

WEBVTT

1

00:00:00.570 --> 00:00:01.920

Carl Racine: Welcome everybody.

2

00:00:05.580 --> 00:00:06.480

Carl Racine: I hope you.

3

00:00:08.460 --> 00:00:15.299

Carl Racine: Had a restful and peaceful Christmas, on top of all of the stress that sometimes it brings.

4

00:00:18.330 --> 00:00:22.950

Carl Racine: susan's Father used to have this practice that I.

5

00:00:24.900 --> 00:00:28.290

Carl Racine: watched and adopted at Christmas time.

6

00:00:29.850 --> 00:00:40.950

Carl Racine: of sitting down and looking through all of the charitable giving he had done for the year and figuring out who he still wanted to give to.

7

00:00:42.810 --> 00:00:43.290

Carl Racine: and

8

00:00:43.410 --> 00:00:44.850

Carl Racine: Some of that was just.

9

00:00:45.180 --> 00:00:52.170

Carl Racine: You know, to get it in before the end of the year for tax purposes, but it was also to make sure you had an overlooked.

10

00:00:54.840 --> 00:01:00.600

Carl Racine: You know, groups or individuals that he wanted to give to and, and so I.

11

00:01:02.400 --> 00:01:11.220

Carl Racine: have found that to be a helpful antidote to some of the

craziness of Christmas to.

12

00:01:12.300 --> 00:01:18.270

Carl Racine: Think about you know to write checks to the pine street in or.

13

00:01:19.620 --> 00:01:25.380

Carl Racine: Amnesty International, or who you know, whoever whoever Lord puts on your heart.

14

00:01:26.850 --> 00:01:35.040

Carl Racine: To think about people who really are in need, and not just you know, one day, a year, but all the time.

15

00:01:37.080 --> 00:01:38.280

Carl Racine: Rather than just.

16

00:01:39.990 --> 00:01:41.760

Carl Racine: Spending all your money on.

17

00:01:42.870 --> 00:01:45.180

Carl Racine: People who really don't need more stuff.

18

00:01:46.680 --> 00:01:55.830

Carl Racine: And you end up having to rent a storage place somewhere to to store all the stuff they don't have room for in there.

19

00:01:58.050 --> 00:02:02.520

Carl Racine: So that's that's a practice that I have found helpful.

20

00:02:03.630 --> 00:02:08.880

Carl Racine: In the in the week leading up to Christmas, especially and and in the aftermath of it.

21

00:02:11.100 --> 00:02:15.120

Carl Racine: All right, we can begin Lord God we bless you for this.

22

00:02:15.120 --> 00:02:20.910

Carl Racine: day we bless you for this group we bless you for your

presence with us and for.

23

00:02:21.960 --> 00:02:24.510

Carl Racine: The celebration, that we have just.

24

00:02:25.890 --> 00:02:26.790

Carl Racine: enjoyed.

25

00:02:27.810 --> 00:02:35.010

Carl Racine: of your son taking on Jewish flesh and coming to live among us as a faith zoom when we.

26

00:02:35.580 --> 00:02:53.940

Carl Racine: As we return again to look at your word and to look at our understanding of our faith and how it can be enriched and large by contributions from the Jewish community we pray that you would guide our discussion guide our thoughts and guide our meditations in the name of.

27

00:02:54.960 --> 00:02:56.340

Carl Racine: The one who was born.

28

00:02:58.620 --> 00:03:03.570

Carl Racine: in Bethlehem and bit him so many years ago amen.

29

00:03:04.560 --> 00:03:05.010

amen.

30

00:03:06.240 --> 00:03:20.310

Carl Racine: So, last year we started talking I started in on sort of some concluding extended concluding remarks and reflections on what we've we've gone through and thought about for the last couple of years in this class.

31

00:03:21.000 --> 00:03:35.580

Carl Racine: And I began that that with the sort of reflection on the astonishing and really even miraculous fact of the survival and the persistence and the thriving of the Jewish people.

32

00:03:37.140 --> 00:03:42.990

Carl Racine: Despite the many attempts by much more powerful peoples and nations to destroy them.

33

00:03:44.220 --> 00:03:45.330

Carl Racine: And I offered.

34

00:03:47.580 --> 00:03:58.680

Carl Racine: A couple of reflections on that one that i've gotten from other people, one that they survived in part because of not looking to be in charge, if we could see I guess slide number five.

35

00:03:58.710 --> 00:04:00.030

Carole Copeland Thomas: sister Carol please share.

36

00:04:01.980 --> 00:04:02.730

Carl Racine: i'm.

37

00:04:05.010 --> 00:04:06.450

Carl Racine: john Howard yoder.

38

00:04:08.280 --> 00:04:12.480

Carl Racine: use this phrase on not being in charge, and not trying to.

39

00:04:14.040 --> 00:04:14.640

Carl Racine: i'm.

40

00:04:18.330 --> 00:04:27.540

Carl Racine: not trying to run things in the world, not trying to be an empire just another empire like Egypt or Babylon and Rome.

41

00:04:29.520 --> 00:04:46.410

Carl Racine: but rather to work in a different way and rabbi sex says in sort of connection with this, if there's a single sentence that sums up Jewish history of this surely the statement of the Prophet zachariah not by power and not by might.

42

00:04:46.950 --> 00:05:04.380

Carl Racine: But by my spirit lord of hosts Jews never had much power know did they have might Christianity and Islam built massive

monumental empires, but the Jews never did, and yet they've survived when all of those.

43

00:05:04.380 --> 00:05:05.250
empires.

44

00:05:07.260 --> 00:05:11.490
Carl Racine: And every Saxon and replace talks about and we.

45

00:05:11.580 --> 00:05:13.500
Carl Racine: Go on the next slide number six, please.

46

00:05:17.370 --> 00:05:33.510
Carl Racine: The power of ideas to bring positive change to the world, rather than the idea of power, and I think this is kind of closely connected, that there are Nonviolent ways of affecting positive change.

47

00:05:34.500 --> 00:05:39.900
Carl Racine: That just changed with a positive change in the world, and I think rabbi sex himself as a good example of this.

48

00:05:40.410 --> 00:05:48.450
Carl Racine: When he died slightly over a year ago people from all around the world, people from many different backgrounds.

49

00:05:48.930 --> 00:06:01.050
Carl Racine: gave public testimony to the profound effect that he'd had on their lives, and it was quite remarkable for me to see, and this includes very powerful very highly placed individuals like Prince Charles.

50

00:06:01.590 --> 00:06:19.290
Carl Racine: Or the former British Prime Minister Tony Blair Senator Joseph Lieberman, the Archbishop actually a couple of Archbishop of Canterbury heads of the Anglican Church and even the royal palace in Amman Jordan.

51

00:06:20.430 --> 00:06:35.430
Carl Racine: And I sincerely doubt that the Jordanian King regularly sends condolences to the widows of other prominent rabbis throughout

the world, I might be wrong, but I doubt that there was something special about rabbi sex but.

52

00:06:36.120 --> 00:06:48.060

Carl Racine: More astonishing to me, and in some ways, much maybe more a little more meaningful than all of those you know public figures celebrities or whatever well known people.

53

00:06:49.500 --> 00:06:54.690

Carl Racine: That among the 10s of thousands of tributes that his widow received.

54

00:06:56.610 --> 00:07:09.060

Carl Racine: were a couple of handwritten letters from two convicted murderers who are serving life's who are serving life sentences in a high security British prison.

55

00:07:10.260 --> 00:07:17.700

Carl Racine: And in those letters to rabbi saxes widow, they not only express their condolences their sympathy for her loss.

56

00:07:18.120 --> 00:07:30.450

Carl Racine: But they told her that how inspirational rabbi saxes teaching rabbi saxes ideas had been to them when they had heard it through the prison chaplain.

57

00:07:31.380 --> 00:07:38.670

Carl Racine: The power of rabbi saxes ideas is able to even reach into the hearts of.

58

00:07:39.180 --> 00:07:55.710

Carl Racine: murders in a high security British prison and so people from every walk of life have been blessed by the power of his teaching and this class is really my own form of tribute to the power of his ideas in my own life and yet.

59

00:07:56.910 --> 00:08:00.600

Carl Racine: He was a dedicated orthodox Jew.

