what job does so God says, look at nature for a minute now, I have to admit.

269

00:42:31.680 --> 00:42:39.270

Carl Racine: i'm not a person with a strong appreciation for nature Susan can tell you, I am a city boy nature, makes me nervous.

270

00:42:40.020 --> 00:42:53.820

Carl Racine: I get uncomfortable when I get too far away from sidewalks or Pave roads are hot showers I have no desire to risk my life scuba diving with pastor hammond or go into outer space with Jeff bezos.

271

00:42:54.600 --> 00:43:05.160

Carl Racine: And I don't really feel sorry for the people who die trying to climb mount Everest I just look at as an evolutionary improvement of the gene pool.

272

00:43:06.390 --> 00:43:21.390

Carl Racine: To me, the vast expanses of the natural world, whether it be the far reaches of distant galaxies or the unlit ocean of business or a source of fear, more than reverence and, and this has been true for humanity throughout history we've always imagined.

273

00:43:21.750 --> 00:43:31.410

Carl Racine: monstrous beings residing in the unexplored regions of the world medieval maps of distant oceans contained inscriptions here be dragons.

274

00:43:31.950 --> 00:43:40.350

Carl Racine: And, as I said, more recently, the dark ocean depths of yielded up horrific looking creatures that live in dark worlds that are unknown to us.

275

00:43:40.890 --> 00:43:54.360

Carl Racine: We also imagine strange aliens living in outer space, and we all know about that and we fear their encroachment on our civilized there's we don't want them come in here we kind of fascinated but but repelled at the same time.

276

00:43:54.780 --> 00:44:03.810

Carl Racine: And all of this represents the limits of our knowledge and of our ability to control the world our fears about what lies beyond.

277

00:44:04.500 --> 00:44:18.330

Carl Racine: And the Book of job points us to all of those aspects of the world is a way of giving us a sense of god's power and god's incomprehensible strangeness god's holy otherness.

278

00:44:20.670 --> 00:44:31.170

Carl Racine: Now I said I wasn't big on nature, but one of the most inspiring experiences of my life was visiting the grand Canyon a couple years ago.

279

00:44:32.850 --> 00:44:37.470

Carl Racine: It was an experience of both fear and fear, because there.

280

00:44:37.530 --> 00:44:38.850

Susan Racine: were no railings.

281

00:44:38.880 --> 00:44:48.840

Carl Racine: If you've been there, the first thing I notice there's no railings if you're not careful, you could fall to your death, you can walk right to the edge of the grand Canyon and plummet a mile and a half down.

282

00:44:49.530 --> 00:44:54.660

Carl Racine: And our tour guide said they lose a few people every year, usually people getting too close taking pictures.

283

00:44:56.910 --> 00:45:08.190

Carl Racine: But my primary sensation was not fear as such but wonder and amazement at the beauty and Majesty and quiet power of the Canyon.

284

00:45:08.700 --> 00:45:15.900

Carl Racine: Pictures simply cannot do it justice people told me this before I ever went and I thought oh that can't be true, but it's true.

285

00:45:16.440 --> 00:45:36.060

Carl Racine: You have to be there to get the stunning mind boggling sense of its magnificence and scope and the immense size means that you can't fully take in the whole thing you can kind of walk around it, but you never see the whole thing is literally beyond human understanding.

286

00:45:37.590 --> 00:45:40.680

Carl Racine: And that sense of awe says rabbi heschel.

287

00:45:41.760 --> 00:45:46.890

Carl Racine: That sense of awe points us to a reality beyond ourselves.

288

00:45:48.000 --> 00:45:49.410

Carl Racine: slide number six, please.

289

00:45:55.590 --> 00:46:08.340

Carl Racine: It is this overwhelming sense of the power and the beauty and the grander and the mystery of creation that heschel sees as the beginning of our awareness of God.

290

00:46:09.690 --> 00:46:25.980

Carl Racine: biblical poetry celebrates what heschel calls the sublime in nature that aspect of creation that we see, or at least sense but we're unable to express in words and theories, the stuff that goes beyond what science can tell us about nature.

