

WEBVTT

1

00:00:01.680 --> 00:00:02.220

Carl Racine: morning.

2

00:00:04.529 --> 00:00:12.480

Carole Copeland Thomas: me, can I have everybody just to look in the camera for a second and we're going to take a picture of everybody, so, if you would just look right in your camera.

3

00:00:13.679 --> 00:00:29.580

Carole Copeland Thomas: And we will take two shots here is one, including our great friend from Honduras awesome here's number one and here is number, to take one more shot oh got a Mara in there too.

4

00:00:30.810 --> 00:00:32.100

Carole Copeland Thomas: Thank you so much, thank you.

5

00:00:39.150 --> 00:00:49.320

Carl Racine: So let's begin with prayer Lord God we bless you for this day we bless you for being able to meet this way virtually.

6

00:00:51.300 --> 00:01:04.620

Carl Racine: We bless you for the fact that there is a vaccine and suddenly people are getting vaccinated we pray for those who do not yet have it, especially the poor parts of our world.

7

00:01:06.690 --> 00:01:12.450

Carl Racine: that there will be a will on the parts of the more wealthy nations to.

8

00:01:13.470 --> 00:01:17.430

Carl Racine: share the wealth, because it's in all of our best interests.

9

00:01:18.840 --> 00:01:20.430

Carl Racine: Not just for the few.

10

00:01:22.440 --> 00:01:26.850

Carl Racine: As we turn to your word, this morning we ask Lord that

you guide our discussion.

11

00:01:27.990 --> 00:01:29.130

Carl Racine: and open.

12

00:01:30.690 --> 00:01:33.810

Carl Racine: Our heart we open our hearts to you in christ's name
amen.

13

00:01:39.330 --> 00:01:39.750

Carl Racine: We.

14

00:01:40.560 --> 00:01:42.570

Carl Racine: We kind of ended with a.

15

00:01:45.720 --> 00:01:47.550

Carl Racine: With me raising an issue that.

16

00:01:48.570 --> 00:01:53.580

Carl Racine: I thought was connected to our discussion, I want to come
back to that first this morning.

17

00:01:56.280 --> 00:01:59.520

Carl Racine: Because we've been looking at the topic of crime and
punishment.

18

00:02:00.900 --> 00:02:06.630

Carl Racine: In the Bible, and in particular we we were focusing on
the.

19

00:02:07.680 --> 00:02:11.310

Carl Racine: Common expression an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth.

20

00:02:12.630 --> 00:02:24.960

Carl Racine: And we saw by book looking at both the Old Testament by
looking at what Jesus says, as well as by some material from the
rabbi's it can be understood that phrase we understood in more than
one way.

21

00:02:27.060 --> 00:02:33.180

Carl Racine: One of the ways would be to see it simply as speaking to punishment for an offense.

22

00:02:35.070 --> 00:02:59.760

Carl Racine: And we saw that its actual purpose in Torah was to place limits on what kind of penalty was assessed for a crime that the punishment must be fair, the punishment must fit the fit the crime and not go beyond the offense out of just a sense essentially of seeking revenge seeking to.

23

00:03:00.810 --> 00:03:03.210

Carl Racine: hurt the person who came in the offense.

24

00:03:04.950 --> 00:03:09.960

Carl Racine: But we also saw that both in the rabbi's and Jesus.

25

00:03:11.070 --> 00:03:25.110

Carl Racine: This phrase could be understood in a more positive sense, in a sense that speaks to the need for restitution when someone has been wrong making things right with someone that you have harmed.

26

00:03:26.430 --> 00:03:36.510

Carl Racine: The rabbi's we saw don't see this phrase is being should that you should take this phrase literally, but it should apply to a financial.

27

00:03:37.770 --> 00:03:50.280

Carl Racine: pain payment of some sort covering not simply the the the injury that was inflicted on the person, but other aspects that came with that assault, including.

28

00:03:52.290 --> 00:03:59.670

Carl Racine: The the humiliation, the public humiliation, the sense of hurt feelings, the sense of shame.

