

WEBVTT

1

00:00:00.810 --> 00:00:16.289

Carl Racine: Meet together virtually and see one another's faces and hear one another's voices as we gather to look at your word and and we open our hearts to you this morning to hear what you would have for for us in the name of Jesus. Amen.

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00:00:20.820 --> 00:00:21.270

Carl Racine: So,

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00:00:23.640 --> 00:00:35.820

Carl Racine: Just to refresh you what we're doing. I'm, I'm giving a kind of extended summary of the high point what I consider the high points, the main points.

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00:00:36.390 --> 00:00:46.080

Carl Racine: That we talked about in our class last year as a way of introducing what we're going to be talking about for this year and refreshing people's memory.

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00:00:47.190 --> 00:00:53.010

Carl Racine: And and last week we saw an example of how

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00:00:54.660 --> 00:01:04.290

Carl Racine: You know what I've been saying all along is that in leaving out the story of Israel and basically the Christian anti Judaism that left the story of Israel out of the way. It tells it story.

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00:01:05.010 --> 00:01:07.980

Carl Racine: We've left out some really important things

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00:01:08.670 --> 00:01:22.080

Carl Racine: That we need as that are foundational for the New Testament, and we saw that by leaving out the the the radical political implications of Passover from the cross, which is connected explicitly in the New Testament with Passover.

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00:01:22.650 --> 00:01:26.580

Carl Racine: By leaving the Passover story out of our understanding of

the cross.

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00:01:27.510 --> 00:01:43.980

Carl Racine: we've ignored a very important aspect of the cross we ignored. It's revolutionary political nature, we've ignored the fact that the cross is establishment of God's kingdom on earth and a call to all people to faithfulness to Jesus lordship, as opposed to the Lordship of Caesar.

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00:01:46.740 --> 00:01:49.530

Carl Racine: And then it's really important that we get this story right

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00:01:50.760 --> 00:02:00.330

Carl Racine: The story of the Passover, the story of the Exodus is is the central story in the Torah and the first five books of the Bible that are foundational for everything else.

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00:02:02.940 --> 00:02:17.430

Carl Racine: And that central story that is still continues to be celebrated every year Passover by Jews and that we kind of allude to when we celebrate the Lord's Supper and during Holy Week.

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00:02:18.930 --> 00:02:26.970

Carl Racine: That story comes in the book of Exodus, but the book of Genesis really functions as a kind of

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00:02:28.320 --> 00:02:31.320

Carl Racine: Prologue or an opening act.

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00:02:33.090 --> 00:02:38.340

Carl Racine: To that revolutionary story that is at the heart of the Torah and

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00:02:39.570 --> 00:02:51.510

Carl Racine: The trouble with the book of Genesis, or at least for the creation story is that we've heard so many times we've read it. We've, we've heard sermons about it. We've seen movies about or whatever.

18

00:02:53.280 --> 00:03:05.730

Carl Racine: That it's hard for us to read it with fresh eyes, and I

want to introduce a way of rethinking the creation story that comes first from the reading that I did in the study that I did.

19

00:03:06.840 --> 00:03:09.030

Carl Racine: Seven or eight years ago in the Book of Job.

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00:03:11.550 --> 00:03:15.480

Carl Racine: But that also then was reinforced by my reading in the rabbi's

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00:03:17.130 --> 00:03:24.150

Carl Racine: We've been given an interpretation of the creation story that fits with the Christian system.

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00:03:25.290 --> 00:03:36.450

Carl Racine: God created a perfect world humans screwed up and the whole of creation became corrupted. And so one day, God's going to have to come and remake the world.

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00:03:37.110 --> 00:03:46.830

Carl Racine: But in the meantime, God sent Jesus to provide forgiveness for our sins so that we can go to heaven when we die. That's the sort of big story we tell

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00:03:47.730 --> 00:03:57.960

Carl Racine: And I've convinced I become convinced over the last 15 years that virtually nothing in this understanding of the Bible is adequate best it contains some hell half truths.

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00:03:59.040 --> 00:04:03.660

Carl Racine: And that we need to look at the at the Bible again to see what we're leaving out

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00:04:05.730 --> 00:04:11.550

Carl Racine: The Rabbi's and the Book of Job, which is a whole other piece that

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00:04:13.050 --> 00:04:16.620

Carl Racine: I spent a long time on seven or eight years ago and Bible study.

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00:04:17.760 --> 00:04:28.710

Carl Racine: They give us a different perspective on the creation story creation, the rabbi say was an act, an immense act of faith on God's part

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00:04:30.150 --> 00:04:41.880

Carl Racine: To create the world God stepped back and made room for us for human beings for creatures who have the free will to go their own way and ignore their Creator.

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00:04:43.500 --> 00:04:53.370

Carl Racine: God didn't have to do that God had to make room for us and sister, Carol. We're back with the slides for the introduction. Can we see slide number nine, please.

31

00:04:53.430 --> 00:05:02.280

Carole Copeland Thomas: Sure. Thank you for clarifying that I wasn't quite sure where we were going to begin and you can tell me if this is correct or not.

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00:05:03.720 --> 00:05:04.710

Carole Copeland Thomas: The slide deck.

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00:05:06.300 --> 00:05:07.440

Carl Racine: Yes, exactly.

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00:05:07.530 --> 00:05:08.310

Carole Copeland Thomas: Okay, great.

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00:05:08.670 --> 00:05:08.940

Okay.

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00:05:10.170 --> 00:05:11.610

Carl Racine: That's that's the right one.

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00:05:12.300 --> 00:05:18.810

Carole Copeland Thomas: Oh, and if anybody sees any crazy things. Please tell me again, let me hold on one second. I'm monitoring my

38

00:05:19.680 --> 00:05:33.900

Carole Copeland Thomas: It should be all right. I'm monitoring to make sure that there's nothing crazy going on. So if you see any crayons or spooky things or drain the swamp slides or anything like that, please let me know.

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00:05:36.240 --> 00:05:37.350

Carl Racine: It looks good to me here.

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00:05:37.650 --> 00:05:38.250

Okay.

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00:05:40.740 --> 00:05:42.450

Carole Copeland Thomas: Hang on just a second, let me um

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00:05:44.220 --> 00:05:45.450

Carole Copeland Thomas: Let me go back.

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00:05:50.910 --> 00:05:52.770

Carole Copeland Thomas: Let me to this.

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00:05:53.310 --> 00:05:54.600

Carole Copeland Thomas: This, don't worry.

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00:05:55.590 --> 00:05:56.730

Heese Bach: I won't mess anything up.

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00:05:57.120 --> 00:05:59.310

Carole Copeland Thomas: Bad news you know what

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00:06:01.170 --> 00:06:02.310

Carole Copeland Thomas: What's your name today.

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00:06:05.010 --> 00:06:05.940

Susan Racine: He's back.

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00:06:12.180 --> 00:06:13.860

Carole Copeland Thomas: culprit is back.

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00:06:17.190 --> 00:06:18.780

Carole Copeland Thomas: ALL RIGHT, BROTHER Carl will stop our

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00:06:18.780 --> 00:06:20.160

Susan Racine: Foolish justice.

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00:06:23.430 --> 00:06:37.260

Carl Racine: So in in creating the world. God, God had to make room for for human beings and gave human beings freewill that enable them to go their own way and and ignore God turn their back on God.

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00:06:37.740 --> 00:06:52.020

Carl Racine: And Rabbi sex says that this tells us something profoundly important about God that Torah at its heart teaches the daring idea that more than we have faith in God. God has faith in us.

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00:06:55.110 --> 00:06:55.740

Carl Racine: And

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00:06:57.120 --> 00:07:06.570

Carl Racine: I want to elaborate on that here for a few minutes. God's faith in us in in the Bible is demonstrated in a number of ways.

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00:07:08.430 --> 00:07:09.270

Carl Racine: First

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00:07:10.530 --> 00:07:18.420

Carl Racine: And and probably most importantly, humans are created in God's image Torah teaches

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00:07:19.830 --> 00:07:29.910

Carl Racine: Took a risky move of creating humans in his own image and delegating to them something of his creative authority over the world.

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00:07:30.840 --> 00:07:38.430

Carl Racine: Genesis 126 to 28 it's not simply that humans are created in the image of God that there's something

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00:07:38.940 --> 00:07:52.380

Carl Racine: godlike about human beings but but God gives them authority. God gives him dominion over the whole rest of creation. He delegates. His own authority to humanity.

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00:07:52.920 --> 00:07:57.930

Carl Racine: And familiarity with this idea. I think keeps us from seeing how astonishing. It is

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00:07:58.260 --> 00:08:13.050

Carl Racine: That God would do such a thing that God would take this risk of placing all that responsibility on human beings. And again, we remember. Remember the phrase that I've associated with Rabbi sacks radical responsibility. That's what the Bible teaches.

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00:08:14.520 --> 00:08:33.480

Carl Racine: And Rabbi sacks says that this monumental assertion that God created humans in God's image is a revolutionary idea and he means that not just in a spiritual or religious sense but a political one. It's a revolutionary idea that has changed humanity.