60

00:08:01.740 --> 00:08:11.280

Carl Racine: whose primary mission his his purpose as he saw his

mission in life was to strengthen the lives and faith of Jews and Britain.

61

00:08:12.540 --> 00:08:25.170

Carl Racine: But at the same time he he didn't keep his focus that narrow, he was able to reach people of other faiths throughout the world, with his teaching because he was convinced the Judaism made sense.

62

00:08:25.560 --> 00:08:46.230

Carl Racine: Not only for Jews, but for everyone that Judaism had something to offer the world and that did not mean that everyone had to convert to Judaism, but it did mean that the fundamental truths of his faith speak to the needs and concerns of all humanity.

63

00:08:47.280 --> 00:08:53.610

Carl Racine: And so, he was able to creatively articulate some of the ways in which that is true.

64

00:08:54.930 --> 00:08:58.320

Carl Racine: And in his final book and and you see this.

65

00:08:59.340 --> 00:09:09.000

Carl Racine: Quote on your screen he sort of sums up his mission, he says, our vocation is to be god's ambassadors to the world.

66

00:09:09.540 --> 00:09:19.110

Carl Racine: Giving testimony through the way we live, that it is possible for a small people to survive and thrive under the most adverse conditions.

67

00:09:19.500 --> 00:09:42.960

Carl Racine: To construct a society of law govern liberty for which we all bear collective responsibility and to act justly love mercy and walk humbly with our God and quoting micah six eight God calls on us to be true to our faith and a blessing to others, regardless of their faith.

68

00:09:45.510 --> 00:09:46.800

Carl Racine: Comments question.

69

00:09:51.810 --> 00:09:56.070

Carole Copeland Thomas: I think what you're also illustrating is.

70

00:09:57.840 --> 00:10:03.240

Carole Copeland Thomas: That and we talked about this last week that this group of people.

71

00:10:04.590 --> 00:10:05.280

Carole Copeland Thomas: This.

72

00:10:06.420 --> 00:10:07.320

Carole Copeland Thomas: Human group.

73

00:10:09.480 --> 00:10:11.280

Carole Copeland Thomas: gosh the.

74

00:10:12.630 --> 00:10:18.600

Carole Copeland Thomas: infractions the disrespect the violence against them has just.

75

00:10:20.040 --> 00:10:24.780

Carole Copeland Thomas: carried on throughout the centuries, yet it has not.

76

00:10:26.160 --> 00:10:32.190

Carole Copeland Thomas: overshadowed or minimize the impact that they have on the world and, as you just said with.

77

00:10:33.630 --> 00:10:36.630

Carole Copeland Thomas: rabbi sex that you can still.

78

00:10:38.790 --> 00:10:45.390

Carole Copeland Thomas: reflect and embrace the value of Judaism, even if you're not a Jew.

79

00:10:47.430 --> 00:10:51.750

Carole Copeland Thomas: that's that that for me that resonated quite a bit.

80

00:10:54.990 --> 00:10:55.890
james williams: For me um.

81
00:10:57.090 --> 00:10:58.020
james williams: You know you have been.

82
00:10:59.370 --> 00:11:07.140
james williams: going over this concept for a little while now i'm Bible study and I get it, I get it.

83
00:11:08.400 --> 00:11:15.120
james williams: You know, at first, we started about you know that the differences between the Old Testament the New Testament.

84
00:11:15.750 --> 00:11:24.300
james williams: Is as extreme as we might think is you know when you come into Christianity is New Testament New Testament New Testament is all we know new test New Testament.

85
00:11:24.750 --> 00:11:37.260
james williams: And so, over the years months now, or months years you kind of explain that so that that part I get what is really taking me to the another level is i'm.

86
00:11:38.400 --> 00:11:50.250
james williams: Reading this book Christians against Christianity and I have a son that's a republican and, in some respects, you understand.

87
00:11:51.720 --> 00:12:05.640
james williams: Some reasons why folks might go Republican and but the extremes that we've witness with with trump in this evangelical right wing stuff over the last 40 years.

88
00:12:06.720 --> 00:12:13.020
james williams: I you know it was kind of baffling me and it's so much helping me to understand it um.

89
00:12:16.050 --> 00:12:23.820
james williams: So I can say if I get I get it, I appreciate this class and I will go into more detail than that but.

90

00:12:25.800 --> 00:12:26.040

james williams: that's.

91

00:12:30.450 --> 00:12:33.540

Susan Racine: What the book Christians against Christianity.

92

00:12:33.990 --> 00:12:36.360

james williams: Against Christianity, the book is about.

93

00:12:38.370 --> 00:12:46.050

james williams: The end evangelical right now, you know, in the Bible as college shared it talks a lot about.

94

00:12:48.210 --> 00:13:01.410

james williams: What they talked about the Old Testament is righteousness and justice, what we talked about in the New Testament is righteousness and justice when Christ came that's what he was about righteousness and justice and.

95

00:13:01.920 --> 00:13:12.690

james williams: This thing that's happening with this evangelical right is not about that, like when they align their.

96

00:13:15.390 --> 00:13:25.440

james williams: dislike for pornography homosexuality or things of that nature, they also include in there some things like civil rights.

97

00:13:26.550 --> 00:13:35.880

james williams: like this Christian right movement came into aside to manifest itself, because you know one time Republicans were Okay, you know with.

98

00:13:36.390 --> 00:13:43.020

james williams: With with us, or with with with the black book anyway, and so now we get this flip and it was during this time.

99

00:13:43.470 --> 00:13:55.980

james williams: When they were making this flip they didn't they didn't like the civil rights bill they didn't like the voting rights

bill, and they didn't like you know these things, and so they would include these things that are supposedly.

100

00:13:56.670 --> 00:14:07.740

james williams: God kind of concepts and then they would add these other things into it and it's always so so baffling if you don't have this the fundamentals.

101

00:14:08.220 --> 00:14:15.660

james williams: That we're getting here, and this is what the old Testaments about what the new Testaments about you get that clear.

102

00:14:15.990 --> 00:14:33.450

james williams: And then you look at what these folks are doing in terms of politics, you can see it, you can see that it's such a stock departure from what Christ was talking about, I mean it's unbelievable and you know in as as we go through this stuff it's so clear to me it wasn't clear to me before.

103

00:14:36.300 --> 00:14:37.890

Susan Racine: yeah it's skewed I agree.

104

00:14:39.210 --> 00:14:43.620

Carole Copeland Thomas: I think, also what you're talking about when you mentioned that they include the civil rights.

105

00:14:44.850 --> 00:14:55.710

Carole Copeland Thomas: movement that they're trashing and others I believe you're talking about the time period when in the 60s when.

106

00:14:56.730 --> 00:15:09.240

Carole Copeland Thomas: The the dixiecrats became Republicans, because of the civil rights movement in the voting rights act and at that same time the black Community left.

107

00:15:10.290 --> 00:15:17.910

Carole Copeland Thomas: overwhelmingly the Republican Party, of which we had been for years, my grandfather was a staunch republican because of Lincoln.

108

00:15:18.090 --> 00:15:19.020

Carl Racine: party of Lincoln.

109

00:15:19.080 --> 00:15:26.760

Carole Copeland Thomas: yep and switched and became democrats because of that flips though you had two parties that literally flipped in the 60s.

110

00:15:28.860 --> 00:15:36.570

james williams: I couldn't understand I what happened, you know what what you know what what happened and certainly you know it's not as clearly.

111

00:15:37.620 --> 00:15:41.940

james williams: defined anywhere unless you're doing this kind of in depth.

112

00:15:43.320 --> 00:15:46.320

james williams: Discussions on research that we got going on you.

113

00:15:47.370 --> 00:15:52.890

Hannah Brooks: Do you think that's what's happening now, like there's sort of a switching on certain things.

114

00:15:55.020 --> 00:15:57.240

Carole Copeland Thomas: Well, I think what's happened is you've had.

115

00:15:58.830 --> 00:16:15.960

Carole Copeland Thomas: We talked about this during coffee hour, you have this I call a demonic, but you have this very targeted focused agenda with a significant number of Republicans.

116

00:16:16.560 --> 00:16:29.400

Carole Copeland Thomas: who have an agenda and and one of the main reasons why they stuck with Donald trump is that they wanted to seat, the courts, they wanted judges in federal positions that would.