291

00:46:27.930 --> 00:46:34.830

Carl Racine: The psalm say that the heavens endlessly declare god's glory, even though, paradoxically, they don't speak.



292

00:46:35.340 --> 00:46:48.930

Carl Racine: And, and the King James has a very unfortunate mistranslation of this verse this passage that misses the point entirely and it's unfortunate because it's so commonly known.

293

00:46:49.890 --> 00:47:01.410

Carl Racine: But this is a more modern translation that gets the Hebrew correctly King James adds or the heavens declare declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

294

00:47:02.190 --> 00:47:07.950

Carl Racine: Day after day, they pour forth speech night after night they reveal knowledge.

295

00:47:08.880 --> 00:47:19.860

Carl Racine: They have no speech, they use no words no sound is heard from them now, the King James adds the word were here, which is not in the text and completely changes the meaning.

296

00:47:20.520 --> 00:47:29.820

Carl Racine: They have no sweets, they use no words where their sound where where a sound is not heard from them know what the the samosas working with a paradox.

297

00:47:31.320 --> 00:47:49.200

Carl Racine: They speak, but they have no speech it's it's wordless the creation doesn't actually literally speak in human language yet their voices go out to all the earth their words to the ends of the world that creation speaks to us in a way that's different from normal humans speech.

298

00:47:50.970 --> 00:48:00.090

Carl Racine: And that's really important, they were the heavens wordlessly proclaim a reality beyond human language.

299

00:48:00.570 --> 00:48:15.600

Carl Racine: So looking up and out at god's creation is overwhelming and gives us a sense of our own insignificance, this is another song some eight, when I look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers the moon, and the stars you set in place.

300

00:48:15.930 --> 00:48:20.580

Carl Racine: What are mere mortals that you should think about them human beings that you should care for them.

301

00:48:21.120 --> 00:48:33.870

Carl Racine: In the face of nature and plenty of people sort of said this now that we know so much about the distant reaches of outer space a human beings are just a little speck in the universe, why does God care about us.

302

00:48:35.370 --> 00:48:46.530

Carl Racine: But at the same time, the Psalms tell us like we, like all of creation are fearfully and wonderfully made and again that word fear there is none, as the same word.

303

00:48:47.310 --> 00:48:56.850

Carl Racine: There is something fearful, there is something wondrous there is something awesome about humanity as part of the fearful and awesome creation.

304

00:48:57.360 --> 00:49:07.860

Carl Racine: there's something mysterious about us something more than can be put into words and for heschel heschel speaks about that are as.

305

00:49:08.580 --> 00:49:25.890

Carl Racine: As more than an emotion, he says it's a way of understanding, an act of insight into a meaning that is greater than ourselves and this takes us back to the idea of fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom this teachers, has had to think about things in new ways.

306

00:49:27.810 --> 00:49:31.800

Carl Racine: Through an act of through that that sense of, on the face of.

307

00:49:32.280 --> 00:49:43.470

Carl Racine: of creation we catch a glimpse of something beyond ourselves that transcendent reality of acts aspects of the world that are beyond our limited abilities to understand and control.

308

00:49:43.920 --> 00:49:53.730

Carl Racine: We know God, not through scientific theories or philosophical abstractions but in hassles words in moments when we are stirred beyond words.

309

00:49:54.090 --> 00:50:03.210

Carl Racine: In instance of wonder our praise fear trembling and radical amazement, and this is his great faith phrase.

310

00:50:03.570 --> 00:50:12.120

Carl Racine: Our goal, he said, should be to live life in radical amazement to get up in the morning and look at the world in a way that takes nothing for granted.

311

00:50:12.510 --> 00:50:21.960

Carl Racine: Everything is phenomenal everything is incredible never treat life casually to be spiritual is to be amazed.

312

00:50:22.740 --> 00:50:31.560

Carl Racine: And he says that radical amazement that wonder not only what we see, but at the fact that we can even see it at all that we have eyes to see.