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00:08:34.800 --> 00:08:55.260

Carl Racine: Now the idea that a human being could bear the divine image was nothing new in and of itself. That's precisely how Mesopotamian kings and Egyptian pharaohs and Roman emperors rule regarded they were as we saw last week divine or son of sons of God, that was the basis for their authority.

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00:08:56.580 --> 00:09:17.430

Carl Racine: But Torah is astonishing declaration, the Bible's astonishing declaration and Chapter one, is that all humans, regardless of gender, ethnicity culture or creed share in this divine image and authority, not just the ruling elite.

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00:09:18.990 --> 00:09:36.390

Carl Racine: And in its historical context this affirmation was a political one, not just a religious concept it challenged the authority of the kings and would eventually become the unspoken foundation for the Declaration of Independence, the idea

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00:09:37.830 --> 00:09:40.770

Carl Racine: That the Thomas Jefferson says in the Declaration of Independence, that

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00:09:42.510 --> 00:09:55.950

Carl Racine: We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men all people are created equal. They were anything but self evident nobody in history and said that that's based on Genesis one.

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00:09:57.150 --> 00:10:12.930

Carl Racine: And so ultimately the Declaration of Independence and the revolt against the unquestioned authority of the king was based on the idea that it wasn't just kings who had their authority by divine right but all humans.

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00:10:14.490 --> 00:10:17.760

Carl Racine: We also saw last year and we were talking about this idea of

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00:10:17.910 --> 00:10:29.820

Carl Racine: Of humans created in the image of God that it's the objective basis right argued that it's the objective basis for the command to love your neighbor and to love the stranger to love the foreigner, who's living among you.

72

00:10:30.600 --> 00:10:55.170

Carl Racine: And that you can even learn to love your enemy because they too bear God's image to mistreat other humans is to mistreat God himself because we are all created in that same image but paradoxically, because it's the image of a God who has no image of the image list. God, we're all different.

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00:10:56.400 --> 00:11:14.610

Carl Racine: So to see God's image only and those who resemble us is idolatry. If you can't see God and others who are different from you, you will not be able to love them, or God because God has the kind of diversity that we see in

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00:11:15.840 --> 00:11:16.770

Carl Racine: Humanity.

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00:11:18.990 --> 00:11:42.120

Carl Racine: So the first sort of way in which God places his faith in humanity is by creating us in his image and giving us dominion over creation sharing his dominion over creation with us. And that's the second point that the rabbi's talk about both ancient and modern



rabbis

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00:11:43.620 --> 00:11:58.590

Carl Racine: That God's decision to share his dominion over creation with humans to give us responsibility for the world. In other words, means that we are in the words of the rabbi's partners with God in the creation

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00:12:00.360 --> 00:12:11.760

Carl Racine: The Eden story suggests and Rabbi sacks words that creation is God's Unfinished Symphony and he has entrusted its completion to us.

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00:12:13.950 --> 00:12:20.280

Carl Racine: Creation is God's Unfinished Symphony and he has entrusted its completion to us.

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00:12:21.930 --> 00:12:26.160

Carl Racine: Now again, that's not how Christians usually view the creation story.

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00:12:28.290 --> 00:12:41.400

Carl Racine: We feel like everything was perfect. Everything was done, but that ignores what the text actually says, and we need. And this is where my study in the Book of Job really turned a light on in my head.

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00:12:43.020 --> 00:12:58.800

Carl Racine: We need to look at the story in Genesis and you've got this all in your heads. I'm not going to tell you anything you don't already know. And notice something that's usually overlooked and that is that Eden. The Garden of Eden is not the world.

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00:13:01.110 --> 00:13:23.820

Carl Racine: The Garden of Eden is not the whole world. The Garden of Eden is only a very small part of a much larger less orderly world that humans are eventually supposed to cultivate and care for and fill by producing a family and rule that we're building God's name.

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00:13:24.870 --> 00:13:31.470

Carl Racine: Eden if, again, just go back to Genesis two. If you don't believe me, even as just one

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00:13:32.520 --> 00:13:46.530

Carl Racine: Little orderly part of a world that is pretty chaotic and outside of Eden is this rough difficult world that Adam and Eve get thrown into when they disobey God

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00:13:48.900 --> 00:14:02.460

Carl Racine: So the world itself wasn't all the Garden of Eden and humans are given responsibility, essentially, to make the world in the image of the Garden of Eden.

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00:14:04.170 --> 00:14:09.780

Carl Racine: So what does that mean, then when the Bible says that creation God's creation saw that it was good.

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00:14:11.190 --> 00:14:16.050

Carl Racine: It means, then the creation functions, the way God designed it to

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00:14:17.190 --> 00:14:27.390

Carl Racine: But it's like a newborn baby. It's immature. It's in need of care. So that can grow into maturity.

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00:14:27.840 --> 00:14:49.470

Carl Racine: And so God set humans in the garden to continue his creative work of helping creation grow into the full maturity that God wanted for it. And again, this is an immense act of faith on God's part faith in humanity faith in his own human beings that he's created in his image.

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00:14:51.090 --> 00:14:59.130

Carl Racine: So God did not make the world simply as an idyllic place where we relax and enjoy ourselves.

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00:14:59.730 --> 00:15:18.060

Carl Racine: God created for humans, a challenging environment where we grow to maturity by doing God's work and accepting responsibility for our actions in the midst of circumstances that are not always clear or easy even Eden, has it serpents.

92

00:15:19.560 --> 00:15:25.830

Carl Racine: So the famous statement here from Rabbi tar phone in the

Piercy I vote in them in the early mission.

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00:15:27.810 --> 00:15:40.320

Carl Racine: Is really important. It is not for you to complete the work, but neither are you free to desist from it. God's given us work to do. We won't finish that work.

94

00:15:40.860 --> 00:15:59.040

Carl Racine: But we have a responsibility to try to do what we can. As part of that work because God continues to work with us in a partnership partnership and the ongoing process of bringing creation into what God wants it to be.

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00:16:00.180 --> 00:16:09.330

Carl Racine: Our response to God's faith in us is our faith in him and that means accepting this radical responsibility for the world.

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00:16:10.710 --> 00:16:23.160

Carl Racine: Jesus himself does not stay on earth to do everything himself. Jesus was only here for a few years and chose this fairly ragtag group of followers

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00:16:23.760 --> 00:16:36.690

Carl Racine: To whom he delegates his responsibility for the world for the spread of God's word for the spread of God's love for building God's kingdom in the midst of pagan empires.

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00:16:37.710 --> 00:16:40.440

Carl Racine: Jesus delegates his authority.

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00:16:41.730 --> 00:17:00.180

Carl Racine: To his disciples and Christian theology that simply sit back and wait for God to act to wave a magic wand and solve all our problems or worse to rapturous out of this world altogether or unbiblical Torah tells us that God has given us work to do.

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00:17:01.470 --> 00:17:04.830

Carl Racine: And in doing so, he's placed his faith in us.

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00:17:06.360 --> 00:17:13.050

Carl Racine: Now I'm going to pause for a minute and and let people

respond to that as questions make comments.

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00:17:15.330 --> 00:17:31.980

Carol Hovey: Oh, I have a question. Okay. And that is, um, the Garden of Eden was orderly and you see a small segment of the world. So how do we know that the garden was the world.

103

00:17:33.510 --> 00:17:40.710

Carol Hovey: And the disorderly world resulted from the disobedience of Adam and Eve.

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00:17:44.790 --> 00:17:47.790

Carl Racine: I'm not sure I understand the question.

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00:17:49.050 --> 00:17:54.000

Carol Hovey: I'm my notes. Now, I could have heard you incorrectly, but um

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00:17:55.050 --> 00:17:59.880

Carol Hovey: I heard you say that the Garden of Eden was a small segment of the world.

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00:18:00.300 --> 00:18:00.780

Correct.

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00:18:02.430 --> 00:18:05.100

Carol Hovey: But, and another

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00:18:06.960 --> 00:18:09.900

Carol Hovey: Part of a comment. It seemed like the

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00:18:11.820 --> 00:18:21.990

Carol Hovey: The disorderly world resulted from the fall of Adam and Eve. So, had they not fallen what the

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00:18:23.760 --> 00:18:25.050

Carol Hovey: Garden of Eden been

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00:18:27.240 --> 00:18:32.160

Carol Hovey: The perfect ordinary world. I guess the best way I'm having somewhat of a conflict.

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00:18:35.490 --> 00:18:38.460

Carl Racine: The Garden of Eden is only one small part of the whole world.

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00:18:39.540 --> 00:18:44.970

Carl Racine: When Adam Eve are kicked out of the garden. The garden remains the garden hasn't changed.

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00:18:46.650 --> 00:18:48.840

Carl Racine: But the rest of the world outside the garden.

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00:18:50.040 --> 00:18:53.220

Carl Racine: Is not a particularly welcoming place.