117

00:16:30.480 --> 00:16:45.990

Carole Copeland Thomas: help them achieve their goals, and so they could overlook all of his faults stayed with him because he was the vehicle to deliver the judges in office which they've done sadly and across the country.

118

00:16:46.530 --> 00:17:02.250

Carole Copeland Thomas: So it's it's a matter of very strong ideological agendas that bypass and become very hypocritical in terms of what they like and what they don't like and then you get someone.

119

00:17:02.730 --> 00:17:12.960

Carole Copeland Thomas: Ultimately, like a Donald trump that not only helps you to manifest your goals, but then just becomes an absolute embrace, of all things, extreme, which is why.

120

00:17:14.400 --> 00:17:18.750

Carole Copeland Thomas: Racism is at an all time high now anti semitism, etc, I.

121

00:17:23.820 --> 00:17:25.110

Carl Racine: mean we were talking in.

122

00:17:26.430 --> 00:17:36.720

Carl Racine: coffee or a little bit about how the conversation has so deteriorated in our country and turned into an angry shouting match with.

123

00:17:38.040 --> 00:17:40.590

Carl Racine: With death threats and all of the rest.

124

00:17:44.160 --> 00:17:54.690

Carl Racine: And you know, this goes back to this to to rabbi sacks to the power of ideas versus the power first versus the idea of power.

125

00:17:55.080 --> 00:18:06.930

Carl Racine: And something else that we talked about a while ago in this class the whole idea of arguments for the sake of heaven, that there are there are two ways of conducting an argument or debate a discussion about.

126

00:18:08.460 --> 00:18:19.350

Carl Racine: Any topic, one is to do it for the sake of heaven for the for the sake of God, for the sake of truth for the sake of the well being of everybody in the.

127

00:18:19.350 --> 00:18:22.230

Carl Racine: Community the other way is to do it.

128

00:18:23.580 --> 00:18:31.650

Carl Racine: For your own ego trip, for your own sense of power, for your own desire to lord it over other people.

129

00:18:32.340 --> 00:18:35.790

Carl Racine: And we're seeing that played out in our society, very clearly.

130

00:18:36.180 --> 00:18:53.100

Carl Racine: Where there is no longer any concern for what used to be called the Commonwealth, the common well being of all people, but simply for my specific group having power and being in power and maintaining that power and whether you identify as.

131

00:18:54.270 --> 00:18:58.260

Carl Racine: A white person or as an evangelical or whatever.

132

00:19:00.570 --> 00:19:11.610

Carl Racine: It doesn't matter what issue you're arguing it's all about your power, rather than the the truth or falseness of the idea, so you can make.

133

00:19:13.620 --> 00:19:13.950

james williams: You can.

134

00:19:14.340 --> 00:19:15.540

james williams: make up stuff.

135

00:19:16.320 --> 00:19:25.890

Carl Racine: Like the previous administration did regularly and claim that it's true because it's not about finding the truth it's just about maintaining power.

136

00:19:26.430 --> 00:19:36.570

Carl Racine: And that's a very dangerous situation that's where we're seeing the crumbling of the American empire and the potential for turning into another fascist regime.

137

00:19:38.280 --> 00:19:43.230

Carl Racine: And if the right people got their way that's what that's what we would have we would simply have.

138

00:19:45.540 --> 00:19:47.910

Carl Racine: A country committed to the idea of power.

139

00:19:49.500 --> 00:19:50.370

Carole Copeland Thomas: You know I.

140

00:19:51.930 --> 00:19:57.540

Carole Copeland Thomas: talking to my daughter, this week, in particular, her position as the.

141

00:19:58.650 --> 00:20:04.920

Carole Copeland Thomas: Chair of the board for the board of education in West hartford they had a very contentious meeting on.

142

00:20:05.970 --> 00:20:14.910

Carole Copeland Thomas: Tuesday, that I watched faithfully from start to finish, and saw adults get up and young people.

143

00:20:16.020 --> 00:20:26.070

Carole Copeland Thomas: Who were absolutely passionately angry about the mask mandates in their in their city and the vaccine requirements as well.

144

00:20:26.610 --> 00:20:33.000

Carole Copeland Thomas: And just the angry talk I didn't hear the obscenities I couldn't hear that, but apparently there were obscenity is being used.

145

00:20:33.420 --> 00:20:43.800

Carole Copeland Thomas: They were booing the superintendent it was a circus and absolute surface lorna held her own she was very common measured, so I give her a lot of credit for that.

146

00:20:44.730 --> 00:20:51.600

Carole Copeland Thomas: But I had to remind her yeah I was you know

and and me as a mother i'm I have to watch myself, I wanted to come through the screen and.

147

00:20:52.470 --> 00:21:01.920

Carole Copeland Thomas: punch the lights out of those people, they were behaving but obviously that didn't happen, but I had to remind her that this was a playbook.

148

00:21:02.310 --> 00:21:13.200

Carole Copeland Thomas: This is something that has been scripted around the country with any public meetings that are being held, where there are mask mandates or vaccine mandates.

149

00:21:13.800 --> 00:21:28.440

Carole Copeland Thomas: Driven largely by this arm of the Republican Party, it did not start this it didn't start with coven it has been primed and has been building up for at least 30 years.

150

00:21:28.500 --> 00:21:29.880

Carole Copeland Thomas: At least I remember.

151

00:21:30.300 --> 00:21:43.770

Carole Copeland Thomas: Years ago, seeing the playbook I had an access to the playbook of how they would start populating and in sort of infiltrating into school boards, they would run for office run for these local elections.

152

00:21:44.550 --> 00:21:55.530

Carole Copeland Thomas: And then move all the way up, so this is a strategic approach that's being used all over the country now again largely by this group that.

153

00:21:55.980 --> 00:22:08.520

Carole Copeland Thomas: they're very, very focused and how they operate, and you know this level of I call it anarchy that is being used for them to to make their way and make their make themselves known.

154

00:22:10.260 --> 00:22:15.780

james williams: And we've seen that happen, time and time again that stuff works if you don't address it in some shape way.

155

00:22:17.100 --> 00:22:19.170

Carole Copeland Thomas: So true so true.

156

00:22:19.950 --> 00:22:26.160

Carl Racine: I mean, I was talking to a friend of mine this week from Bethel who got a call out of the blue, from a guy.

157

00:22:27.240 --> 00:22:32.730

Carl Racine: Who, for a while participated in our Bethel men's group he's not a Bethel memory doesn't go to Bethel.

158

00:22:34.560 --> 00:22:56.520

Carl Racine: And this guy called desert desert hollow sign called Desmond because he had been in hospitalized in rehab now for a couple of months with some very serious blood clots in his legs and he'd had multiple surgeries because of it all due to coven.

159

00:22:58.380 --> 00:23:04.530

Carl Racine: So doesn't said well were you vaccinated and he said no.

160

00:23:06.000 --> 00:23:16.890

Carl Racine: Now, this is a man who was medically trained, who worked as a nurse's aide and home health aide person.

161

00:23:17.940 --> 00:23:28.380

Carl Racine: he's an educated intelligent Christian man who and doesn't know why, and he said well it's too long to go into I just don't trust.

162

00:23:28.860 --> 00:23:40.620

Carl Racine: And here he's laying in a hospital bed because of his refusal to get vaccinated still defending his decision not to get vaccinated in the face of all of the evidence that's out there, both.

163

00:23:41.220 --> 00:23:45.210

Carl Racine: scientific and medical evidence and his own evidence in his own life.

164

00:23:45.240 --> 00:23:45.840

Carl Racine: And yet.

165

00:23:46.920 --> 00:23:53.100

Carl Racine: He is somehow been blinded to what seems to be a very simple truth.

166

00:23:54.810 --> 00:23:56.460

Carl Racine: The the the the.

167

00:23:57.630 --> 00:24:04.350

Carl Racine: I mean, I think carol's right this sort of demonic nature of the mindset that's been foisted on Americans here.

168

00:24:04.890 --> 00:24:25.470

Carl Racine: Has has blinded people that you would think otherwise would surely see that this was a foolish thing to not get vaccinated and yet this man still wanted to defend his his choice I can't explain it but it's a very dangerous situation.