29

00:04:01.140 --> 00:04:12.240

Carl Racine: At being assaulted that all of that has to be made right because that that's very much in line with what we saw a long time ago, when we looked at the Jewish understanding of repentance.

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00:04:12.690 --> 00:04:32.790

Carl Racine: Meaning more than just saying you're sorry but making up for the loss restoring what you had taken or done to the person going beyond even what is strictly required by the law to repay over and above.

31

00:04:34.380 --> 00:04:41.730

Carl Racine: What you've done and Jesus sort of echoes this in the in the passage we looked at from Matthew about giving if you're being sued.

32

00:04:42.210 --> 00:04:55.290

Carl Racine: For your for your shirt giving your Code as well do what you need to do to restore the situation to what it was to achieve reconciliation with the person that you have harmed.

33

00:04:56.640 --> 00:05:02.550

Carl Racine: and make up for all of the effects of your of your action.

34

00:05:05.430 --> 00:05:17.070

Carl Racine: For me it's kind of thinking about this, one of the issues that raises in my mind is the hotly debated topic of reparations for slavery in America.

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00:05:18.570 --> 00:05:39.750

Carl Racine: And you know, as I said last week, on the one hand, for me, at least this idea, creates a logical and a logistical nightmare who exactly should get those reparations what kind of restitution might even compensate people for centuries of oppression and abuse.

36

00:05:41.340 --> 00:05:59.370

Carl Racine: I think, just to look at it, as reparations for slavery ignores off all that's happened since slavery was abolished to African Americans in this country that that came from the same sorts of attitudes.

37

00:06:00.570 --> 00:06:20.520

Carl Racine: Money is usually what gets talked about when they talk about reparations but how much what would make adequate restitution, these are issues of justice that we've kind of skirted around when we've talked about justice in this class and looked at justice in the Bible.

38

00:06:21.960 --> 00:06:28.800

Carl Racine: What would in fact constitute justice and we saw again this week, even with the.

39

00:06:30.810 --> 00:06:35.340

Carl Racine: What most of us saw was a positive outcome in the trial.

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00:06:36.900 --> 00:06:38.160

Carl Racine: of Derek shogun.

41

00:06:39.750 --> 00:06:45.990

Carl Racine: We saw at least some of that he were so a Globe calmness of know yes we're we're we're left feeling.

42

00:06:47.160 --> 00:06:54.180

Carl Racine: This doesn't give me a sense that now justice has been achieved, this is just one little bit of a larger.

43

00:06:55.980 --> 00:07:14.460

Carl Racine: set of issues of justice that that have to be addressed and I understand why people are raising the issue I don't have answers i'm not i'm not going to give you even what I think, because I had this is really a genuine question in my mind and.

44

00:07:16.740 --> 00:07:19.380

Carl Racine: In my mind, whatever solution is proposed to.

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00:07:19.380 --> 00:07:21.390

Carl Racine: These questions would be inadequate.

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00:07:21.840 --> 00:07:25.260

Carl Racine: In terms of actual compensation for what's been done.

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00:07:26.610 --> 00:07:37.710

Carl Racine: I do think the idea of doing something will at least be a symbolic step, something that would be important to people, because it would be an admission of.

48

00:07:38.100 --> 00:07:48.990

Carl Racine: Solid admission a corporate admission on the part of America of serious wrongdoing I don't think America is really ready for this most Americans.

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00:07:50.520 --> 00:08:03.300

Carl Racine: It is being done in some places, but what, when I was thinking through this a little more the question the kind of fine tuning the question and the thing may I mean we can talk about both aspects of it but.

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00:08:05.640 --> 00:08:14.310

Carl Racine: One of the one of the kind of Sub questions or subcategories of this question is, how could the church do this.

51

00:08:14.880 --> 00:08:28.020

Carl Racine: America may or may not be willing to make reparations for enslaving Africans, but the church itself in America, the church as a whole should really look at its own responsibility.