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00:18:54.540 --> 00:18:58.860

Carl Racine: And there's no indication the Scripture that that was a result of what we call the fall

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00:19:00.510 --> 00:19:11.910

Carl Racine: Indication. And in fact, and this is where reading the book of Job helps. And I mean we it would take us a couple of weeks to go through all of that. But the book of Job makes it pretty clear that that disorder.

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00:19:13.830 --> 00:19:16.230

Carl Racine: That deck chaos that that

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00:19:17.430 --> 00:19:27.900

Carl Racine: The darkness and all of that. That's part of creation part of the original creation remains in the end was was part of creation was not part of some sort of fall

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00:19:30.660 --> 00:19:39.600

Carl Racine: That humans were put on Earth precisely deal with that the way God dealt with that when he began the creation

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00:19:40.860 --> 00:19:53.550

Carl Racine: So the idea that somehow the outside world was corrupted, but even remain uncorrupted by the fall is a theological notion that I'm saying simply doesn't make sense to me.

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00:19:55.740 --> 00:19:57.780

Carl Racine: But it's not something that's actually taught in Scripture.

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00:19:59.760 --> 00:20:01.710

Jack Melvin: Can I, can I just ask the question, are you

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00:20:03.120 --> 00:20:13.830

Jack Melvin: Replacing a theology of incompleteness immaturity with the theology of the fall, or are you working those two concepts together.

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00:20:14.820 --> 00:20:33.780

Jack Melvin: I mean, let me just respond to some of the things you said you said that it was not the complete world and I presume you're referring to, before rivers, it's located before four RIVERS RIVERS and and presumably outside those rivers is the rest of the world.

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00:20:35.160 --> 00:20:40.920

Jack Melvin: But that could just be a poetic device, you know, you could be using place to to kind of

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00:20:42.330 --> 00:20:50.100

Jack Melvin: Explain sort of the state of humanity at the time in the relationship to God. And then when you're outside that

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00:20:52.530 --> 00:21:06.720

Jack Melvin: You know that the rest of the world, right, is another state. It is a state that's far from God. That's how the, the Christian theologians who, you know, push the concept of the fall, which would explain it.

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00:21:08.280 --> 00:21:14.520

Jack Melvin: So anyway, the question. The question is this, what is the relation. Is there a fall, or is it just incompleteness

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00:21:17.910 --> 00:21:18.450

Carl Racine: Um,

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00:21:20.040 --> 00:21:23.550

Carl Racine: I personally I'm less than less an amateur, the idea of

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00:21:26.400 --> 00:21:37.050

Carl Racine: And more and more that humans had an opportunity to grow and mature and become faithful to God and instead they chose to go their own way.

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00:21:38.640 --> 00:21:39.720

Carl Racine: And that

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00:21:40.950 --> 00:21:52.470

Carl Racine: The Book of Genesis, in particular, doesn't doesn't depict one moment as this sort of grand fall but a series of what we would call falls a series of acts of disobedience.

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00:21:53.970 --> 00:21:54.480

Carl Racine: That

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00:21:56.190 --> 00:21:59.880

Carl Racine: Lead at one point to God, deciding to actually destroy his creation.

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00:22:02.850 --> 00:22:14.040

Carl Racine: So I, I think it's more helpful to see human beings as simply making bad choices and not maturing the way God wanted them to

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00:22:15.840 --> 00:22:17.040

Jack Melvin: Let me just yes

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00:22:18.480 --> 00:22:29.370

Jack Melvin: There's one point that the whole problem of evil. If you just say that, you know, it's sort of incomplete humans are not working with God. I mean,

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00:22:30.000 --> 00:22:43.950

Jack Melvin: My philosophy professor used to summarize the problem of evil is, you know, why are there tapeworms. You know why I mean

there's so much that happens outside of just our own responsibility. I mean, there's sufficient injustice.

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00:22:44.970 --> 00:22:53.760

Jack Melvin: And lack of working with God among humans, but also the world itself. I mean, even this pandemic, who created these little viruses. I mean,

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00:22:53.970 --> 00:22:54.780

Jack Melvin: I sort of like

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00:22:55.560 --> 00:23:07.920

Jack Melvin: Hades. Well, that's a question. That's a good question. I mean, they're like no ideas and in in Afghanistan, you know, these little microscopic things just waiting, you know, to destroy life.

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00:23:08.430 --> 00:23:24.720

Jack Melvin: Who created that. I mean, that's the problem of evil, and that's the problem. If you have to deal with that. You can't just say, Well, you know, which is sort of image. The Garden of Garden of Eden is just sort of humanity's immaturity and then not working with God.

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00:23:26.250 --> 00:23:30.720

Jack Melvin: There's a lot a lot of brokenness to that's that's beyond this is humans.

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00:23:33.240 --> 00:23:33.450

Carl Racine: Right.

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00:23:33.990 --> 00:23:43.530

Carl Racine: Hello, Jessica, because Adam and Eve ate the fruit that all of a sudden tape worms and viruses appeared in creation doesn't have any biblical foundation whatsoever.

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00:23:43.980 --> 00:23:45.660

Jack Melvin: Well, they were kicked out of the garden.

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00:23:46.770 --> 00:23:47.160

Susan Racine: Right.

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00:23:47.460 --> 00:23:51.030

Carl Racine: Right, but that stuff was all that stuff was already out there.

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00:23:51.360 --> 00:23:58.080

Jack Melvin: Outside. Wow, my reading a poetic state of being a relationship. So, I mean,

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00:23:59.790 --> 00:24:06.150

Carl Racine: I mean, the whole thing is poetic, but I, for instance, those four rivers. I see those rivers is a poetic image.

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00:24:06.690 --> 00:24:16.890

Carl Racine: Of what Eden and what Adam and Eve were supposed to do, which is provide life flowing out of the garden provide the gardens kind of life for the rest of the world and they failed to do that.

155

00:24:18.630 --> 00:24:30.450

Carl Racine: But I think the Book of Job when you turn to the book of Job and you see these horrific creatures like Leviathan and behemoth who God proudly displays as part of his own creation.

156

00:24:31.560 --> 00:24:42.450

Carl Racine: That they are these monstrous creatures that God says are part of creation that you have no way of understanding and I see those again as poetic images of things like viruses and tapeworms.

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00:24:43.020 --> 00:24:49.140

Carl Racine: But in the Book of Job, they're not a result of some sort of fall God holds them up as part of his wisdom in creation.

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00:24:51.060 --> 00:24:57.300

Carl Racine: So that radically overturns the way most Christians, read the book of Genesis, in my mind, and it's coming from the Book of Job.

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00:24:57.780 --> 00:25:03.960

Carole Copeland Thomas: So why, so why create monsters and disruptive creatures.

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00:25:05.460 --> 00:25:09.720

Carole Copeland Thomas: By God, so I'm struggling

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00:25:11.580 --> 00:25:15.960

Carl Racine: In the book of God, you can understand this because you're not me.

162

00:25:16.230 --> 00:25:19.590

James Williams: Yeah, sometimes. Sometimes I think that we

163

00:25:20.700 --> 00:25:21.090

James Williams: We

164

00:25:22.500 --> 00:25:30.120

James Williams: You know, God gives us what we can handle. No, I during the early parts of Scripture. You know, they thought the world was flat.

165

00:25:30.960 --> 00:25:38.940

James Williams: In the Bible says nothing about the world being around it. Not that it needs to say that, but we kind of figure that out after the fact, we were able to

166

00:25:39.330 --> 00:25:48.630

James Williams: To embrace that whole concept. So the whole picture will never know we'll never see. But in terms of what we're supposed to be doing.

167

00:25:49.020 --> 00:25:59.040

James Williams: I mean that description that called is just giving us. I believe about the Garden of Eden and what our marching orders are and how this thing was planned out

168

00:25:59.550 --> 00:26:09.750

James Williams: Makes good sense and it kind of helps me to move along this path, but to try and understand all this stuff. There's no way I mean our little peanut minds just couldn't handle

169

00:26:15.090 --> 00:26:18.510

Susan Racine: The logical extension of the

170

00:26:19.710 --> 00:26:27.510

Susan Racine: Fall and Jesus there's I get all these emails from someone in our family who is

171

00:26:28.140 --> 00:26:39.120

Susan Racine: horrified by even evangelical right wing conservative Christians, but he quotes one pastor, saying, Well, God created the word world to be disposable. So, climate change is not really an issue because

172

00:26:39.570 --> 00:26:50.760

Susan Racine: God was gonna destroy this world and Jesus is going to come back. Anyway, it's not. And it and that was the logical extension of this thinking that

173

00:26:52.410 --> 00:26:56.190

Susan Racine: We said Jesus came to save us from our sins and

174

00:26:57.810 --> 00:27:10.620

Susan Racine: And Jesus is going to come back and redeem those who believe in him and and and this massively gorgeous intricate complex creation has no value in God's eyes.