313

00:50:31.950 --> 00:50:47.070

Carl Racine: That heschel says is the root of faith, the root of an understanding of who God is it's the root of the Reverend reverent fear of the Lord, that is the beginning of wisdom, the beginning of learning how to see the world from god's point of view.

314

00:50:48.540 --> 00:50:57.030

Carl Racine: All right, I found a lot at you there i'll pause ask for comments and questions about this idea of, on the face of nature.

315

00:50:58.320 --> 00:51:06.180

James Williams: All I can say is preach rather preach you know it's so interesting sometimes how.

316

00:51:07.050 --> 00:51:15.540

James Williams: You know, we come to this Bible study and we do have an understanding of the word of God and me, and we, a lot of us have been plagued by.

317

00:51:16.350 --> 00:51:27.090

James Williams: Some of the things that Christianity kind of has made this little curve or turn from what you know the word is actually saying, and I remember when I was.

318

00:51:28.110 --> 00:51:35.910

James Williams: When I had the virus, you know i'm laying in bed and i'm praying you know God, you know going to heal me and get me through this and all that stuff.

319

00:51:36.300 --> 00:51:43.530

James Williams: And then I had this Epiphany that will you know god's people died, too, and it could very well just be your time.

320

00:51:44.340 --> 00:51:54.270

James Williams: And so I I kind of got in panic mode because Office, my time get ready to go this you know a lot of things I could have done, I should have done, or would have done and I hadn't done I wouldn't be able to do.

321

00:51:55.140 --> 00:52:09.450

James Williams: Not kind of a panic mode and, of course, you know when when I had gotten to the hospital and it seemed like I was there for particular purpose, because my roommate last ahead, the virus, you know, I was able to.

322

00:52:10.200 --> 00:52:20.340

James Williams: Just kind of support and Minister and share a word with him and it seemed like that was my purpose of going through that stuff but you know, I have some cousins down in Texas.

323

00:52:20.910 --> 00:52:30.120

James Williams: And they a staunch but one of them is a minister and one of them is a staunch Christian I mean they believe in God and everything but they refuse to get this vaccine.

324

00:52:30.990 --> 00:52:37.590

James Williams: And it's this disconnect I think that you're describing this thing that you're talking about in in.

325

00:52:38.100 --> 00:52:50.700

James Williams: In job it's like you know well, he wasn't man of God,

and he was you know, he was doing what he needs to do he's a righteous person yet he was still going through this stuff and then, when, God kind of paints this bigger picture.

326

00:52:52.050 --> 00:53:05.340

James Williams: It really kind of puts it in this proper perspective in this thing that you're making clear, for me, you know I see that there is definitely a disconnect you know our Christian community.

327

00:53:07.980 --> 00:53:08.400

James Williams: i'm done.

328

00:53:10.260 --> 00:53:11.100

Susan Racine: I had a comment.

329

00:53:11.580 --> 00:53:11.880

For.

330

00:53:12.990 --> 00:53:13.560

Carl Racine: just that.

331

00:53:15.030 --> 00:53:20.190

Susan Racine: Those deep dark recesses of the sea that they found plastic as far down as.

332

00:53:20.190 --> 00:53:21.600

Carl Racine: 36,000 feet in the.

333

00:53:21.600 --> 00:53:22.410

Susan Racine: Mariana trench.

334

00:53:24.270 --> 00:53:29.220

Susan Racine: Even though it's foreign and it's a way far away we're still polluting it.

335

00:53:30.930 --> 00:53:31.920

Susan Racine: Just a comment.

336

00:53:34.200 --> 00:53:48.930

Peter Barrant: I have another comment to and in our way of thinking as Christians all evil come all bad things come from Satan and God is all good and but job's.

337

00:53:49.410 --> 00:54:14.190

Peter Barrant: reaction was that God was punishing him, not that this came from Satan and it is interesting, because in our view, God is all good There therefore could do no evil or no harm or whatever term you want to put in there, and so I think this adds a little bit to the.