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00:08:28.410 --> 00:08:39.540

Carl Racine: for supporting and defending slavery and later Jim crow and think about what what it could do to make up for it, not just giving the shirt.

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00:08:40.050 --> 00:08:43.320

Carl Racine: Which is the bare minimum it owes but the cloak as well.

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00:08:43.890 --> 00:08:56.970

Carl Racine: What would it mean for the church to make reparations for the mistreatment of African Americans and for its responsibility in in supporting and perpetuating that in this country.

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00:08:57.630 --> 00:09:22.380

Carl Racine: How, how could that be done what else besides money would would satisfy a sense for the need for justice and I specifically want to ask this question of African Americans in this class what would satisfy your sense of justice or even begin to address your sense of justice.

56

00:09:24.030 --> 00:09:35.640

Carl Racine: So we kind of left with that and sister Carol since you

wanted to to to us to talk about that a little more which i'm happy to do so i'm going to open up.

57

00:09:38.220 --> 00:09:44.730

Carl Racine: The discussion because I genuinely don't have any answers to these questions.

58

00:09:46.530 --> 00:09:49.980

Carole Copeland Thomas: You know it's it's it's a very complex.

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00:09:51.780 --> 00:10:05.790

Carole Copeland Thomas: Question with difficult answers, if any, the one thing that gets me when you talk about the Church, I guess, two distinct groups that are sort of connected that.

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00:10:06.600 --> 00:10:18.120

Carole Copeland Thomas: I think about number one are the southern Baptist who were very active slave holders and used biblical passages to justify slavery.

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00:10:18.900 --> 00:10:30.990

Carole Copeland Thomas: And I don't know if they've ever apologize, perhaps they have i'd have to go back and see if they've done so, and the next group related to them somewhat would be the evangelicals.

62

00:10:31.890 --> 00:10:45.870

Carole Copeland Thomas: who also have their roots in being slave owners and I don't think they've ever done anything in terms of acknowledging that or or apologizing I say that because, as a.

63

00:10:46.860 --> 00:11:00.810

Carole Copeland Thomas: As a woman of faith as a business woman who has dealt a lot in the businesses i've been in in the affiliations i've been in with southern Christians and their denominations um.

64

00:11:01.860 --> 00:11:03.660

Carole Copeland Thomas: I have a wariness.

65

00:11:05.430 --> 00:11:20.970

Carole Copeland Thomas: and have for some times of their real intent, and I say that, just because I find much of their material it's not

just southern Christians but i'm thinking specifically of evangelicals.

66

00:11:22.110 --> 00:11:34.260

Carole Copeland Thomas: Southern Baptists etc just because of their prominence on TV and with their crusades etc, with a real level of sophistication tremendous sophistication.

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00:11:35.070 --> 00:11:52.650

Carole Copeland Thomas: In their marketing and how they market and how they message themselves which, in many ways can hide some of their real beliefs and certainly their historical practices, so I am.

68

00:11:54.480 --> 00:12:03.690

Carole Copeland Thomas: I just I grow weary and it's the the real troubling thing for me, and I can say that, even though janet's in Florida, but she's from here.

69

00:12:04.140 --> 00:12:19.080

Carole Copeland Thomas: Is that I have a lot of friends and and black friends in the south and how some of them can be co opted into the belief system that can impact them politically and.

70

00:12:20.190 --> 00:12:36.810

Carole Copeland Thomas: wearing masks not wearing masks vaccines, not wearing vaccines going back into the church because God says so, I know I know folks like that in the south and I I just um it's it's it's troubling for me.

71

00:12:37.740 --> 00:12:38.070

Carl Racine: I just.

72

00:12:38.460 --> 00:12:39.060

Bill Hughes: I just.

73

00:12:39.600 --> 00:12:42.480

Carl Racine: I just want to point out it's not just the Baptists.

74

00:12:42.690 --> 00:12:45.150

Carole Copeland Thomas: yeah well yeah I just sort of hit on them.

75

00:12:45.450 --> 00:12:52.920

Carl Racine: Because well and that part of the reason we are an African Methodist episcopal church.