175

00:27:11.760 --> 00:27:12.600

Susan Racine: I mean,

176

00:27:12.750 --> 00:27:14.040

Bill Hughes: You know, it's a

177

00:27:14.370 --> 00:27:18.210

Susan Racine: caricature, but it, it could be this crazy

178

00:27:20.310 --> 00:27:21.060

Bill Hughes: Well, you know,

179

00:27:23.070 --> 00:27:28.230

Bill Hughes: Susan. I know I appreciate what you said and James, because I think there's

180

00:27:30.570 --> 00:27:39.000

Bill Hughes: There's so many places where we really need to reset on

because we have been digesting

181

00:27:40.050 --> 00:27:43.530

Bill Hughes: Thousands of years of pre cooked.

182

00:27:44.820 --> 00:27:45.750

Philosophy

183

00:27:46.770 --> 00:27:52.890

Bill Hughes: That's baked in cake around the actual truth of the Word of God and the

184

00:27:54.000 --> 00:28:00.480

Bill Hughes: things of God is trying to convey over 10s of thousands of years. The we know of history in the Bible.

185

00:28:01.650 --> 00:28:04.920

Bill Hughes: And the two things that I take away one

186

00:28:06.450 --> 00:28:18.030

Bill Hughes: Is that, you know, I don't see anything fallen in creation, other than us when it comes to what the Bible talks about the fall

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00:28:19.050 --> 00:28:21.660

Bill Hughes: I don't see you know bees.

188

00:28:23.340 --> 00:28:24.420

Bill Hughes: Ecosystem.

189

00:28:26.130 --> 00:28:37.080

Bill Hughes: Anything else, other behaving any other way than a natural way. And the way we know that as because meteorologists we can predict the weather.

190

00:28:39.180 --> 00:28:48.150

Bill Hughes: Something that's chaotic is the weather we can project to a high degree of accuracy, because the universe. We're experiencing as well or

191

00:28:49.260 --> 00:29:02.610

Bill Hughes: Just as a simple example. Um, and I think that, you know, I was reading something this morning. Something popped up. I don't know where, which led me to a Christian site talking about

192

00:29:03.990 --> 00:29:05.730

Bill Hughes: How God wants us to see

193

00:29:06.660 --> 00:29:17.580

Bill Hughes: Politics in our faith and I was just, I was really grateful because I'm thinking, I don't trust what I'm about to what what they're asking me to click on them. I don't trust.

194

00:29:18.780 --> 00:29:19.890

Bill Hughes: And I, and I have to

195

00:29:21.150 --> 00:29:29.310

Bill Hughes: I have to look very suspicious. What I'm about to read and that itself grieves me because I thought I was being manipulated.

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00:29:30.630 --> 00:29:33.030

Bill Hughes: But I downloaded it anyway. And I read through it.

197

00:29:34.530 --> 00:29:38.910

Bill Hughes: And the first parts were just kind of, you know,

198

00:29:42.540 --> 00:29:45.720

Bill Hughes: You know bubble gum and, you know, whatever.

199

00:29:46.920 --> 00:30:05.640

Bill Hughes: Ordinary stuff, nothing, nothing really cutting and then I started looking at just two or three leaps of logic that were in this writing and all of a sudden you're way off base. All of a sudden, you don't really need to engage your own thought mine.

200

00:30:06.780 --> 00:30:10.650

Bill Hughes: Understand that really what you should be doing is supporting

201

00:30:12.810 --> 00:30:17.550

Bill Hughes: pro life stances in the voting and you can tell

202

00:30:18.990 --> 00:30:25.740

Bill Hughes: When Christians leadership and it was just, it was a stunning in one or two sentences, a stunning

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00:30:27.030 --> 00:30:33.480

Bill Hughes: Failure to maintain any intellectual integrity, given what they were talking about.

204

00:30:34.710 --> 00:30:45.390

Bill Hughes: So I think that to me and said, you know, this class, to me, is so important because there's so much we just did.

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00:30:47.550 --> 00:31:00.180

Bill Hughes: We, you know, we really need to just rethink the core of what we believe. I think is right there. The Bible's words haven't changed the basic stories we've been given haven't changed but so many times we rush

206

00:31:00.960 --> 00:31:06.480

Bill Hughes: To judgment, thinking that we understand and the point, I'll just leave on this that really struck me

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00:31:07.590 --> 00:31:16.800

Bill Hughes: Was what you talked about in terms of the diversity of humanity. We're all God's image and yet we none of us look alike. Therefore,

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00:31:18.120 --> 00:31:19.440

Bill Hughes: If we try to

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00:31:21.150 --> 00:31:31.170

Bill Hughes: Embrace only what we understand and only what looks like us, that's a form of idolatry idolizing the things that my idolizing my own understanding.

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00:31:32.190 --> 00:31:37.800

Bill Hughes: As opposed to humbling myself trusting the Lord and letting him reveal things

211

00:31:41.190 --> 00:31:41.700

I tried

212

00:31:42.810 --> 00:31:43.860

Peter Barrant: I wanted to interject.

213

00:31:43.860 --> 00:31:49.500

Peter Barrant: Another thought and, you know, in terms of pestilence and all that other stuff.

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00:31:50.520 --> 00:31:51.060

Peter Barrant: That

215

00:31:52.260 --> 00:32:02.280

Peter Barrant: One of the things that science has done has given us more intricate understanding of the world around us. And if we even take pestilence.

216

00:32:03.420 --> 00:32:12.510

Peter Barrant: The organisms that cause those things are part of an ecosystem. And, you know, we

217

00:32:13.710 --> 00:32:22.200

Peter Barrant: To say that that therefore, they were, are they were created for man's evil sounds a little middle

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00:32:26.040 --> 00:32:35.970

Peter Barrant: Too fast style that we have to understand the ecosystem, a little bit better, to understand some of the things that happen in the world.

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00:32:36.330 --> 00:32:50.520

Peter Barrant: I can't say that, you know, I could explain everything. But even for example the lines that people were, you were eating people, they are part of an ecosystem and and humans were not their main goal we we happen to be

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00:32:52.140 --> 00:32:53.190

Peter Barrant: Part of that's

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00:32:55.800 --> 00:33:16.080

Peter Barrant: Part of the, the, the, the group of things that they they could destroy so i'm not i'm not sure that you have to explain why pestilence and monsters exist, necessarily, because you just don't, we don't know all

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00:33:17.250 --> 00:33:23.640

Jack Melvin: The reason we have to explain. We don't explain it in the abstract, but when it happens to us at existential moment.

223

00:33:24.030 --> 00:33:32.730

Jack Melvin: Which way, you know, in the hospital with tubes inside of us. Then we asked why why other viruses like this, or the world and

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00:33:33.900 --> 00:33:44.040

Jack Melvin: Some other stuff. We can see like bacteria. Bacteria make us sick but bacteria is also do a lot of other work you know they decompose elements around them. We use it to you know to

225

00:33:45.960 --> 00:34:01.350

Jack Melvin: Decompose you know our waste from from our houses but viruses, maybe Susan can help us with this. Is there any pass it. If we use for Myron. So is it totally evil, just to kill us. Is it here just to kill us.

226

00:34:01.500 --> 00:34:02.580

Jack Melvin: Well, Mr.

227

00:34:02.880 --> 00:34:10.140

Peter Barrant: BARBER says don't just infect us viruses are part of a bigger ecosystem themselves well.

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00:34:10.620 --> 00:34:13.620

Jack Melvin: Yeah, but that killed it. Stop is to kill

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00:34:14.250 --> 00:34:17.820

Peter Barrant: Know, not necessarily so.

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00:34:19.110 --> 00:34:20.430



Peter Barrant: Viruses versus

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00:34:20.850 --> 00:34:33.270

Peter Barrant: Just like other organisms. Their job is to replicate themselves and sometimes in replicating themselves they it causes death, Rob. I mean, so for example the cold virus doesn't cause death.

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00:34:34.470 --> 00:34:34.740

Jack Melvin: In

233

00:34:34.860 --> 00:34:40.170

Peter Barrant: General. So again, my thought is that

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00:34:41.220 --> 00:34:53.760

Peter Barrant: We can try and explain all all of the things that happened to us, but I don't think we're ever going to get there because our understanding of where things fit together.

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00:34:54.420 --> 00:35:05.400

Peter Barrant: Is limited and as as we study more. I mean in the sense of science learns more we find various uses for things that we thought were all bad.

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00:35:05.940 --> 00:35:24.720

Peter Barrant: And so I i mean it's, it, it is helpful to give somebody some constellation. If you have an explanation, but I am not sure that, and this is, I think this is where I agree with Bill and the other conversations that we have

237

00:35:25.890 --> 00:35:39.480

Peter Barrant: inherited a certain amount of philosophy that has come down through centuries and some of which we have accepted as fact when in truth, they are no more than

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00:35:40.020 --> 00:35:51.900

Peter Barrant: Propositions put forth by someone and have been argued and enough people have agreed with that it becomes sort of, you know, part of our, our theology and I am

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00:35:52.830 --> 00:36:03.030

Peter Barrant: I'm taken to one of the things that Carl had brought up

is that difference between our style of of religion and Jewish style of religion in that

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00:36:03.840 --> 00:36:17.040

Peter Barrant: We don't. We feel like we have to come up with one explanation for something that and therefore it is that is that the way to understand that versus having that dialogue.