169

00:24:26.100 --> 00:24:32.130

Carole Copeland Thomas: You know, and even again and coffee hour just to back up what you're saying I that that's just a sad story.

170

00:24:32.700 --> 00:24:44.880

Carole Copeland Thomas: sister Joe nail Johnson who attends our class sometimes talked about a student young student in her school who tested positive for Colvin was symptomatic.

171

00:24:45.570 --> 00:25:03.960

Carole Copeland Thomas: It took four hours for the school officials to contact her parents and when they contacted her parents, the parents got angry at the school for testing her, I want to fall out of my chair when I heard that I mean that's how far.

172

00:25:05.550 --> 00:25:17.850

Carole Copeland Thomas: ups that that's how far the absurdity has gone in our country, the country that has the number one death rate for covert in the world, I track it every single day, the number one.

173

00:25:19.230 --> 00:25:27.660

Carole Copeland Thomas: Death three and you have parents, whose child clearly needs help and attention and they get angry.

174

00:25:28.020 --> 00:25:41.670

Carole Copeland Thomas: At the system, just like the people who are dying in some of these hospital beds get angry at the medical professionals like sister Susan for treating them because they're still in denial, as they die.

175

00:25:44.640 --> 00:25:46.050

Carole Copeland Thomas: Help us Lord.

176

00:25:47.430 --> 00:25:51.750

Carl Racine: Well, it does show that ideas can have power that's both positive and negative.

177

00:25:53.160 --> 00:25:54.270

Carl Racine: But because.

178

00:25:55.290 --> 00:25:56.610

Carl Racine: Because we can't have a.

179

00:25:56.610 --> 00:26:04.260

Carl Racine: Debate that's for the sake of heaven anymore this for the sake of truth in the well being of our nation, the debate is simply about power.

180

00:26:06.510 --> 00:26:09.960

Carl Racine: we're in we're in pretty big trouble, it seems to me.

181

00:26:13.680 --> 00:26:23.520

Carl Racine: Well let's uh so anyway, this was you know my sort of reflections on rabbi sacks and and his idea about.

182

00:26:24.150 --> 00:26:36.990

Carl Racine: The Jewish people, despite being relatively powerless historically have had a tremendous power to to influence other people through the power of their ideas and their actions in the world.

183

00:26:38.010 --> 00:26:56.760

Carl Racine: And I think this the remarkable persistence of the Jewish people that we've been talking about it really confirms, for me,

something that is repeatedly emphasized in the Bible, and something that we need to take very seriously if we could go to the next slide number seven, please.

184

00:26:59.040 --> 00:26:59.970

Carl Racine: And that is.

185

00:27:00.990 --> 00:27:19.470

Carl Racine: That God has an eternal covenant an ongoing covenant with Israel that cannot be broken, even when Israel goes astray and i've put a few passages on here there are others genesis 17 seven God talking to Abraham.

186

00:27:19.920 --> 00:27:30.390

Carl Racine: I will establish my covenant between me and you and your descendants after you and their generations for an everlasting covenant to be God to you and your descendants after you.

187

00:27:35.430 --> 00:27:53.640

Carl Racine: leviticus 26:44 God is saying, despite what Israel may do in terms of being sinful in terms of turning their back on God, I will not reject them, nor will I so abhor them as to destroy them breaking my covenant with them.

188

00:27:55.110 --> 00:28:06.690

Carl Racine: And then Jeremiah 33 the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah have you not noticed that these people are saying the Lord has rejected the two kingdoms he chose so they despise my people and no longer.

189

00:28:06.690 --> 00:28:08.280

regard them as a nation.

190

00:28:09.930 --> 00:28:15.270

Carl Racine: This is this is talking about the babylonians saying this about the about Israel.

191

00:28:15.990 --> 00:28:25.530

Carl Racine: This is what the Lord says, if I have not established my covenant with day and night and fix the laws of heaven and earth, then I will reject the descendants of Jacob and David, in other words.

192

00:28:26.370 --> 00:28:41.340

Carl Racine: If the laws of nature aren't fixed and secure, then I will also reject this, in other words it's absolutely not true that I will ever reject the descendants of Jacob and David my servant.

193

00:28:41.790 --> 00:28:51.420

Carl Racine: And will not choose one of his sons to rule over the descendants of Abraham Isaac and Jacob, for I will restore their fortunes and have compassion on them and, and I could go on and I just.

194

00:28:51.930 --> 00:29:03.240

Carl Racine: there's a passage in his ego is passages all over and and, and this is just what we call the Old Testament but, if we go on to the next slide Paul says the same thing and Romans 11.

195

00:29:05.280 --> 00:29:14.190

Carl Racine: The gifts and calling of God, are irrevocable god's calling of Israel god's covenant gifts to them god's gifts of Torah to them.

196

00:29:14.580 --> 00:29:22.890

Carl Racine: Which Paul is talked about earlier in Romans are you revoke over the can't be called back and to answer.

197

00:29:23.670 --> 00:29:43.350

Carl Racine: To deal with this very complicated issue Paul begins chapter 11 there by asking the question did God reject his people, by no means Paul says, I am an israelite myself a descendant of Abraham from the tribe of Benjamin God did not reject his people whom he for new.

198

00:29:47.490 --> 00:30:01.800

Carl Racine: Paul is vehement about this, and he insists that because of this in Romans 11 we've looked at repeatedly Gentile Christians should not look down on Jews.

199

00:30:02.340 --> 00:30:14.190

Carl Racine: That God will continue to be faithful to Israel, the miraculous persistence of the Jews as a distinct people is a testimony to god's faithfulness.

200

00:30:15.690 --> 00:30:19.170

Carl Racine: And when we looked at the Book of Hebrews several years ago.

201

00:30:19.530 --> 00:30:29.580

Carl Racine: which has often been used to argue just the opposite point I argued that the traditional Christian teaching that God has permanently rejected Israel creates a serious theological problem for Christians.

202

00:30:30.450 --> 00:30:43.050

Carl Racine: because it not only calls into question the reliability of god's promises, it also raises the question of israel's unfaithfulness can lead to their rejection to God turning his back on Israel.

203

00:30:43.560 --> 00:30:53.130

Carl Racine: Why should not God also reject the very unfaithful church that we've been here, why are we so sure that God hasn't also given up on us.

204

00:30:55.170 --> 00:31:03.870

Carl Racine: But Hebrews itself insists, and you can see, this feather extended quote in the translation of the message which, in this particular passage, I really like.

205

00:31:04.830 --> 00:31:19.080

Carl Racine: You can see this this passage in the book of Hebrews itself insisting that god's promises to Abraham and to abraham's descendants are firm and secure because God cannot lie.

206

00:31:21.450 --> 00:31:36.930

Carl Racine: He says when, God wanted to guarantee his promises he gave his word a rock solid guaranteed God can't break his word and because his word cannot change the promise itself is likewise unchangeable.

207

00:31:37.980 --> 00:31:54.780

Carl Racine: So, even the New Testament does not simply see the Church is replacing Israel as see God is turning his back on Israel and any sort of Christian theology that teaches that just simply contradicting what the scriptures say.

208

00:31:55.800 --> 00:31:56.370

Carl Racine: So.

209

00:31:57.450 --> 00:32:04.740

Carl Racine: We talk about a new covenant, we talk about the New Testament which is just the old fashioned word for covenant.

210

00:32:05.820 --> 00:32:15.060

Carl Racine: But when we talk about the new covenant, and we talk about Jesus, and the new covenant would really be more precise, to speak of a renewed covenant.

211

00:32:15.990 --> 00:32:26.700

Carl Racine: Because that's what the Prophet Jeremiah is talking about and that's where we get the phrase new covenant yeah new covenant from Jeremiah 31.

212

00:32:28.560 --> 00:32:34.200

Carl Racine: The days are coming when I will establish a new covenant with my people not.

213

00:32:35.250 --> 00:32:47.550

Carl Racine: written on tablets of stone but written on their hearts, but what remains written is the same it's Torah and in Jeremiah and this kind of.

214

00:32:49.320 --> 00:33:05.700

Carl Racine: Dramatic graphic that I found online behold the days are coming says it says the Lord when I will make a new covenant with house of Israel in the House of Judah I will put my Torah within them, and I will write it on their hearts that's what the new covenant is about.