76

00:12:54.030 --> 00:12:58.620

Carl Racine: But the Methodist church made a decision in this country.

77

00:13:00.150 --> 00:13:17.250

Carl Racine: To not oppose slave John Wesley the founder the Methodist church had his first he was an Anglican priest from England and he but he was his first parish they first set him on on kind of.

78

00:13:19.020 --> 00:13:22.170

Carl Racine: You know hardship duty they sent him to Savannah Georgia.

79

00:13:23.310 --> 00:13:27.990

Carl Racine: When Savannah Georgia was a backwater and and.

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00:13:29.010 --> 00:13:40.650

Carl Racine: He saw firsthand the horrors of the slavery system in America and became staunchly anti slavery and the reason Richard Allen was so attracted to the Methodist church.

81

00:13:41.130 --> 00:13:55.470

Carl Racine: Was that in his day the Methodist church white and black what first was open to integration, they had integrated meeting so he was able, as a as an enslaved person to attend the Methodist camp meeting.

82

00:13:56.820 --> 00:14:09.810

Carl Racine: And they preach the strong anti slavery message, but the Methodist church eventually when push came to shove said too many of our members are pro slavery, so they wouldn't do that.

83

00:14:10.290 --> 00:14:23.250

Carl Racine: And so, Richard Allen you know the am each church in part was created, because not even the Methodist church that was supposedly or that started out very strongly anti slavery.

84

00:14:25.050 --> 00:14:38.220

Carl Racine: When it came down to it, couldn't couldn't put their money where their mouth is kind of thing, so the split occurred between essentially the white Methodist Church and the blacksmith's church.

85

00:14:39.630 --> 00:14:43.440

Carl Racine: So again, the the the white church as a whole.

86

00:14:44.730 --> 00:14:48.120

Carl Racine: In America, with the exception of a few groups like the Quakers.

87

00:14:49.230 --> 00:14:58.770

Carl Racine: either passively allowed slavery, to continue or actively supported it all right bill, he was has his hand up.

88

00:15:00.060 --> 00:15:01.170

Bill Hughes: yeah so the.

89

00:15:02.400 --> 00:15:09.450

Bill Hughes: Three answers to your question kind of related with their comment So the first thing i'd like to see.

90

00:15:10.530 --> 00:15:14.490

Bill Hughes: Someone because we're talking a little bit about this, but national repentance.

91

00:15:15.810 --> 00:15:17.820

Bill Hughes: We have to name what happened.

92

00:15:18.960 --> 00:15:21.180

Bill Hughes: and commit to repair.

93

00:15:23.700 --> 00:15:37.050

Bill Hughes: The second thing i'd like to see is eradication of structural racism which is to say, there are you know, we need to study and then execute on.

94

00:15:38.220 --> 00:15:41.940

Bill Hughes: Removing the system, a.

95

00:15:43.140 --> 00:15:48.480

Bill Hughes: Structural racism it's different you know we get confused when talking about racism because it's an issue of the heart.

96

00:15:48.870 --> 00:15:57.570

Bill Hughes: And we're not gonna change people's hearts, but we can actually repair the laws, the laws that we have are structurally flawed let's fix those structural flaws.

97

00:15:57.870 --> 00:16:07.710

Bill Hughes: Based on that national repentance and the third thing i'd like to see as a free loan society for black people and you could say, make it as ancestors of slaves, or whatever.

98

00:16:08.160 --> 00:16:17.460

Bill Hughes: But I know in the in the beginning of the 20th century, the Jewish religion society in New York, he says society, I think, was called helped.

99

00:16:18.750 --> 00:16:32.310

Bill Hughes: Jewish immigrants, you know, starting with push carts and building businesses and so forth, so when I think about the kinds of losses that a lot of the kind of a lot of the laws that we have even though was you know.

100

00:16:33.750 --> 00:16:57.210

Bill Hughes: It was holistic was also economic and that's kind of a generational had generational implications, so I don't I don't know that kind of granting cash to people like one time cash would be as effective as making loans available for people to.