338

00:54:15.900 --> 00:54:31.350

Peter Barrant: The question of who is God and what what does God, what does God do to end, for us, and I think that you know, in terms of his I mean it did not change his.

339

00:54:32.430 --> 00:54:37.650

Peter Barrant: belief in God, but as Carl was saying it changed his fear of God.

340

00:54:38.910 --> 00:54:46.200

Peter Barrant: And it's and that's to me adds a little bit of a twist to how we think of God.

341

00:54:48.150 --> 00:54:48.840

Carl Racine: Absolutely.

342

00:54:50.640 --> 00:54:58.770

Susan Racine: But I want to say that God allowed Satan to torment Joe he just said don't kill him.

343

00:54:59.790 --> 00:55:05.880

Susan Racine: But you want to test his faith, you can you can you can go down and and takeaways with blessings.

344

00:55:05.940 --> 00:55:10.110

James Williams: And Satan Satan wasn't a bad person at that time, he was part of the heavenly Council.

345

00:55:10.890 --> 00:55:11.250

Right.

346

00:55:12.960 --> 00:55:28.710

Carl Racine: yeah saying this, that Satan is really sort of testing god's governing the world, you know there's there's two different ways of looking at the Book of job I sort of talked about job as a test of job's fear of the Lord and that's certainly true.

347

00:55:29.760 --> 00:55:32.460

Carl Racine: Does is his job.

348

00:55:33.960 --> 00:55:38.760

Carl Racine: faithful to God just because God has given him such a comfortable life.

349

00:55:39.810 --> 00:55:47.010

Carl Racine: Would would job continue to be faithful If not, but satan's satan's question there at the beginning of job.

350

00:55:47.280 --> 00:56:05.790

Carl Racine: also has to do with with how God governs the world if God is simply giving people good stuff so that they'll love him is that really the right way to run the world so so the Book of job both challenges our understanding of humanity and of nature and of God, as well.

351

00:56:09.780 --> 00:56:16.140

Carl Racine: And you know i'll probably say this again later on, but it's important than to recognize.

352

00:56:17.220 --> 00:56:28.260

Carl Racine: One of the main I think misconceptions of reading the Book of job is everybody knows that after all of this at the end of the day, job is kind of restored to the comfortable life that he had.

353

00:56:29.220 --> 00:56:35.580

Carl Racine: and plenty of people when they read the book of job they get the main point that his suffering was undeserved.

354

00:56:36.750 --> 00:56:48.030

Carl Racine: What the ending sometimes doesn't convey to people is that his comfortable life is also undeserved he no more deserves the suffering that came upon him.

355

00:56:48.720 --> 00:56:55.350

Carl Racine: Then the the wealth and the and the, you know prosperity that comes to him.

356

00:56:57.150 --> 00:57:15.480

Carl Racine: And I think that's only if you've really worked your way through the whole book of job by the time, then you get to that ending it's much more difficult to read that ending as a reward for his faithfulness he no more deserves what he gets at the end than what he gets at the beginning.

357

00:57:16.620 --> 00:57:25.710

Carl Racine: And that then takes us away from the Santa Claus God and I keep emphasizing the Santa Claus idea because it is so contrary to scripture.

358

00:57:27.840 --> 00:57:29.430

Carl Racine: And to the God of the scripture.

359

00:57:32.460 --> 00:57:46.980

Carl Racine: But in the book of job makes that point, perhaps more clearly is not the only places which are the Book of job makes that point more clearly I think than anything else that I know of and and it is really worth wrestling.

360

00:57:48.510 --> 00:58:00.840

Carl Racine: But, but I do want to sort of emphasize this sense of the mystery of creation and maybe go to slide number seven real quick and spend a couple more minutes on this.

361

00:58:01.950 --> 00:58:04.740

Carl Racine: As as as part of what.

362

00:58:06.750 --> 00:58:11.910

Carl Racine: As part of what leads to worship it's part of what what leads to reverence and fear the Lord.

363

00:58:13.020 --> 00:58:18.240

Carl Racine: heschel says that God is the invisible mystery behind what is visible.