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00:36:17.700 --> 00:36:26.460

Peter Barrant: Back and forth between well I think this and I think that and I'm posing questions that that interrogate that very idea.

242

00:36:27.630 --> 00:36:31.950

Jack Melvin: Yes, well i i agree that, well, this is the good thing about this class, Carl.

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00:36:33.270 --> 00:36:37.050

Jack Melvin: You know, putting out his radical and wrong ideas that

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00:36:40.350 --> 00:36:43.440

Jack Melvin: Actually, I'm not saying that I actually agree with Carl

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00:36:44.880 --> 00:36:50.250

Jack Melvin: That the work that I think it's really important sort of that that presentation of

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00:36:51.270 --> 00:36:56.100

Jack Melvin: The world being created, but incomplete and things need we need to work together.

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00:36:56.820 --> 00:37:12.990

Jack Melvin: Towards an end, you know, I mean, obviously, but growing as human beings, even in our alienated way as we you know we were intelligent, for one thing, that's what most of the philosophers distinguish us from the animals is we're rational beings and sometimes we are

248

00:37:16.380 --> 00:37:24.720

Jack Melvin: Add you know we are creative, look at, look at the things around us, we, we built all the things we understand. So we're really working.

249

00:37:25.050 --> 00:37:34.740

Jack Melvin: With God, and I, you know, I think, you know, several the points made before, maybe, you know, we will understand viruses better and use them to our purpose, but I also think

250

00:37:35.220 --> 00:37:41.220

Jack Melvin: That that there is a fall, and the whole in this is putting Paul St. Paul.

251

00:37:42.060 --> 00:37:55.560

Jack Melvin: All of the Creation is groaning to be set free. And in my ministry. I see people. I mean, I see people dying horrible death like that is even death. Part of it. I mean, the whole New Testament. You know, you know,

252

00:37:56.370 --> 00:38:16.050

Jack Melvin: Ties death with sin. And I'm not sure how that works. But I think, I think that you have to try. You have to keep the fall, but you keep the incompleteness I would put those two together because I mean the fall is necessary to explain a lot of lot of brokenness in this world.

253

00:38:17.520 --> 00:38:24.840

Carol Hovey: I have another question and maybe one of you a whole more learned in this area than I can help, but

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00:38:26.130 --> 00:38:35.130

Carol Hovey: In Genesis. It never uses, at least my interpretation. It doesn't use the word world. It says heaven and earth.

255

00:38:36.150 --> 00:38:39.570

Carol Hovey: So I guess I'm still struggling with

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00:38:41.790 --> 00:38:45.990

Carol Hovey: Whether it's what is world and what is it, what is Earth.

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00:38:47.760 --> 00:38:52.830

Carol Hovey: Because I keep thinking that maybe the Garden of Eden might have been Earth at that time.

258

00:38:56.940 --> 00:38:59.070

Carl Racine: Um, two things.

259

00:39:00.900 --> 00:39:08.130

Carl Racine: before responding sister Carol just a correction of brother Jack's use of Paul in Romans eight

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00:39:09.510 --> 00:39:17.520

Carl Racine: He does not say the Creation is groaning to be set free creation is groaning like a woman in childbirth wanting to give birth.

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00:39:19.710 --> 00:39:29.940

Carl Racine: And that's a different image from just groaning in prison wanting to be set free. I mean, there's a sort of liberation and getting giving birth, but it's a

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00:39:30.510 --> 00:39:32.820

Jack Melvin: Grounding is grounding. And that's, that's

263

00:39:33.330 --> 00:39:35.760

Jack Melvin: It's being set free is what you

264

00:39:37.830 --> 00:39:41.550

Carl Racine: But it's that image of childbirth and I like that.

265

00:39:44.040 --> 00:39:46.290

Carl Racine: That it that it was sure

266

00:39:47.880 --> 00:40:00.600

Carl Racine: A statement about the existence of evil, where the serpent comes from. Nobody knows. But to to answer sister Carol again Genesis

267

00:40:01.740 --> 00:40:05.160

Carl Racine: Is is usually misquoted. But if you actually look

268

00:40:06.390 --> 00:40:20.550

Carl Racine: In Genesis one, one. It doesn't say heaven and earth. It's not talking about heaven in the sense of where God lives and this

is sometimes confusing to us. It says, In the beginning God created the heavens plural and the earth.

269

00:40:22.050 --> 00:40:44.400

Carl Racine: When Genesis talks about the heavens and the earth it's talking about the sky and the ground, which together come is a sort of poetic way of talking about the whole of what we call the universe or the cosmos, the world in its largest sense the heavens.

270

00:40:45.660 --> 00:40:49.590

Carl Racine: In Genesis one, or where, what are the domain of the

271

00:40:50.640 --> 00:40:59.010

Carl Racine: heavenly bodies like the sun, the moon, and the stars and they're also the domain of the flying animals. The birds.

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00:41:00.330 --> 00:41:06.090

Carl Racine: It's not talking about what we call heaven. It's talking about the sky.

273

00:41:07.530 --> 00:41:08.580

Carl Racine: All right. Does that clear.

274

00:41:09.210 --> 00:41:11.340

Carl Racine: Okay, so when

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00:41:11.400 --> 00:41:12.060

Carol Hovey: It's helping

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00:41:12.300 --> 00:41:23.550

Carl Racine: When Genesis talks when when I say the world. Yeah, it doesn't use the word world. I don't know if there's a Hebrew word for world they do use the word that we translate as Earth.

277

00:41:26.940 --> 00:41:29.580

Carl Racine: I guess there's old law, which sometimes means the world.

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00:41:32.220 --> 00:41:34.920

Carl Racine: But they tend to use the word Earth.

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00:41:37.050 --> 00:41:49.050

Carl Racine: Which can also be translated as land and can either mean land in the sense of the land of Israel, or it can mean the whole earth. The whole globe.

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00:41:50.340 --> 00:41:55.260

Carl Racine: To talk about you know what we think of as Planet Earth.

281

00:41:56.430 --> 00:41:57.930

Carl Racine: So that's the whole world.

282

00:41:59.220 --> 00:42:09.450

Carl Racine: And after creating that world God creates a garden as part of the earth in Genesis to

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00:42:10.980 --> 00:42:11.670

Carl Racine: Hold on here.

284

00:42:21.930 --> 00:42:37.110

Carl Racine: It. Notice that that the man that Adam is created, first in Genesis two out of the dirt and his name reflects that word, Adam, the word for dirt is had a ma

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00:42:38.040 --> 00:42:47.460

Carl Racine: Adam is a dirt creature on Earth creature. And then God plants a garden in the east. The Garden of Eden in verse eight of chapter two.

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00:42:47.940 --> 00:42:52.470

Carl Racine: Is in a very specific place. It's one small part of the rest of the earth.

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00:42:53.250 --> 00:43:07.050

Carl Racine: It's not the whole thing. And when Adam and Eve leave the garden. They find there's people out there that are already hostile to them and they find a world that is more difficult to to work, the ground is harder. They're going to have to sweat and struggle more

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00:43:09.480 --> 00:43:19.050

Carl Racine: That I would submit is not the result of the fall. That's

simply how the creation was so whatever you want to say about the fall and then humans continue to sin.

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00:43:22.290 --> 00:43:27.150

Carl Racine: Anyway, that gets us a little off point when I'm the main points. I'm trying to

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00:43:27.900 --> 00:43:48.060

Carl Racine: Make here, have to do with the fact that in in the Bible in the first chapters of the Bible. God and trust humanity with great responsibilities that God puts his faith in us and gives us dominion over creation creative work to do this that I think is undeniable that's not

291

00:43:49.560 --> 00:43:55.920

Carl Racine: A Jewish versus Christian interpretation. That's simply clear on in the text and and

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00:43:57.630 --> 00:44:10.200

Carl Racine: But sometimes it gets overlooked because of the way that we want to read the text and I'm just underlining these points because they're they're important and the final sort of heart of that.

293

00:44:10.710 --> 00:44:23.580

Carl Racine: Is is the covenant that we we are made partners with God and creation, according to the rabbi's we have a partnership with God and the Bible calls that a covenant

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00:44:24.180 --> 00:44:30.180

Carl Racine: And we talked about the covenant last year, it's, it's a mutual agreement and reciprocal relationship.

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00:44:30.750 --> 00:44:42.330

Carl Racine: Between God and humans were both covenant parties, both parties of the Covenant have responsibilities when God calls Abraham. He says, I'm going to do this for you and you're going to do this for me.

296

00:44:44.100 --> 00:44:50.760

Carl Racine: And the goal of that the stated goal and you see the references there in Genesis is repeated.

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00:44:52.170 --> 00:45:03.810

Carl Racine: The stated goal for God entering into covenant partnership with with specific human beings is to bring blessing to the whole world. And again, that's something that

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00:45:05.220 --> 00:45:12.360

Carl Racine: Needs to be underlined. Again, it's there clearly in the text, God choosing of Abraham.

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00:45:13.620 --> 00:45:15.990

Carl Racine: Was not just to bless Abraham

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00:45:17.490 --> 00:45:26.520

Carl Racine: God blesses Abraham as a way of beginning the process for Abraham to be a blessing to the whole world.