101

00:16:59.790 --> 00:17:15.570

Bill Hughes: With with I think it's a different model because it actually it's more of a sustainable model, because in the free loan society, you get alone it's no interest you pay it back when you can right and it's a it's kind of a pay it forward model which incentivizes.

102

00:17:16.680 --> 00:17:18.300

Bill Hughes: kind of a more healthy.

103

00:17:19.650 --> 00:17:37.830

Bill Hughes: behavior so Those are three things i'd like to see, and the warning that I have is that I think we sometimes forget that, when we allow people to become so wealthy that they are immune to the laws, whatever the laws are that are set, then they're not actually.

104

00:17:39.090 --> 00:17:47.760

Bill Hughes: Then they end up playing games with people who are actually trying to abide by the laws and there are a lot of examples of that, but I think that's actually happening now.

105

00:17:48.090 --> 00:18:07.260

Bill Hughes: For example, with the Republican Party, they have like a clown clown car mentality and I think the reason is because there's so many people connected with that party who have power they don't actually care about justice they just care about their stuff and they make us, you know.

106

00:18:08.280 --> 00:18:10.770

Bill Hughes: Fight out all these different like.

107

00:18:11.970 --> 00:18:21.510

Bill Hughes: You know arguments towards towards heaven, and yet they have there's like a bra or system of structural oppression that that.

108

00:18:22.530 --> 00:18:38.070

Bill Hughes: That they're willing to abide by so long as they don't get touched so that's kind of the the cautionary thing for that, but I think within that those three things through repentance removing structural racism and some sort of access to capital that is.

109

00:18:39.390 --> 00:18:42.180

Bill Hughes: Multi generational those would be really powerful.

110

00:18:43.680 --> 00:18:56.670

Carl Racine: And I you know the the free loans to say that's a very interesting Father that I haven't heard before and that whole idea of, and of course you, you mentioned is what.

111

00:18:58.620 --> 00:18:59.490

Carl Racine: I know I know.

112

00:19:02.010 --> 00:19:03.120

Carole Copeland Thomas: Janet has her hand up.

113

00:19:03.360 --> 00:19:04.050

Carl Racine: I know I know.

114

00:19:05.160 --> 00:19:14.160

Carl Racine: we're getting there, I just want to say just in terms of this class bill pointed out that was actually something Jewish people did because that's in the Bible.

115

00:19:14.880 --> 00:19:31.500

Carl Racine: You are not charged interest to poor people, and yet you are to make loans available precisely for the reasons bill said, because otherwise the loan becomes a burden on the person and isn't isn't.

116

00:19:32.730 --> 00:19:41.940

Carl Racine: Ultimately, useful in helping them with their business, and that is a fundamental teaching of the Old Testament.

117

00:19:42.390 --> 00:19:51.930

Carl Racine: That, for the most part, Christians have ignored habitat for humanity which was founded by a Christian who actually read his Bible does that, so we.

118

00:19:52.560 --> 00:20:09.120

Carl Racine: Provide housing for people with no interest loans their mortgages have no interest built into them precisely for that reason it's a radical idea, but it is in the Old Testament says to Jan.

119

00:20:10.230 --> 00:20:22.410

Janet Humdy Morrison: yeah I want to say that i'll start off by talking about having a deep weariness and a sadness about what's going on, particularly and the evangelical and southern Christian church.

120

00:20:23.580 --> 00:20:27.030

Janet Humdy Morrison: You know it's gone on, since the beginning of slavery.

121

00:20:28.380 --> 00:20:28.830

Janet Humdy Morrison: But.

122

00:20:30.000 --> 00:20:35.040

Janet Humdy Morrison: It just you know it just makes me angry sad weary.

123

00:20:36.120 --> 00:20:45.390

Janet Humdy Morrison: Just to see what's going on, it starts with the slave bibles in them taking out certain passages so that African Americans really.