215

00:33:08.610 --> 00:33:17.280

Carl Racine: So when we looked at the Book of Hebrews and it's discussion of the new covenant and then inaugurated by Jesus.

216

00:33:17.760 --> 00:33:34.650

Carl Racine: We saw that yes, for Christians, the new covenant has been begun inaugurated by Jesus, but it hasn't been completely

realized Christians are no more faithful to God historically than Jews are some are and some are.

217

00:33:35.430 --> 00:33:41.880

Carl Racine: it's still a hope for the future that the people as a whole will have this renewal will have this.

218

00:33:42.630 --> 00:33:59.520

Carl Racine: Torah of God god's teaching god's instruction written on their heart it's as much a hope for the future for Christians, as it is for Jews, as it was for the Prophet Jeremiah we are all waiting for jeremiah's words to be completely fulfilled.

219

00:34:00.630 --> 00:34:13.380

Carl Racine: So for me, the new covenant is not a sign of god's rejection of Israel, which is often been understood to be in Christian circles, but it's rather a demonstration of god's faithfulness to Israel.

220

00:34:14.220 --> 00:34:26.040

Carl Racine: That God will continue to work with Israel despite israel's waywardness and that's good news for Christians, because that means god's not going to turn his back on us, even though we've been terribly wayward at times.

221

00:34:27.660 --> 00:34:37.230

Carl Racine: So if that's the case then Christians need to radically rethink the scriptures which has been part of the argument in my whole class and the relationship, especially of the Church.

222

00:34:37.770 --> 00:34:46.620

Carl Racine: to Israel and to Torah and that's been one of my goals for many years now, if God has an ongoing relationship with Israel.

223

00:34:47.070 --> 00:34:52.500

Carl Racine: If god's still intends to fulfill his purposes in the world through the descendants of Abraham.

224

00:34:53.220 --> 00:35:14.820

Carl Racine: Then the church needs to take this astonishing persistence of the Jews much more seriously and look then at how do we fit into that plan, what does it mean for us to have been miraculously

grafted into that tree, how do we relate to Israel, through the Jews Jesus.

225

00:35:15.990 --> 00:35:25.950

Carl Racine: So rather than starting with the church and trying to understand Israel, we should be starting with Israel as a way of understanding the Church.

226

00:35:27.720 --> 00:35:29.460

Carl Racine: Comments questions.

227

00:35:31.920 --> 00:35:48.360

Carole Copeland Thomas: i'm just reading what sister Hannah brooks has in the chat she says, this may be a silly question but who do you think the Israelites are and then she references zeke eel 3626 and 27.

228

00:35:52.500 --> 00:36:11.790

Susan Racine: I looked at the 3626 and 27 I will give you a new heart and a new spirit I will put within you will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh, I will put my spirit within us so that you will walk in my statutes observe my ordinances and keep them.

229

00:36:15.510 --> 00:36:18.630

Susan Racine: Out of this relates to this all Jews right.

230

00:36:19.530 --> 00:36:21.540

Carl Racine: yeah I mean the the.

231

00:36:22.620 --> 00:36:23.190

Carl Racine: um.

232

00:36:25.260 --> 00:36:34.980

Carl Racine: yeah the promise there in ezekiel is sometimes connected to the one in Jeremiah because it's in very similar language it's basically saying something very similar.

233

00:36:35.850 --> 00:36:48.000

Carl Racine: Although I don't I don't think it uses the phrase new covenant, the new the phrase new covenant is is comes from the Jeremiah passage, which is why I was focusing on that, but yeah these

ECO 36 simply confirms.

234

00:36:48.780 --> 00:37:02.610

Carl Racine: This idea and we already saw this idea in Torah itself in the book of deuteronomy which talks a bit about the circumcision of the heart, I don't know if people remember when we talked about that, but it's the same basic idea.

235

00:37:04.950 --> 00:37:06.930

Carl Racine: That your heart needs to be.

236

00:37:09.690 --> 00:37:17.940

Carl Racine: conformed to god's will that the Torah needs to be something that you do not simply as a kind of external.

237

00:37:20.310 --> 00:37:23.940

Carl Racine: Practice but it's something that's heartfelt there's something that's genuine.

238

00:37:27.390 --> 00:37:41.790

Carl Racine: But I mean, I think I think the Israelites are are the Jews, I don't I don't have any other way of understanding that word, I think, to apply that to say, well, the Church is really the new Israel, I think there's something.

239

00:37:41.790 --> 00:37:44.160

Carl Racine: fundamentally wrong with that idea.

240

00:37:46.620 --> 00:37:47.850

Bill Hughes: Oh, just to add to that.

241

00:37:50.730 --> 00:37:51.630

Bill Hughes: scripture.

242

00:37:53.160 --> 00:37:54.390

Bill Hughes: does not say.

243

00:37:55.410 --> 00:37:58.740

Bill Hughes: i'm going to replace you with someone else.

244

00:37:59.910 --> 00:38:03.300

Bill Hughes: It says i'm going to renew your heart right so.

245

00:38:05.520 --> 00:38:06.270

Bill Hughes: Point one point.

246

00:38:07.950 --> 00:38:09.780

Bill Hughes: I think we are Jewish.

247

00:38:12.780 --> 00:38:13.290

Yes.

248

00:38:14.700 --> 00:38:16.560

Bill Hughes: I think the third point is.

249

00:38:20.250 --> 00:38:27.840

Bill Hughes: not pass away no heaven and earth logs to pass away for my promise to you will pass.

250

00:38:29.160 --> 00:38:30.390

Bill Hughes: is another way of saying.

251

00:38:33.180 --> 00:38:38.610

Bill Hughes: The way of love and I have set forth is part of the physics, of the universe.

252

00:38:39.660 --> 00:38:40.950

Bill Hughes: That will not change.

253

00:38:43.980 --> 00:38:47.280

Bill Hughes: Think about the greatest threat in the Bible.

254

00:38:48.450 --> 00:39:00.780

Bill Hughes: To the people of faith is in revelation for the entire world is about to blow up and people have gotten overwhelmed by.

255

00:39:02.100 --> 00:39:10.770

Bill Hughes: Power RON Howard, and what happens in that moment is that

the physics of love.

256

00:39:12.570 --> 00:39:13.110

Bill Hughes: Correct.

257

00:39:14.280 --> 00:39:18.150

Bill Hughes: and reward the faithful.

258

00:39:19.830 --> 00:39:30.690

Bill Hughes: To me, what this says is don't give up hope, no matter how bad things are don't be like them, one of them is people who make arguments for the sake of power.

259

00:39:31.590 --> 00:39:48.540

Bill Hughes: Who bully others as a way of life, but rather hold to the way of love way of faith that you need to have to live that way and i'll be there with you, no matter what you see.

260

00:39:49.740 --> 00:39:53.340

Bill Hughes: Things are working for your good, and I think that's what we're called to.

261

00:39:54.660 --> 00:40:01.050

Bill Hughes: Do and to bring them into being and doing that we we.

262

00:40:02.160 --> 00:40:04.860

Bill Hughes: adopted children of Israel.

263

00:40:09.750 --> 00:40:21.570

Carl Racine: yeah there's I mean there's a couple of different ways that the New Testament talks about this and we're gonna we're gonna talk about this more in the next section, when we talk about becoming part of abraham's family.

264

00:40:22.710 --> 00:40:27.120

Carl Racine: But adoption is one way, the New Testament talks about it.

265

00:40:28.440 --> 00:40:42.750

Carl Racine: Given citizenship in Israel is how Paul talks about it in

a fusions and again in Romans 11, that is what I get the title of this course from being grafted into the tree.

266

00:40:43.470 --> 00:40:50.910

Carl Racine: This wild all of branch, which normally would not have been grafted into a domestic olive tree because.

267

00:40:51.780 --> 00:41:02.700

Carl Racine: That was not that that wasn't proper horticulture so Paul is intentionally talking about something that in nature wouldn't happen and that God miraculously did.

268

00:41:03.210 --> 00:41:12.630

Carl Racine: Bringing the gentiles into the Jewish tree and that's why the Jewish roots are so important that Gentile branch that God grafted into that tree.

269

00:41:13.020 --> 00:41:21.690

Carl Racine: cannot survive without the what Paul calls the rich SAP of the roots which support the tree.