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00:45:27.120 --> 00:45:38.310

Carl Racine: And this teaches us a sort of fundamental lesson about blessings that if we simply hold on to God's blessings for ourselves, they become curses. They are not blessings. The only way God's blood

302

00:45:39.540 --> 00:45:41.850

Carl Racine: Does if we share those blessings with others.

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00:45:43.080 --> 00:45:48.990

Carl Racine: And that's Abraham's purpose. That's the purpose of God's covenant with with all human beings.

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00:45:49.530 --> 00:45:55.350

Carl Racine: God doesn't do everything on his own. God gives humans responsibility.

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00:45:55.650 --> 00:46:07.140

Carl Racine: And God enters into the covenant with Abraham and it says this real clearly there in Genesis, knowing that that that Abraham's family is going to mess up and there's going to be all of this time of trouble and exile and everything else.

306

00:46:07.530 --> 00:46:14.400

Carl Racine: God knows that things aren't going to necessarily go the



way God wants them to do. And yet God takes that risk.

307

00:46:15.840 --> 00:46:18.420

Carl Racine: Of giving responsibility of giving

308

00:46:21.270 --> 00:46:32.940

Carl Racine: work to do to humans, of giving humans, the responsibility to help bring God's blessing to the whole world. And like I said, Jesus does the same thing with his disciples

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00:46:34.320 --> 00:46:36.960

Carl Racine: So as covenant partners with God.

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00:46:39.060 --> 00:46:48.300

Carl Racine: A covenant we see in the scriptures includes both law and love justice and compassion.

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00:46:50.370 --> 00:46:51.000

Carl Racine: And

312

00:46:55.320 --> 00:46:56.490

Carl Racine: We sometimes

313

00:46:58.980 --> 00:47:02.160

Carl Racine: Think of those things as opposites.

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00:47:03.360 --> 00:47:15.240

Carl Racine: Law versus love justice versus compassion, but in fact biblical covenants are always about grace and love and always about works and law.

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00:47:16.950 --> 00:47:29.280

Carl Racine: God chooses Abraham and chooses Israel graciously out of love. But then he also gives them responsibility gives them things to do. It gives them commandments.

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00:47:30.480 --> 00:47:32.580

Carl Racine: So a lot of free gospel

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00:47:33.690 --> 00:47:38.670

Carl Racine: Which is sort of the heart of Protestant theology alive free Gospel is not good news.

318

00:47:39.690 --> 00:47:53.220

Carl Racine: The Torah of Messiah, the law of Christ that collation six two, and James to eight other places, talk about in the New Testament is the foundation for the new covenant community that Jesus called the kingdom of God.

319

00:47:54.810 --> 00:48:10.440

Carl Racine: Israel is redeemed by God's grace, but it's only when they receive the law Mount Sinai that Israel becomes a people becomes a nation becomes a community. It's the covenant with its laws not love alone that creates a community and sustains

320

00:48:12.780 --> 00:48:34.620

Carl Racine: So God delegates his dominion over creation to us, trusting us to learn what it means to bear God's image in the world to show God to the world to be his representatives to be his partners to bring blessing to the world. And even when humans go their own way. God doesn't give up on them.

321

00:48:36.690 --> 00:48:38.940

Carl Racine: Adam and Eve sin. Yes.

322

00:48:41.160 --> 00:48:42.810

Carl Racine: God doesn't strike them dead.

323

00:48:44.340 --> 00:48:52.320

Carl Racine: He punished zombie kicks them out of the garden. But he also close them. He looks out for their necessities.

324

00:48:52.920 --> 00:49:06.060

Carl Racine: Cain kills Abel. And again, God doesn't strike him dead. He actually issues, his mark of protection on him. He sends them out into the world and tells him his life's going to be more difficult. Now, just like his parents.

325

00:49:07.080 --> 00:49:09.750

Carl Racine: But he also puts his mark of protection on him.

326

00:49:11.490 --> 00:49:31.470

Carl Racine: So God doesn't give up on humanity, even when humanity goes their own way. God in the Torah is like a parent who holds back and allows his children room to grow and learn and make mistakes so that they might become responsible and mature.

327

00:49:32.940 --> 00:49:49.320

Carl Racine: So more than we have faith in God Torah teaches that God has faith in us and has entrusted us with responsibilities that only we can fulfill and that I submit is the grand revolutionary story, the Torah tells

328

00:49:52.470 --> 00:49:53.970

Carl Racine: That makes some sense.

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00:49:55.950 --> 00:49:56.940

Carl Racine: We have work to do.

330

00:49:58.410 --> 00:49:59.130

Carole Copeland Thomas: It.

331

00:50:00.240 --> 00:50:00.690

Carole Copeland Thomas: I'm

332

00:50:01.200 --> 00:50:05.940

Carole Copeland Thomas: Just thinking I'm just thinking about this greater world and

333

00:50:07.050 --> 00:50:15.090

Carole Copeland Thomas: Using my little pea brain as a human to understand the grand scheme that God has on top.

334

00:50:15.120 --> 00:50:15.540

Wyatt Jackson: Of

335

00:50:16.020 --> 00:50:26.610

Carole Copeland Thomas: The God of second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth chances since I continue to mess up and get other chances to redeem myself.

336

00:50:27.900 --> 00:50:30.270

Carole Copeland Thomas: It's it's it's puzzling and

337

00:50:34.800 --> 00:50:35.640

Carole Copeland Thomas: Your, your

338

00:50:37.170 --> 00:50:39.630

Carole Copeland Thomas: What's, what's right where you are relieved

339

00:50:41.850 --> 00:50:56.550

Carole Copeland Thomas: And it also I'm curious just about the whole concept of choice is that God gives us free thinking and choice to decide what we're going to do and what choices. We're going to make

340

00:50:57.600 --> 00:51:01.020

Carole Copeland Thomas: And sometimes they're right. And sometimes they're terrible

341

00:51:04.500 --> 00:51:05.190

Carole Copeland Thomas: Yeah, let's

342

00:51:05.400 --> 00:51:16.800

Carl Racine: Leave and and you know, again, the sort of image of a child going to maturity, I think is helpful and thinking about how God treats us when you have children, and they're really little.

343

00:51:17.430 --> 00:51:30.090

Carl Racine: You pretty much do everything for them. But the only way they're going to become mature adults is for you to stop doing everything for them and start letting them do stuff for themselves even knowing that sometimes they're going to really mess that up.

344

00:51:31.080 --> 00:51:42.810

Carl Racine: And one of the painful parts of being a parent. Some times is having to watch your children as much as you've worn them. Don't do this if you do this, this is going to get you into serious trouble.

345

00:51:44.700 --> 00:51:47.430

Carl Racine: And they do and they get into trouble.

346

00:51:49.050 --> 00:51:49.650

Carl Racine: And

347

00:51:52.140 --> 00:51:56.910

Carl Racine: Going to just say I told you so. You're such a moron. Why didn't you listen to me.

348

00:51:57.930 --> 00:52:08.580

Carl Racine: Or are you going to receive them back with loving arms as God does to us and say, well, I'm hoping this will be a chance for growth for you.

349

00:52:11.550 --> 00:52:12.300

Susan Racine: I do think

350

00:52:13.350 --> 00:52:20.370

Susan Racine: That community that we've been given. And the word that we've been given help us to be less

351

00:52:20.850 --> 00:52:21.390

Inclined

352

00:52:24.390 --> 00:52:25.050

Carl Racine: Absolutely.

353

00:52:31.470 --> 00:52:36.510

Carl Racine: Well in connects with this. Let me move on quickly to my next point. And I'll just make one

354

00:52:37.890 --> 00:52:42.780

Carl Racine: One more quick point that that I think helps fill this out a little bit.

355

00:52:45.210 --> 00:52:52.440

Carl Racine: It's and it's really sort of the third main idea that I wanted to develop here in this introduction. Before we move on.

356

00:52:54.330 --> 00:53:00.990

Carl Racine: But it's it's intimately connected to what we've been saying, and that is the whole idea of doing something for God.

357

00:53:05.310 --> 00:53:14.160

Carl Racine: On the one hand, you sort of thing. How can we do something for God. When the other hand, the Bible seems to indicate clearly that God has given us stuff to do, including doing things for God.

358

00:53:15.000 --> 00:53:25.620

Carl Racine: over a third of the book of Exodus, the last third of the book of Exodus is devoted to these detailed instructions about the construction of the tabernacle.

359

00:53:26.310 --> 00:53:41.670

Carl Racine: And we usually skip over them because they're sort of boring right there repetitious it's long but precisely that that length and repetition in the passage signals that for the author of Exodus is really important. This is stuff that he wanted to preserve

360

00:53:43.020 --> 00:53:49.110

Carl Racine: Rabbi sex is something important about this. Up until then, up until the building of the tabernacle.

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00:53:49.500 --> 00:54:00.990

Carl Racine: God has been doing things for Israel, like I said, like a like a parent for a small child God liberated them called them liberated them miraculously feed fed them.