124

00:20:46.110 --> 00:20:55.500

Janet Humdy Morrison: did not stand up, you know the Bible says, and anything that didn't quite agree with that certain whole chapters exodus and everything was taken out of this Bible.

125

00:20:57.030 --> 00:21:07.440

Janet Humdy Morrison: What I would like to see the church do is to really start to break down structural racism it's time I agree with bill that the church itself needs to start to look at.

126

00:21:07.890 --> 00:21:16.440

Janet Humdy Morrison: The structure, how it's how it's being reinforced and really start to start to to to stand up and speak out against it.

127

00:21:16.770 --> 00:21:26.070

Janet Humdy Morrison: I love to see the evangelical churches and the white churches so it's not just the black churches, stand up for voting rights, stand up for.

128

00:21:27.000 --> 00:21:35.850

Janet Humdy Morrison: Making sure that some of these bills get passed i'd love to see them stand up for this whole police reform bill those would be good starts.

129

00:21:36.720 --> 00:21:42.660

Janet Humdy Morrison: For me, the structural things if we don't get rid of the structural things they're going to last forever.

130

00:21:43.020 --> 00:21:55.050

Janet Humdy Morrison: and terms of reparations i'd love to see that money go into schools and schools in black neighborhoods i'd love to see that the money that would go into cleaning up dump sites and waste sites.

131

00:21:55.710 --> 00:22:13.920

Janet Humdy Morrison: that have affected people that are poor and that happened to be African American or Hispanic so anything that's done, you know it doesn't have to have the word reparation on it, for me, it has to have fitness and it has to do something that breaks down some of these structures.

132

00:22:15.570 --> 00:22:25.590

Janet Humdy Morrison: So that, for me, would be something that i'd love to see the churches to do and i'd love to them, you know to start to admit that some of the things that they stood for wrong.

133

00:22:26.460 --> 00:22:32.790

Janet Humdy Morrison: These white evangelicals that come on TV all the time and, and you know and talk about.

134

00:22:33.720 --> 00:22:46.440

Janet Humdy Morrison: The started, many years ago, but I mean they were when we started to talk about Obama and they talk about the democrats and and all of this stuff it's time for them to stop and stand up for what's right.

135

00:22:48.900 --> 00:22:49.530

Carole Copeland Thomas: amen.

136

00:22:51.960 --> 00:22:54.090

Carole Copeland Thomas: there's one one iconic.

137

00:22:55.170 --> 00:23:08.550

Carole Copeland Thomas: point of reference, though pat Robertson, in the last maybe 10 days came out with a statement you know he's one of the real real old time far right evangelicals on TV now he did come out and say.

138

00:23:09.090 --> 00:23:21.210

Carole Copeland Thomas: Very interestingly, he said, now that guy in Minnesota that that that chauvin guys, they need to put him under the jail almost fell out when I heard that so maybe.

139

00:23:22.410 --> 00:23:33.510

Carole Copeland Thomas: Some are beginning to open their eyes to see all of the discriminatory practices that are just agree just and so flagrant in this world in this country.

140

00:23:35.070 --> 00:23:42.150

Peter Barrant: One of the things that I wonder in terms of church and reparation if.

141

00:23:43.320 --> 00:23:46.800

Peter Barrant: The Church sitting down and thinking about its own.

142

00:23:49.260 --> 00:23:55.740

Peter Barrant: The way interprets the Bible with respect to you know.

143

00:23:59.130 --> 00:24:10.260

Peter Barrant: Promoting a lot of the racial inequities I mean so in the end I grew up in the Caribbean and one of the things that the Church.

144

00:24:11.730 --> 00:24:18.030

Peter Barrant: came in saying you know drugs are bad wire drones back well they came from Africa that's that's.

145

00:24:19.110 --> 00:24:32.580

Peter Barrant: Somewhat racist theory and and along those lines that you see a variation in the music in white church versus boxers and you know there's there's it's starting to.

146

00:24:33.000 --> 00:24:41.640

Peter Barrant: Come back together again, but I think there are a whole host of things that are part of the heritage of church that.