270

00:41:22.560 --> 00:41:36.240

Carl Racine: And Paul is telling the gentiles in Rome, the Gentile Christians you can't be arrogant and proud about over the Jews and think you're better than they are because in fact you're very spiritual life depends on them.

271

00:41:36.630 --> 00:41:42.960

Carl Racine: not the other way around, and the Church has completely ignored that and taking it to the opposite extreme.

272

00:41:43.830 --> 00:42:00.900

Carl Racine: So there's different ways of talking about bringing gentiles into the family of Abraham even in the New Testament but the Old Testament also looks forward to what's called the in gathering of the gentiles.

273

00:42:01.530 --> 00:42:13.680

Carl Racine: looks forward to a time in the future of the prophetic hope and I can't off the top of my head give you references, but there are plenty of them, the prophetic hope.

274

00:42:14.760 --> 00:42:25.650

Carl Racine: Is that a day will come when all of the nations will stream to the light of Torah in Jerusalem, that they will stream to they will come.

275

00:42:27.990 --> 00:42:37.920

Carl Racine: and say we want to be with you, because we have heard that God is with you, they will recognize the God of Israel, the God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob is the one true God.

276

00:42:38.370 --> 00:42:55.140

Carl Racine: And that was taking place, to some extent in Jesus day and and and I would simply argue that the Christian movement as bill said as a kind of Jewish sect that has has in various fortunately was brought in to that, even though it kind of parted company in certain ways.

277

00:42:56.190 --> 00:43:01.470

Carl Racine: But that that that connection is important, which is the whole purpose of this class.

278

00:43:11.610 --> 00:43:15.390

Carl Racine: Alright, well, let me say a couple last things, and then we can close for the day.

279

00:43:16.560 --> 00:43:28.500

Carl Racine: So in sort of connection to this, I think the churches, first and foremost responsibility is to learn from the Bible what it means to be Israel.

280

00:43:29.340 --> 00:43:35.190

Carl Racine: And that's what we've been looking at, not on the assumption that we replace the Jewish people.

281

00:43:36.150 --> 00:43:50.220

Carl Racine: But, on the assumption that we have come to share israel's vocation israel's calling israel's mission in the world to be a people shaped by Torah to appear people shaped by god's instruction god's teaching.

282

00:43:50.610 --> 00:43:53.670

Carl Racine: And sewed be a light to the nation's.

283

00:43:54.270 --> 00:44:08.220

Carl Racine: abraham's call in genesis 12 was to create a family that would walk in the ways of the Lord the ways of compassionate justice that we have looked at repeatedly in this class and so as a result, be a blessing to all peoples.

284

00:44:09.030 --> 00:44:22.500

Carl Racine: Not simply to Israel and and and God makes it very clear to Jen to Abraham in genesis through you and your descendants all of the world will receive blessing.

285

00:44:26.880 --> 00:44:37.920

Carl Racine: So, Israel is called simply to be Israel to be faithful to who God has called them to be a people distinct from different from Egypt and Babylon and Rome.

286

00:44:38.430 --> 00:44:51.780

Carl Racine: And in the Old Testament that radically different light that radically different Community that God wants to form is viewed as attracting, as I said, people from other nations to embrace the God of Israel.

287

00:44:53.610 --> 00:45:05.580

Carl Racine: And the New Testament sends people out into the larger world with that same message, but unless you have learned who you are supposed to be you can't be a light to others.

288

00:45:06.720 --> 00:45:18.420

Carl Racine: The good news is more than just a list of theological doctrines and I think Christianity has to often thought that if you just get people to give some sort of verbal assent to a couple of ideas.

289

00:45:19.470 --> 00:45:37.440

Carl Racine: That that's what preaching the gospel is all of that, but in fact it's those doctrines embodied in a way of life, embodied in a whole community not just individuals of people like Israel, and so the church's task is to learn from Israel, how to be Israel.

290

00:45:38.490 --> 00:45:48.060

Carl Racine: And it's interesting that i've prepared this section, several months ago, but just this week, I was reading an essay I hadn't read before by rabbi heschel.

291

00:45:48.480 --> 00:45:56.610

Carl Racine: written in 1949 four years after the end of World War Two one year after the founding of the State of Israel.

292

00:45:57.480 --> 00:46:16.770

Carl Racine: And he comments on this idea of the persistent existence of the Jews, he says, the very existence of a Jew, is a spiritual Act, the fact that we have survived, despite the suffering and persecution is itself a sanctification of god's name.

293

00:46:18.660 --> 00:46:30.420

Carl Racine: Now earlier in this class, we talked about sanctification of the name at length and you might remember I argue that it's not only a central idea in Judaism sank defying the name of God.

294

00:46:30.900 --> 00:46:41.730

Carl Racine: But one which Jesus made the first petition and the prayer he taught his disciples hallowed be thy name sanctified be your name, being a holy people.

295

00:46:42.720 --> 00:46:48.450

Carl Racine: god's name is hallowed on by being a holy people god's name is hallowed or made holy.

296

00:46:49.380 --> 00:46:57.750

Carl Racine: And that doesn't just happen in some sort of private religious vacuum sanctify in god's name in in the scriptures in books like ezeziel.

297

00:46:58.200 --> 00:47:10.080

Carl Racine: refers to how the world comes to know and understand who God is sanctified in god's name really as an act of proclaiming and demonstrating to got to the world.

298

00:47:10.830 --> 00:47:19.620

Carl Racine: Who, the one true God is god's name is sanctified when the world recognizes who God is so what heschel is saying here.

299

00:47:20.190 --> 00:47:31.770

Carl Racine: Is what i've been saying the very persistence of the Jews as a people is a witness to the world about God, and so it goes on to say, we continue to exist.

300

00:47:32.430 --> 00:47:43.860

Carl Racine: In spite of the torrents of hatred and the dangers that constantly lie and wait for us, we always have had the option to solve the Jewish question, which was a.

301

00:47:45.390 --> 00:47:54.570

Carl Racine: Nazi phrase he puts it in clothes, we always have the option to solve the Jewish question through conversion, in other words, through giving up our Judaism.

302

00:47:55.800 --> 00:48:08.640

Carl Racine: And, had we stopped being Jews, we would not have continued as thorns in everyone's flesh and we would not have remained an object of score.

303

00:48:09.990 --> 00:48:29.700

Carl Racine: And it's a very interesting quote to me, partly because I don't know if in 1949 that heschel has any idea where the phrase thorn in the flesh came from that it came from one of paul's letters that it's from the New Testament because it's simply a common phrase in the world, these days.

304

00:48:32.250 --> 00:48:44.850

Carl Racine: But here, interestingly enough heschel sees sanctified in god's name as not only being a light to the world, but it includes being a thorn in people's fret flesh being an irritant.

305

00:48:45.510 --> 00:48:56.640

Carl Racine: And i've always interpreted Jesus phrase salt of the earth, partly in that way, as well, salt, if you get it in your eyes or in a cut in your skin is an irritant right.

306

00:48:57.870 --> 00:49:15.750

Carl Racine: it's a different way of thinking about the salt of the earth, but here by being different by being set apart, which is the main significance of the word holy a community may become a light to the world, but it will also be a thorn in the flesh and will

inevitably.

307

00:49:17.130 --> 00:49:29.790

Carl Racine: remain an object of scorn and hatred and danger and Jesus told his disciples as well, the same thing if you're faithful to me in the world, the world's not necessarily going to love you.

308

00:49:32.100 --> 00:49:37.380

Carl Racine: So Jesus told his disciples let your light shine.

309

00:49:39.900 --> 00:49:49.140

Carl Racine: Let your light so shine among all people that they may see your good your good works and give glory to your heavenly Father Matthew 516.

310

00:49:49.740 --> 00:50:07.560

Carl Racine: that's the essence of the idea of sank defying the name that you live, your life in such a way that people recognize that there's something beyond you simply being a good person that that this is done through the power of god's spirit and that there is indeed a God.

311

00:50:09.180 --> 00:50:11.640

Carl Racine: who asked his people to live a certain way.

312

00:50:13.350 --> 00:50:26.790

Carl Racine: The question I just want to leave you with for today and thinking about all of this is how might this statement of Jesus this command of Jesus give us a slightly different sense of our mission in the world.