364

00:58:21.870 --> 00:58:34.980

Carl Racine: And the Bible makes that point repeatedly so we see the creation and the creation itself has mysteries are things that we don't understand and is awesome and beyond our ability completely grasp.

365

00:58:35.670 --> 00:58:47.250

Carl Racine: But and that points to God, but God does not create for heschel God is the sort of mystery behind creation and so you have versus like some.

366

00:58:48.540 --> 00:58:56.310

Carl Racine: That God dwells in deep darkness there's a couple and first kings 812 the clouds and darkness around him.

367

00:58:56.670 --> 00:59:14.040

Carl Racine: You know, when, God appears on Mount Sinai they don't really see him there's this cloud and there's all this lightning and thunder and everything but but God is kind of hidden by that and that is made repeatedly in various ways, I mean God appears to.

368

00:59:15.480 --> 00:59:27.600

Carl Racine: Joe out of out of a whirlwind job doesn't actually see God he just here's God God is kind of there behind this this natural phenomenon, the whirlwind the storm.

369

00:59:29.220 --> 00:59:43.110

Carl Racine: So that even when, God appears to humans, the divine reality is somehow concealed God speaks out of a burning burning Bush or, again, the storm cloud on top of Mount Sinai when the Lord appears to Isaiah.

370

00:59:44.130 --> 00:59:55.080

Carl Racine: The glorious divine Majesty shakes the walls of the temple and fills it with smoke smoke in Isaiah 6124 and always as easy as kind of underneath god's throne.

371

00:59:55.770 --> 01:00:03.150

Carl Racine: And the most bizarre kind of vision is in the first chapter of ezekiel have a celestial chariot.

372

01:00:03.900 --> 01:00:12.690

Carl Racine: That is equal has this vision that includes these fantastic fiery creatures who generate lightning and a brilliant glowing human like feature.

373

01:00:13.470 --> 01:00:28.020

Carl Racine: figure in the middle, who radiates fire and light, and this is one artists imagination of what job is describing they're in in chapter and not not Joe what is equal is describing there and Chapter one.

374

01:00:30.060 --> 01:00:37.800

Carl Racine: it's an utterly incomprehensible vision and job himself struggles to find words to describe what he's seeing.

375

01:00:38.130 --> 01:00:52.260

Carl Racine: And the more he tries to talk about it, the less able, he is to find the right words and in the end, he can only speak of the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord it's it's it's an image of an image of an image.

376

01:00:54.390 --> 01:01:14.700

Carl Racine: He can't really get his mind around it and that's, the only way that you can really think about God to think that we can keep God in a little box and have a God, who is understandable, who always does, what we think God should do and what God will do.

377

01:01:15.840 --> 01:01:20.610

Carl Racine: and especially the kind of proclamations, we hear all the time in church about who God is.

378

01:01:21.960 --> 01:01:33.450

Carl Racine: The Bible cautions us that God is a lot bigger than that God only appears to job out of this wind storm and God remains hidden.

379

01:01:34.200 --> 01:01:56.310

Carl Racine: And at that point job admits that he has no more words to say about who God is or about the wisdom of god's government in the world, God job is simply stunned by the wonder of it all and come back next week and or three weeks time actually and talk about what that means for worship.

380

01:01:58.680 --> 01:02:01.500

Carl Racine: Any final thoughts or questions that people have.

381

01:02:06.900 --> 01:02:08.070

Carole Copeland Thomas: I think we.

382

01:02:11.250 --> 01:02:13.590

Carole Copeland Thomas: Through time have.

383

01:02:17.970 --> 01:02:19.200

Carole Copeland Thomas: What is what's the right word.

384

01:02:22.680 --> 01:02:32.160

Carole Copeland Thomas: sort of neutralized the impact of God, as our societies have grown as.

385

01:02:33.180 --> 01:02:36.690

Carole Copeland Thomas: we've gotten more educated, we have all these different.

386

01:02:38.700 --> 01:02:42.600

Carole Copeland Thomas: perspectives out there, and with that has.