362

00:54:01.980 --> 00:54:14.280

Carl Racine: gave them the lot Sinai. Well, Israel has spent most of its time complaining wishing they were back in Egypt and finally resorting to idolatry with the golden calf.

363

00:54:15.600 --> 00:54:19.110

Carl Racine: All of God's powerful dramatic blessings on Israel.

364

00:54:20.160 --> 00:54:22.230

Carl Racine: Have had very little effect on the people

365

00:54:23.820 --> 00:54:36.720

Carl Racine: But in the narrative of the construction of the tabernacle for the first time we hear that Israel follows God's instructions faithfully Israel actually does what God asked them to do. They do it faithfully and they do it willingly

366

00:54:37.230 --> 00:54:44.760

Carl Racine: And the length of that narrative and the repetition dramatizes their faithfulness. If we could see slide number 10 please

367

00:54:47.280 --> 00:54:59.820

Carl Racine: And Rabbi sex argues that the sort of subtext of this whole story in Exodus, is that we are changed, not by what we receive but by what we do.

368

00:55:01.050 --> 00:55:10.530

Carl Racine: If you want to create a people with a positive sense of collective identity, get them to build something together get them to do a group project.

369

00:55:11.160 --> 00:55:25.560

Carl Racine: And what transform the Israelites for a time anyway was not what God did for them. But what they did for God doing something for God changes us more effectively.

370

00:55:26.160 --> 00:55:38.730

Carl Racine: Than what God does for us it's precisely when God entrusts humans with responsibility that we have the opportunity to grow into the people. God wants us to be

371

00:55:39.360 --> 00:55:53.970

Carl Racine: And this is why I mentioned a couple of weeks ago I saw this talk from Cornell West, where he said all around the country in churches, people are playing praying for God to bless them and what they really should be praying for is that they would be a blessing.

372

00:55:56.040 --> 00:56:04.080

Carl Racine: Praying not for God to do something for them but praying for God to allow them to do something for someone else in the name of God.

373

00:56:06.540 --> 00:56:27.330

Carl Racine: So God says, have them make a sanctuary for me and I will

dwell among them. The whole point of making the sanctuary was to make a home for God. God in Genesis makes a home for the humans, but in Exodus humans go to work, making a home for God in their midst.

374

00:56:29.790 --> 00:56:33.690

Carl Racine: And Rabbi Sharon so bell. The modern

375

00:56:34.740 --> 00:56:36.960

Carl Racine: Woman rabbi is

376

00:56:38.310 --> 00:56:47.430

Carl Racine: Unusual and the rabbi's we've been looking at that she looks at this verse, very closely this verse in Exodus 25 eight and says,

377

00:56:48.810 --> 00:57:00.150

Carl Racine: God promises to dwell among them, or in their midst and. And yet, in many, many places in the Bible. It declares that no earthly structure can contain the infinite God

378

00:57:01.380 --> 00:57:10.290

Carl Racine: So what does it mean that God will dwell among them. It means not so much that God is dwelling in the sanctuary is such in the physical building

379

00:57:11.010 --> 00:57:19.560

Carl Racine: But rather, God is dwelling among the people in the midst of the community that built the tabernacle. So it's not the physical space itself.

380

00:57:20.100 --> 00:57:34.800

Carl Racine: That contains the Holy One, but the community. The community becomes the home for God. The community comes together to work on this project for God. And in doing so, they make space for God in their lives.

381

00:57:35.430 --> 00:57:43.290

Carl Racine: The community itself, then, is the sacred space and building that community is essential work for God's people.

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00:57:45.000 --> 00:57:55.500



Carl Racine: And if you look at those final 15 chapters of the book of Exodus and this the whole long thing about the construction of the tabernacle. See that right in the middle.

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00:57:56.100 --> 00:58:14.670

Carl Racine: Of these instructions and details about building the tabernacle, the author has inserted the story of the golden calf. The idolatry where humans forget God and go their own way and chaos results and those stories are connected

384

00:58:16.530 --> 00:58:26.760

Carl Racine: When they make the CAF in Exodus 32 the people bring all their gold jewelry to Aaron and they melted down and make this golden calf.

385

00:58:28.290 --> 00:58:43.440

Carl Racine: In chapter 35 three chapters later to build the tabernacle, the people bring all their valuables to Moses and out of all of that wealth. It enables the financing and construction of the tabernacle.

386

00:58:44.640 --> 00:58:52.860

Carl Racine: So the story makes it very clear that our wealth, our possessions, our resources can either create idols for our own pleasure.

387

00:58:54.060 --> 00:59:08.490

Carl Racine: Or create a sanctuary for God's presence among us. So one of the things that we do for God is make a home for God in our midst make room for God and make the world a place where God can live

388

00:59:10.290 --> 00:59:15.420

Carl Racine: And that's a responsibility, that's ongoing for for God's people.

389

00:59:17.940 --> 00:59:20.670

Carl Racine: And I think I'm going to stop there. Anybody have some

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00:59:21.870 --> 00:59:22.980

Carl Racine: Final comments.

391

00:59:29.490 --> 00:59:35.610

Carole Copeland Thomas: Lots to think about, but at least you ended up with this corporate church.

392

00:59:38.850 --> 00:59:49.560

Carole Copeland Thomas: Community that we're a part of and that our blessings are not just for us. They are for other people, and that second Corinthians talks about that.

393

00:59:49.920 --> 00:59:59.370

Carole Copeland Thomas: That's what I lean on all the time that the passion, the compassion that is given to me. I can't keep I have to give it to someone else in their time of troubles.

394

01:00:02.340 --> 01:00:13.260

Carole Copeland Thomas: So just that corporate spirit is, I think, is the central theme that that you're covering today. But, you know, just, we're just trying to figure out how is the virus. Good.

395

01:00:17.730 --> 01:00:20.790

Carole Copeland Thomas: Particularly a Corona virus well

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01:00:20.820 --> 01:00:28.050

Peter Barrant: You know the truth of it is, they're actually using viruses for some of the newer medical treatments.

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01:00:28.890 --> 01:00:41.580

Peter Barrant: In order to get some of your medical treatments into people. They're using viruses. So my, my thing is, I don't know. I couldn't even pretend to know all that viruses do

398

01:00:42.480 --> 01:00:55.260

Peter Barrant: And what we often see as pestilence is may have some other means society. I think bees. I mean you disturb a beast Ness and you get stung.

399

01:00:55.920 --> 01:01:14.100

Peter Barrant: By bees also make honey bees also help pollinate the plants and and so it seems to me that for its it all our that our interpretation of why things are there is very dependent on our understanding of what they do.

400

01:01:14.430 --> 01:01:15.120

Carole Copeland Thomas: And our

401

01:01:15.240 --> 01:01:16.890

Peter Barrant: Our understanding is very incomplete.

402

01:01:17.160 --> 01:01:24.630

Carole Copeland Thomas: Yeah so. So what is the praying mantis who hangs around my front porch. What is his purpose, except

403

01:01:26.280 --> 01:01:31.530

Carole Copeland Thomas: Look at me. Sweep my porch and water my plants and shake his Angular head around.

404

01:01:33.660 --> 01:01:33.990

Heese Bach: Its

405

01:01:34.530 --> 01:01:35.970

Heese Bach: Its food for some

406

01:01:36.270 --> 01:01:37.560

Carole Copeland Thomas: Other creature, but I must be a

407

01:01:37.560 --> 01:01:38.160

Carole Copeland Thomas: Big one

408

01:01:38.580 --> 01:01:39.780

Those things are big.

409

01:01:40.860 --> 01:01:43.830

Susan Racine: Other bugs. Other pesky insects. Oh.

410

01:01:44.730 --> 01:01:45.360

Heese Bach: So, but, but I

411

01:01:45.900 --> 01:01:47.670

Carole Copeland Thomas: Want you to pray. Yes.

412

01:01:49.980 --> 01:01:57.120

Heese Bach: I think you know what brother Peter says is absolutely correct. And if you connect that with the idea that

413

01:01:58.740 --> 01:02:15.660

Heese Bach: And not taking care of our environment over building disrupting ecosystems. We come in contact with stuff that wasn't supposed to come in contact with humans. And that is when things go wrong. So if we understood

414

01:02:16.800 --> 01:02:25.440

Heese Bach: Better what viruses, because those things actually pretty intelligent or just the the pandemic has given me the opportunity to go learn more about

415

01:02:26.550 --> 01:02:32.430

Heese Bach: How they work and how that replicates and they really do work like machines.

416

01:02:33.630 --> 01:02:42.870

Heese Bach: Like really intelligent machines. Right. And so we just don't understand what they're there for. But more importantly, if we didn't disturb the bats.

417

01:02:44.760 --> 01:02:45.480

Heese Bach: If we didn't

418

01:02:47.940 --> 01:02:49.770

Heese Bach: Know if we didn't break down.

419

01:02:50.970 --> 01:02:57.600

Heese Bach: All of their habitats and cause things to spread farther than they're supposed to spread, then we wouldn't have some of these problems.