313

00:50:35.670 --> 00:50:37.290

Carl Racine: Anybody questions comments.

314

00:50:42.150 --> 00:50:44.640

Susan Racine: Let your light shine is that the command your.

315

00:50:45.060 --> 00:50:45.690

Carl Racine: But your.

316

00:50:46.230 --> 00:50:49.800

Carl Racine: That they may see your good works and give glory to your heavenly Father.

317

00:50:51.600 --> 00:51:01.290

Carl Racine: I don't know that we always think of that as as a Christian mission in the world, we see a Christian mission as a as a way you know converting people and making them be.

318

00:51:02.340 --> 00:51:13.020

Carl Racine: Christians, but this sentence to me lines up in interesting ways with what we've been talking about in this class.

319

00:51:14.100 --> 00:51:16.800

Carl Racine: But the ultimate goal is.

320

00:51:17.850 --> 00:51:24.330

Carl Racine: to sanctify the name is to give glory to God, by how we live our lives.

321

00:51:29.250 --> 00:51:30.060

Susan Racine: I think that.

322

00:51:33.300 --> 00:51:34.050

Susan Racine: Because I think.

323

00:51:35.460 --> 00:51:39.210

Susan Racine: Hypocrisy really turns people off to God.

324

00:51:40.380 --> 00:51:44.100

Susan Racine: And it's a shame it's got all these.

325

00:51:45.210 --> 00:51:47.190

Susan Racine: pastors who are in it for the money or.

326

00:51:48.240 --> 00:51:49.140

Susan Racine: are guilty of.

327

00:51:51.540 --> 00:51:56.400

Susan Racine: pornography or rave or whatever they are really shaming, the name of God.

328

00:51:57.930 --> 00:51:59.160

Susan Racine: In their followers as well.

329

00:52:08.160 --> 00:52:08.520

Carole Copeland Thomas: i'm.

330

00:52:10.290 --> 00:52:11.670

Carole Copeland Thomas: Still struck.

331

00:52:13.020 --> 00:52:16.890

Carole Copeland Thomas: Just by our relationship with the Jewish community with the.

332

00:52:17.940 --> 00:52:33.750

Carole Copeland Thomas: brother bill saying that we are a sect of Judaism, with their their leadership, despite the lack of size again less than 20 million people in the world of Jewish.

333

00:52:35.550 --> 00:52:48.000

Carole Copeland Thomas: Over you know overwhelmingly a lot of the resources that they haven't had throughout the centuries, the persecution that has taken place, but yet they still lead the way in many ways and.

334

00:52:49.260 --> 00:53:09.360

Carole Copeland Thomas: I, I have a question I don't know whether it's for brother Carl or brother Meryl or sister Meryl they just the whole the phraseology about Jewish people being the chosen ones and does that have any relationship to to our conversation that we've had now for many months.

335

00:53:10.740 --> 00:53:18.570

Meryl Lieberman: chosen to survive, do you mean through plague and famine and persecution is that the question.

336

00:53:19.920 --> 00:53:30.480

Carole Copeland Thomas: Well, I was just openly asking because i've always heard the phrase that the Jewish community, they are the they

are god's chosen ones chosen people.

337

00:53:31.560 --> 00:53:39.450

Carole Copeland Thomas: And just wanted to have a reflection from you or a brother Carl on that related to our conversation here in this class.

338

00:53:41.130 --> 00:53:44.760

james williams: Excuse me, can I make a comment, I know you weren't any question.

339

00:53:45.300 --> 00:53:46.020

james williams: No, I didn't.

340

00:53:46.080 --> 00:53:52.710

james williams: Anybody yeah yeah I have to get off to the Bible said, but what I want to comment on is when I took the courses at the.

341

00:53:53.400 --> 00:54:01.770

james williams: School of Theology I was taking some courses to enhance my my my church my Sunday school teaching and I remember that.

342

00:54:02.640 --> 00:54:10.800

james williams: When they were talking about the beginning, they talked about a smorgasbord of believers that were the Jewish community.

343

00:54:11.520 --> 00:54:22.680

james williams: And as as brother bill just committed when he made this comment about we are a sect well during that beginning time the Jewish community wasn't.

344

00:54:23.640 --> 00:54:34.890

james williams: What we see today, it was a smorgasbord of people there were some Asian folk in the there was some black Pope in there, there were some folks have asked it was like Christians Christians on a particular ethnicity.

345

00:54:35.550 --> 00:54:53.640

james williams: There are there are people have different if this is they have this belief system, and so the Jewish community was that

same thing I don't know I think it's it's Moses, whose wife was Ethiopian or something like that, but there's a smorgasbord of people and so.

346

00:54:54.720 --> 00:55:01.350

james williams: In that respect, it just makes it so much easier like when I was teaching the kids you know, to say that what the Jewish.

347

00:55:01.890 --> 00:55:13.860

james williams: The Jewish people and the Jewish standard of this and the Jewish this that the other and all they saw was the community of Jewish people that we see it was just it was.

348

00:55:14.790 --> 00:55:26.190

james williams: It was a problem, it was a problem because you know what all the things that go on in terms of racing and you know what went wrong with that, but that's my understanding of it um.

349

00:55:27.330 --> 00:55:30.930

james williams: But the call is more the expert you could probably elaborate on that a little bit.

350

00:55:31.980 --> 00:55:35.640

Carole Copeland Thomas: that's that's good for me good demographic information brother James Thank you.

351

00:55:36.870 --> 00:55:47.970

Carl Racine: I mean, one of the helpful things of visiting Israel as you realize that all Jews don't look like Eastern Europeans, which is what most Americans think because that's the majority of Jews, what we see in America have descended from Eastern Europeans.

352

00:55:48.450 --> 00:56:07.110

Carl Racine: If you go to Israel, you see, the majority of Jews, there have been descended from people from the Middle East there's you've got Ethiopian Jews you got you got a whole range of what we think of as ethnicities that are all Jews in Israel, and you have a much more diverse culture.

353

00:56:08.730 --> 00:56:19.740

Carl Racine: The the kind of stereotypical Jewish stuff that we think of like bagels and corned beef and all of that this and Israel, the

cuisine is completely different.

354

00:56:21.030 --> 00:56:21.390

Carl Racine: It.

355

00:56:22.470 --> 00:56:28.950

Carl Racine: But the question is the chosen people, it seems to me, is it is a hugely important one, because it.

356

00:56:30.150 --> 00:56:35.010

Carl Racine: The Jews have been called the chosen people, but the question is, what does that mean and.

357

00:56:35.880 --> 00:56:47.250

Carl Racine: I just said a few minutes ago that, first and foremost, you turn to genesis 12 God chose Abraham and his descendants, to be a blessing to the whole world.

358

00:56:48.030 --> 00:56:57.780

Carl Racine: Not simply to keep that blessing for themselves and i've argued repeatedly and this has nothing to do with Judaism, the biblically speaking, the only way.

359

00:56:58.590 --> 00:57:16.530

Carl Racine: You really experience god's blessing is by sharing that blessing with someone else if you try to keep it for yourself it evaporates it's no longer a blessing and a curse because it's it becomes a selfish thing God only blesses people so that they can be blessings to others.

360

00:57:16.950 --> 00:57:27.390

Carl Racine: that's a fundamental biblical principle that's true of Israel, so if as an end but there's another passage and I can't remember exactly where it is i'm pretty sure it's in deuteronomy but in Torah.

361

00:57:27.930 --> 00:57:35.010

Carl Racine: Where God through Moses is specifically telling the Israelites as they're about to enter the land look.

362

00:57:36.660 --> 00:57:48.420

Carl Racine: I didn't choose you because you were the most powerful nation on earth, that you were the most wonderful people on earth, in fact, I chose you because you were insignificant and small.

363

00:57:50.070 --> 00:57:54.480

Carl Racine: chosen this doesn't have anything to do with your.

364

00:57:55.650 --> 00:57:58.590

Carl Racine: bow value, you know, in the eyes of the world.

365

00:57:59.790 --> 00:58:17.160

Carl Racine: I chose you to demonstrate my love and my power and my holiness to the world it's not about you it's about me and so again, the idea of being the chosen people means.