387

01:02:43.980 --> 01:02:53.250

Carole Copeland Thomas: almost like a softer softer gentler God has has morphed or evolved from our with our perspective, what you're doing.

388

01:02:54.390 --> 01:02:56.940

Carole Copeland Thomas: Here you're putting that edginess back into.

389

01:02:59.160 --> 01:03:01.950

Carole Copeland Thomas: You know the the realities of biblical times which.

390

01:03:02.970 --> 01:03:17.940

Carole Copeland Thomas: Were oftentimes horrific and the whole populations just wiped out and whole peoples wiped out so that's very different from the homogenized.

391

01:03:19.110 --> 01:03:23.940

Carole Copeland Thomas: White brand of God that we have now in at least in our in Western society.

392

01:03:27.390 --> 01:03:36.510

Carl Racine: yeah I mean we in the western world are living in, in the very comfortable circumstances, for the most part that job was living in compared to the rest of the world.

393

01:03:37.770 --> 01:03:38.550

Carl Racine: and

394

01:03:39.660 --> 01:03:50.520

Carl Racine: There are whole societies being wiped out and other parts of the world, and there are people suffering horrific sorts of things and sometimes we hear about that, and sometimes we don't.

395

01:03:52.350 --> 01:03:56.640

Carl Racine: And yet, somehow we claim that God is is kind of.

396

01:04:00.990 --> 01:04:05.100

Carl Racine: blanking on that you know the gods in control God has all this covered.

397

01:04:06.210 --> 01:04:12.630

Carl Racine: Well that's more than thinking about how the stock market is doing that's thinking about how.

398

01:04:13.500 --> 01:04:25.860

Carl Racine: You know, indigenous tribes in the Amazon jungle are losing their lands to people who are clear cutting the clear cutting the vegetation there, so they can raise cattle to make hamburgers for mcdonald's.

399

01:04:28.200 --> 01:04:44.370

Carl Racine: Or, I mean there's a million examples, but it was so weird god's control there and what does it mean for God to be the god, not only of our comfortable existence, but those kinds of existences are those people and the you know.

400

01:04:45.450 --> 01:04:54.870

Carl Racine: The Western, Christian answer to that often in the past was well those people are pagans sinners so they're just getting what they deserve.

401

01:04:56.820 --> 01:05:02.130

Carl Racine: But even the Bible says that's way too simplistic answer.

402

01:05:03.750 --> 01:05:04.980

Carl Racine: that's simply not true.

403

01:05:07.020 --> 01:05:13.950

Carl Racine: So yeah job complicates how we understand a whole lot of stuff, which is why I think it's so important.

404

01:05:15.060 --> 01:05:18.480

Carl Racine: But, and then the other problem with the Book of job it's long.

405

01:05:18.480 --> 01:05:24.330

Carl Racine: And it's hard it takes a lot of work we spent a whole year on it and Wednesday night Bible study.

406

01:05:25.350 --> 01:05:30.690

Carl Racine: It takes a lot of work to to kind of work through it and get what's going on and job.

407

01:05:31.830 --> 01:05:45.570

Carl Racine: Because you can't just proof text it, because if you jump into one of the chapters in job you may be quoting one of the one of job's friends and saying stuff that the Book of job is actually trying to say is wrong.

408

01:05:47.730 --> 01:05:49.770

Carl Racine: So and i've heard.

409

01:05:50.790 --> 01:06:04.230

Carl Racine: People quote those kinds of verses, and I say no, no, if you read the book of job that is a perspective that job is trying to contradict that's not the word of the Lord that's that's the word of

job's friend.

410

01:06:05.370 --> 01:06:16.770

Carl Racine: So it's very hard to kind of jump into the middle of job you really have to work your way, all the way through, and then say what's the big picture here and what does this tell us about because.

411

01:06:17.970 --> 01:06:22.980

Carl Racine: job's friends are often saying things that are exactly like what we hear people say in church.

412

01:06:23.460 --> 01:06:39.690

Carl Racine: So, then they see that they think that's right and the ending of the book of job God says no your friends are wrong, and you actually need to offer a sacrifice for their sins because they've been they have been using their understanding of, who I am and how I work in the world.