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01:02:59.430 --> 01:03:09.360

James Williams: I appreciate how you taking it from a global perspective too much more individual perspective that we all need to to deal with, you know, from

421

01:03:10.110 --> 01:03:23.010

James Williams: Our Inception as children, it's always me my mind, you know, we're always focusing on ourselves and we're gonna get. We're going to get you know and and the perspective that you've shared with us.

422

01:03:24.390 --> 01:03:32.310

James Williams: Minister call is that you need to be thinking about what we can do for somebody, as opposed to the me my my kind of

423

01:03:32.670 --> 01:03:38.370

James Williams: Concept. You know, sometimes we wrestle with these global kind of things like well why does the virus exist.

424

01:03:39.030 --> 01:03:50.550

James Williams: It'll probably be lifetimes. Before we know all the details about that. But just as Peter was sharing, there is some value in that. I mean, there's some use that we can do with that and and we see that

425

01:03:51.180 --> 01:04:06.690

James Williams: Throughout our, our, our social structure that as time goes on some of these things that were a curse or blessing. We're seeing how we can you know a better purpose for it and utilizing that purpose. So I really appreciate

426

01:04:07.740 --> 01:04:09.150

James Williams: Helping me

427

01:04:10.170 --> 01:04:11.760

James Williams: We find my perspective.

428

01:04:13.170 --> 01:04:31.710

Peter Barrant: Well, I think one of the, the things that this class does well is to help us to rethink how we are the various concepts that we have constructed our lives and our, our theology around. I mean, one of the things I mean if you even take that whole idea of

429

01:04:33.060 --> 01:04:37.800

Peter Barrant: You know, What is man here for. I grew up hearing that we're here to dominate the earth.

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01:04:38.190 --> 01:04:39.450

Carole Copeland Thomas: I mean that that's

431

01:04:40.140 --> 01:04:46.620

Peter Barrant: Basically, God has given us dominion over all of these things. Therefore, we, you know, that's basically the concept

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01:04:47.040 --> 01:04:53.430

Peter Barrant: And we, I think, as human beings, that's basically what we've done, at least in the last 200 years

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01:04:54.120 --> 01:05:04.110

Peter Barrant: You know, as we find something we figure out, you know, I mean, so we're taking all the oil up from the earth that underneath the earth and bringing it up to the earth and and so doing we've

434

01:05:04.500 --> 01:05:10.320

Peter Barrant: reordered where all that carbon was we're putting it now in the atmosphere and that's creating a whole different

435

01:05:11.280 --> 01:05:30.570

Peter Barrant: Problem for ourselves and perhaps the problem is our, our thoughts on dominating the earth versus taking care of the earth, and you know that that's just one of the things that I like i said i i get to think about as we go through this class.

436

01:05:32.580 --> 01:05:33.600

Carl Racine: The the

437

01:05:35.100 --> 01:05:45.810

Carl Racine: Two verbs that word have dominion over the earth comes from Genesis one, but in Genesis two and God places Adam and Eve in the garden and this is repeated a couple times in Genesis

438

01:05:47.040 --> 01:05:55.710

Carl Racine: Their place in the garden. It says for two things they're placed in the garden to guard or protect or take care of it and to serve it.

439

01:05:56.820 --> 01:06:09.690

Carl Racine: The word. That's the word that means to serve to work it but to be a servant to the earth. Because if we're not servants to the earth. If we don't take care of the earth earth won't take care of us.

440

01:06:10.440 --> 01:06:24.960

Carl Racine: And that's really again. So the whole idea of Dominion biblically kingship lordship is always servant leadership. It's not a new idea with Jesus, or with modern self help movement.

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01:06:27.660 --> 01:06:35.880

Carl Racine: servant leadership is there from Genesis to and it certainly runs through the discussion of who a king should be later on and Deuteronomy.

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01:06:36.780 --> 01:06:48.570

Carl Racine: And then, and certainly there in Jesus. So yes dominion, but the minion, in the sense that that is not lording it over the creation, but in in serving the creation

443

01:06:49.260 --> 01:06:56.790

Carl Racine: The other point I just wanted to bring up really quickly in terms of the Book of Job that was revolutionary. For me, the Book of Job makes it clear.

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01:06:57.570 --> 01:07:08.760

Carl Racine: That our perspective that this is all about us and all has to do with us is simply not God's perspective that their whole parts of the creation have nothing to do with human beings that God created for their own sake.

445

01:07:09.330 --> 01:07:16.890

Carl Racine: They're not there to serve human beings. They're simply there because God delights in the diversity of creation and parts of the world.

446

01:07:17.580 --> 01:07:24.420

Carl Racine: That we have little or no access to, you know, the depths of the ocean where there's these bizarre creatures. They're not necessarily

447

01:07:24.750 --> 01:07:40.560

Carl Racine: For us, so we may be asking the wrong question we asked a

question, why are they, why are these things annoying us or what can a virus do for us the virus may be part of an ecosystem as as a brother Peter says it has nothing to do with human beings.

448

01:07:43.800 --> 01:07:51.090

Carl Racine: But we're so selfish in our perspective. And I would argue that our theology so selfish is all about my personal salvation. Right.

449

01:07:52.860 --> 01:08:07.560

Carl Racine: There's something fundamentally wrong with that theology biblically, there's something fundamentally wrong with that theology. So that's, that's part of where I'm coming from. Anyway, I think we'll close out for today and continue next week.

450

01:08:08.490 --> 01:08:17.910

Carole Copeland Thomas: I wanted to. I'll put this in the chat room also Sister Janet, are you still here in Massachusetts, are you back in Florida and always good to see you.

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01:08:18.300 --> 01:08:19.860

janet Humdy Morrison: Yeah, I'm still here in Massachusetts.

452

01:08:20.040 --> 01:08:20.880

Carole Copeland Thomas: Okay, yeah.

453

01:08:22.140 --> 01:08:31.530

Carole Copeland Thomas: Okay. All right. I try to keep track of how many states are covered in our sessions and how many countries. So we always know jack isn't Honduras and

454

01:08:32.100 --> 01:08:46.320

Carole Copeland Thomas: Carol is in Georgia. So we have two states and in two countries. Amen. Thank you. And you can always go to Sunday teaching com I'll put in the chat room. That's where all of the lessons are and these

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01:08:46.350 --> 01:08:47.430

Venues in Germany.

456

01:08:51.810 --> 01:08:55.800



Carole Copeland Thomas: Germany, comma, Massachusetts as an Andover

457

01:08:57.600 --> 01:09:07.800

Carole Copeland Thomas: And the Wednesday Bible study is Wednesday teaching calm. So I wanted to create URLs that were easy to remember because there's a lot of great material.

458

01:09:08.070 --> 01:09:17.580

Carole Copeland Thomas: That brother Carl has very carefully crafted and I mean when you have five pages, single pages of notes from each class that's

459

01:09:18.270 --> 01:09:30.840

Carole Copeland Thomas: That's an honor. Just to have that kind of time and attention spent to these topics. So go back and share with your friends to who can't make it for whatever reason they can always participate remotely. Thank you.

460

01:09:31.170 --> 01:09:33.570

Heese Bach: Are we getting credit for this course.

461

01:09:37.230 --> 01:09:42.360

Carole Copeland Thomas: Yes, from you, from your hometown of he's back German Jewish land.

462

01:09:49.260 --> 01:09:52.470

Carl Racine: Alright, Susan. Why would you like to close in prayer, then please

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01:09:52.830 --> 01:09:54.720

Susan Racine: Oh, I didn't write it up.

464

01:09:56.400 --> 01:10:06.480

Susan Racine: Heavenly Father God, I thank you for my wonderful husband, thank you for the gifts of scholarship. Thank you for this wonderful class, thank you for

465

01:10:07.110 --> 01:10:18.390

Susan Racine: Our wonderful leader Carol and and all the good work that she's doing. Thank you for all the class members, thank you for this time together to study your word to look at

466

01:10:19.380 --> 01:10:26.790

Susan Racine: How it has been interpreted by Christians and Jews alike and and what we can learn from one another.

467

01:10:27.660 --> 01:10:41.370

Susan Racine: Thank you for this amazing creation and that we will never fully understand and that we have not quite done such a great job of taking care of it. But. Help us, Lord God to do better help us to

468

01:10:42.180 --> 01:10:56.790

Susan Racine: serve one another and and glorify you, and to serve and to serve your creation and to glorify you, by showing our love for one another and for the beautiful creation that you've given in Jesus name we pray amen

469

01:10:57.390 --> 01:10:58.110

James Williams: Amen. Amen.

470

01:10:58.470 --> 01:11:00.690

Carole Copeland Thomas: Amen. Thank you, everybody.

471

01:11:00.750 --> 01:11:01.710

Carole Copeland Thomas: Okay, man.

472

01:11:01.800 --> 01:11:02.610

Carole Copeland Thomas: God bless.

473

01:11:03.240 --> 01:11:03.960

James Williams: Bless day

474

01:11:04.290 --> 01:11:06.930

Teresa Lammey: Take care. Vote, vote.