366

00:58:17.910 --> 00:58:29.370

Carl Racine: you're chosen for mission your chosen for ministry your chosen as a as god's partner as as rabbi sacks repeatedly says, you were chosen to.

367

00:58:30.150 --> 00:58:39.840

Carl Racine: Share god's love as brother bill so eloquently said, with the world that's what it means to be the chosen people it doesn't mean you're better than anybody else.

368

00:58:41.250 --> 00:58:55.170

Carl Racine: It simply means you have a responsibility, and if you get those things backwards, then you can sit there and in your do your little superiority dance and completely misunderstand what the whole thing is about.

369

00:58:57.270 --> 00:59:03.000

Bill Hughes: On the call just to emphasize what you just said and ask a question.

370

00:59:04.830 --> 00:59:05.970

Bill Hughes: anybody can be a Jew.

371

00:59:07.320 --> 00:59:08.220

Bill Hughes: you're jealous of Jonathan.

372

00:59:09.240 --> 00:59:11.820

Bill Hughes: chosen well you just become chosen.

373

00:59:13.050 --> 00:59:14.130

Bill Hughes: Right right.

374

00:59:14.670 --> 00:59:15.390

Exactly.

375

00:59:17.280 --> 00:59:17.670

Carl Racine: and

376

00:59:18.120 --> 00:59:36.780

Carl Racine: You know we're gonna see some other examples of this, as we go on, but there are biblically there's a whole lot of people who get as brother James was saying, who get brought into the Community of Israel who aren't ethnically Hebrew or ethnically israelite or something like that and.

377

00:59:37.800 --> 00:59:44.820

Carl Racine: The book of Ruth is one great example of she's moved some obey and we're gonna talk about this at length.

378

00:59:45.840 --> 00:59:46.620

In a week or two.

379

00:59:48.990 --> 00:59:57.090

Carl Racine: And yet Ruth is not only brought into the people of Israel, but she becomes a great grandmother of David.

380

01:00:00.000 --> 01:00:12.510

Carl Racine: And so it's a Union of a non israelite Ruth with an israelite boaz that ultimately produces the dividend monarchy.

381

01:00:13.800 --> 01:00:21.720

Carl Racine: The Torah the Bible itself couldn't be clear on on this that it's not an ethnocentric.

382

01:00:22.860 --> 01:00:24.900

concept, the chosen people.

383

01:00:31.080 --> 01:00:38.580

Carole Copeland Thomas: Meryl did you want to add to that and I know I asked the question originally and then you were getting seeking clarification.

384

01:00:39.840 --> 01:00:42.570

Meryl Lieberman: My only experience as a Jew has been.

385

01:00:43.830 --> 01:00:53.910

Meryl Lieberman: feeling separate in most of the communities that i've lived in and so that's why i've always had a very close connection with the African American Community.

386

01:00:54.690 --> 01:01:09.930

Meryl Lieberman: Where we are together and struggle in everything that matters and everything that's important so that's my contribution for today, I want to introduce you all to advocate that's my kid and he's walking into the room, right now, so I want you all to meet him.

387

01:01:14.700 --> 01:01:15.630

Carole Copeland Thomas: hi friends.

388

01:01:16.500 --> 01:01:18.510

Carole Copeland Thomas: I wish I wish Murray double date.

389

01:01:19.050 --> 01:01:19.440

Meryl Lieberman: here.

390

01:01:19.650 --> 01:01:24.090

Carole Copeland Thomas: because she loves animals, she would just go wild oh look at.

391

01:01:24.090 --> 01:01:24.780

Bad.

392

01:01:39.060 --> 01:01:48.750

Carole Copeland Thomas: Narrow I will, I will make sure to pass that on to Murray Doubleday who sometimes is proud of our class me she's a

great animal lover she you you all, would be fast friends.

393

01:01:59.820 --> 01:02:00.810

Carole Copeland Thomas: And everything else.

394

01:02:08.040 --> 01:02:08.610

Meryl Lieberman: Everybody.

395

01:02:08.790 --> 01:02:09.360

amen.

396

01:02:13.200 --> 01:02:16.560

james williams: I have to go, I will do prayer i'm sorry but God bless you guys.

397

01:02:18.720 --> 01:02:21.930

Carole Copeland Thomas: by James merry Happy New Year Merry Christmas.

398

01:02:24.420 --> 01:02:24.870

Carl Racine: All right, well.

399

01:02:25.980 --> 01:02:29.130

Carl Racine: In prayer, then I will resume this discussion next week.

400

01:02:31.350 --> 01:02:31.800

Thank you.

401

01:02:35.160 --> 01:02:48.630

Carole Copeland Thomas: Dear Lord in heaven, we say thank you so much for again just such a wonderful fellowship, as we have been reminded of the great ethnic diversity of the Jewish community in the days of old.

402

01:02:49.260 --> 01:02:57.900

Carole Copeland Thomas: And, as our conversation goes forward we look at the ethnic diversity in this class which I absolutely love the.

403

01:02:59.460 --> 01:03:13.500

Carole Copeland Thomas: Comments the questions the the perspectives

just make this such a rich class and we say thank you so much as we Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ yesterday and continue on through.

404

01:03:14.820 --> 01:03:20.400

Carole Copeland Thomas: The new years and all of the celebrations in between, including Boxing Day and.

405

01:03:20.400 --> 01:03:32.340

Carole Copeland Thomas: kwanzaa and then three kings day on January 6 there's so much meaning and relevance and as pastor hammond had mentioned today is, we just need to hear.

406

01:03:32.820 --> 01:03:47.220

Carole Copeland Thomas: and using our hands and dealing with our hearts in appreciating the the oneness that we have in the connection that we have to your great name Thank you so much to keep us all safe throughout the days ahead.

407

01:03:48.090 --> 01:03:54.270

Carole Copeland Thomas: Those who are traveling to relatives homes, between now and the New Year, we just pray that all will be.

408

01:03:55.440 --> 01:03:59.100

Carole Copeland Thomas: Again, just kept safe, we say thank you, Lord for.

409

01:04:00.150 --> 01:04:14.550

Carole Copeland Thomas: The safety that took place with sister mariama Reverend mariama white Hamon, the accident that she had yesterday that could have been catastrophic and was not it was catastrophic for her car.

410

01:04:15.000 --> 01:04:21.150

Carole Copeland Thomas: That got total but her life and the lives of the others involved in that accident were spared.

411

01:04:21.660 --> 01:04:31.380

Carole Copeland Thomas: Thank you again, Lord for sister Brenda Marshall coming through surgery for sister joelle Johnson, who was on coffee hour earlier and the recuperation.

412

01:04:31.800 --> 01:04:43.080

Carole Copeland Thomas: That she's going through, we just say, please keep us all in prayer as we think about those families who have lost loved ones during the holiday season or shortly beforehand.

413

01:04:43.560 --> 01:04:51.930

Carole Copeland Thomas: And those who are just navigating troubled waters we just hope that you will continue to strengthen and keep each and every one of us.

414

01:04:52.320 --> 01:05:01.410

Carole Copeland Thomas: As we go about our lives, but as we think about others and the relationship we have with them, thank you, Lord for us brother Carl receiving.

415

01:05:02.010 --> 01:05:16.140

Carole Copeland Thomas: The extraordinary amount of preparation and time that he puts into this class for a relatively small group, but a very, very appreciative group we say thank you for all who are here sister Susan.

416

01:05:16.920 --> 01:05:23.220

Carole Copeland Thomas: His partner in love and all matters with family, we say thank you so much for sister Hannah.

417

01:05:23.490 --> 01:05:30.660

Carole Copeland Thomas: And the wonderful perspective that she brings our way for brother James Williams, who just had to get off the line and sister Beverly.

418

01:05:30.960 --> 01:05:52.710

Carole Copeland Thomas: For us, brother Bill Hughes and sister Linda and they're adorable daughters and for our newest member of the class sister Meryl Lieberman, and her pig and all the things that we will learn from her this we ask in your precious name until next year next Sunday next year amen.

419

01:05:57.990 --> 01:05:59.850

Carole Copeland Thomas: God bless everybody all right.

420

01:06:01.260 --> 01:06:02.640

Carole Copeland Thomas: All right, hey man good.

421

01:06:02.790 --> 01:06:04.770

Carole Copeland Thomas: Week, thank you.