413

01:06:42.360 --> 01:06:43.890

Susan Racine: of Haiti, when I think there Joe.

414

01:06:44.940 --> 01:06:47.520

Susan Racine: Mark you might sure I have a.

415

01:06:48.270 --> 01:06:49.230

Susan Racine: Sure, and.

416

01:06:51.030 --> 01:06:59.340

Susan Racine: And there's there seems to be no good reason for them to be going through all the awful things they keep going through.

417

01:07:00.720 --> 01:07:01.260

Susan Racine: And yet.

418

01:07:02.550 --> 01:07:10.710

Susan Racine: there's still plenty of people in Haiti that love God and worship God and are some of the most faithful Christians on the planet.

419

01:07:14.010 --> 01:07:28.830

Marc Germain: yeah No thank you sister Susan yeah I think that's 100% i'm a good example and and I think similarly is um I think in the West, because there's so little understood about the history.

420

01:07:29.970 --> 01:07:36.960

Marc Germain: it's always seen as you know, you know you're a problem and therefore you're being punished because you know you.

421

01:07:37.410 --> 01:07:47.460

Marc Germain: Practice traditional religion you this, you did that but there's no sort of relationship, as you know, Carl you just talked about you know they're clear cutting trees, because.

422

01:07:47.940 --> 01:07:59.640

Marc Germain: You know what they're making hamburgers there's no relationship about the country's isolation sledding with weapons, all these things so it's always seen as like you're poor and dysfunctional because.

423

01:08:00.210 --> 01:08:06.420

Marc Germain: You know your attitude is porn dysfunctional and there are no conversations, but anything else so yeah I agree with that.

424

01:08:10.920 --> 01:08:22.320

Peter Barrant: You know, one of the things that I keep thinking about is the circumstances that were around back in the you know free Jesus days and and.

425

01:08:22.920 --> 01:08:32.220

Peter Barrant: And today, and in those days, I think it was there was just an assumption that God, there were gods and one of the things that.

426

01:08:33.090 --> 01:08:51.630

Peter Barrant: Israel constantly had to work towards is that God, was a very jealous God and didn't want them taking on all of the various gods that are around them, and today we're we're sort of dealing with, I think the God of science versus.

427

01:08:54.300 --> 01:09:01.080

Peter Barrant: The God, because if we can't see it test it do it ourselves, then it's not.

428

01:09:02.490 --> 01:09:09.570

Peter Barrant: You can't believe in it and that's sort of the the I think the view today, but by the same token.

429

01:09:11.070 --> 01:09:19.500

Peter Barrant: it's very hard for us to put the god, that is, the God of Israel into context today because.

430

01:09:20.610 --> 01:09:24.030

Peter Barrant: I think just we're living in it in a different context.

431

01:09:32.790 --> 01:09:33.240

Carl Racine: All right.

432

01:09:34.950 --> 01:09:40.050

Carl Racine: we'll move that over this week and next week and the week after and come back on.

433

01:09:41.160 --> 01:09:47.340

Carl Racine: I think it's November 7 the first Sunday in November.

434

01:09:49.950 --> 01:09:50.460

Carl Racine: I think.

435

01:09:54.030 --> 01:09:57.270

Carl Racine: To get two weeks is still October is the 31st how.

436

01:09:57.420 --> 01:09:58.410

Carole Copeland Thomas: it's Sunday.

437

01:09:58.470 --> 01:09:59.220

Susan Racine: November 7.

438

01:09:59.550 --> 01:10:01.050

Carole Copeland Thomas: November 7 yes.

439

01:10:01.350 --> 01:10:02.010



um.

440

01:10:03.990 --> 01:10:07.470

Carl Racine: And we'll we'll take up again thinking about how do we worship.

441

01:10:08.520 --> 01:10:16.740

Carl Racine: This much more strange god of the Bible than then then we perhaps like.

442

01:10:18.060 --> 01:10:20.070

Carl Racine: To think of and.

443

01:10:22.050 --> 01:10:27.690

Carl Racine: What kind of implications and that has for our lives could someone close us out in prayer please.

444

01:10:28.110 --> 01:10:44.970

Carole Copeland Thomas: We also want to wish you the very best and traveling traveling mercies as you travel brother Carl and sister Susan and sister Susan we are praying for your exam tomorrow also yes amen so i'll close us out in prayer.

445

01:10:46.020 --> 01:10:46.440

Carole Copeland Thomas: Thank you.

446

01:10:48.000 --> 01:10:55.320

Carole Copeland Thomas: Dear Lord in heaven we gather because you are we gather because we learn we gather because we love you.

447

01:10:55.890 --> 01:11:07.080

Carole Copeland Thomas: And we gather, because we need to connect with one another as we reach out to the world, thank you, Lord for new ways to look at old stories new ways to look at.

448

01:11:07.830 --> 01:11:23.220

Carole Copeland Thomas: Things that have no explanation and no answer Lord we say thank you so much for the dedication and the input and the time and the meticulous nature that brother car we're seeing goes into.

449

01:11:24.300 --> 01:11:39.810

Carole Copeland Thomas: Sharing his wisdom and his knowledge and and teaching this class and now moving in innovative ways we're we're actually going to have a Jewish person participating with our class on November 7 what a blessing.

450

01:11:40.260 --> 01:11:41.190

Carole Copeland Thomas: Along with the.

451

01:11:41.220 --> 01:11:50.550

Carole Copeland Thomas: possibilities and the options of having Bethel and temple Israel to have a field trip to one of the habitat humanity sites on a Sunday.

452

01:11:51.120 --> 01:12:02.610

Carole Copeland Thomas: All of these are made possible because of you, we say thank you, Lord for the outcome positive outcome of pandemics were brother James has been healed from coven.

453

01:12:03.270 --> 01:12:11.850

Carole Copeland Thomas: We say thank you, Lord for all the members of Bethel and beyond, who had been healed from this dreaded disease we say thank you so much for.

454

01:12:12.450 --> 01:12:23.250

Carole Copeland Thomas: brother jack who has traveled successfully to and from crazy Florida, and God backup was is now vaccinated and can move much more comfortably in Honduras.

455

01:12:24.000 --> 01:12:35.760

Carole Copeland Thomas: We pray for the people of Honduras, as they now are getting vaccinated we say thank you, Lord for those vaccines that are being distributed across the world that we rarely talk about.

456

01:12:36.330 --> 01:12:46.290

Carole Copeland Thomas: We say thank you so much for all that you continue to do for each and every one of us, thank you, Lord for sister Susan and that exam that she will ace tomorrow.

457

01:12:47.010 --> 01:12:57.000

Carole Copeland Thomas: We know that she has the knowledge, he has the

experience and all that will be demonstrated with her test results tomorrow, and thank you, Lord for this two week.

458

01:12:57.630 --> 01:13:06.510

Carole Copeland Thomas: time period of reflection, as we started this class back and as we come back together on November 7 continuing our discussion.

459

01:13:07.110 --> 01:13:19.770

Carole Copeland Thomas: about the fear of the Lord and and there of all of the the matters there of this, we asked for each and every one of us attending this class and those who will join us on the Seventh, we pray.

460

01:13:20.640 --> 01:13:29.250

Carole Copeland Thomas: and for your power and wisdom that continues on and motivates and pushes us forward this we ask in your precious name amen.

461

01:13:29.970 --> 01:13:31.170

James Williams: Jesus name amen.

462

01:13:31.710 --> 01:13:33.780

Carole Copeland Thomas: amen amen.

463

01:13:33.810 --> 01:13:36.360

Carole Copeland Thomas: amen bless everybody take care.

464

01:13:36.660 --> 01:13:37.080

James Williams: All right.

465

01:13:38.970 --> 01:13:39.600

Carole Copeland Thomas: bye bye.

466

01:13:41.700 --> 01:13:42.660

Susan Racine: God bless you.