147

00:24:42.060 --> 00:24:51.930

Peter Barrant: brings the church separate that's which is which, besides the fact that church the Church has this historic legacy continues to keep the Church.

148

00:24:52.590 --> 00:25:10.170

Peter Barrant: segregated in terms of white versus black church and I would love to see the church just sit down and think about some of the traditions that are not necessarily biblical but their traditions that the Church has that continues to promote the separation of.

149

00:25:12.480 --> 00:25:13.380

Peter Barrant: races and.

150

00:25:16.530 --> 00:25:26.370

Peter Barrant: ethnicities, I think the other thing that is clear is that one of the the challenges of the legacy of.

151

00:25:27.600 --> 00:25:30.120

Peter Barrant: Racism, has been the mental health.

152

00:25:32.310 --> 00:25:42.450

Peter Barrant: Issues that just come from poverty and you know I think that's a legacy that one will have to pay attention to when one is looking at.

153

00:25:43.260 --> 00:26:03.450

Peter Barrant: You know, dealing with reparation, and again I don't have the answer, but I would love to see some thought go into you know when folks have no way out and are constantly living on edge that has an impact on one's mental health and so.

154

00:26:05.550 --> 00:26:12.570

Peter Barrant: Those are two areas that I would love to see address if if that we're going to if we're going to pay attention to reparations.

155

00:26:14.010 --> 00:26:20.310

Carole Copeland Thomas: Thank you, brother Peter I guess i'll be the facilitator, we have two hands up first Janet and then Beverly.

156

00:26:21.240 --> 00:26:24.720

Janet Humdy Morrison: Actually, I was trying to put my hand down but i'll say my one last point.

157

00:26:26.070 --> 00:26:38.160

Janet Humdy Morrison: One of the things that we did in our book club, on the question that came up is if Americans had to choose would they choose whiteness or would they choose democracy.

158

00:26:38.670 --> 00:26:49.920

Janet Humdy Morrison: And I think that's a question that churches need to answer and they still need to start to grapple with because you know, right now, it looks like from my point of view that they choosing lightness.

159

00:26:53.580 --> 00:26:56.550

Carole Copeland Thomas: provocative and an important question.

160

00:26:56.790 --> 00:26:58.890

Janet Humdy Morrison: yeah can you put my hand down I don't know.

161

00:26:58.890 --> 00:26:59.670

Carole Copeland Thomas: I did.

162

00:27:00.510 --> 00:27:03.270

Carole Copeland Thomas: I did, thank you, thank you sister beverly.

163

00:27:03.420 --> 00:27:04.410

Bill Hughes: That arthritis.

164

00:27:04.530 --> 00:27:11.700

Beverly Williams: yeah, I just wanted to to comment on Peter with the poverty issue, poverty is created by policy.

165

00:27:13.530 --> 00:27:17.730

Beverly Williams: It is created by policy it is created by.

166

00:27:19.350 --> 00:27:33.270

Beverly Williams: The status structural racism is structural because of this, it was created and it cemented with policies and then poverty gets criminal act, so you have to address poverty.

167

00:27:33.720 --> 00:27:45.990

Beverly Williams: For reparations to work, and so this free loan

society, it may be, it may be radical, but if you think of that line, and if you think.

168

00:27:46.470 --> 00:27:55.170

Beverly Williams: The education system is whatever whether it's whether it's disparities and the in healthcare its policies.

169

00:27:55.980 --> 00:28:06.210

Beverly Williams: And so we have to, we have to address that so making statements is one thing, doing something about it is something different, and.

170

00:28:07.200 --> 00:28:17.940

Beverly Williams: You know I, I know that I think it was bill that you said, we have to vpn, we have to put a vpn but it's not necessarily the pyramid.

171

00:28:18.360 --> 00:28:33.900

Beverly Williams: it's being more vertical that tearing it down and build an arm over again, because when you put a bandaid on it, and then the scab come it only covers up what's already there in the vase and all of that is already there.

172

00:28:34.920 --> 00:28:39.420

Bill Hughes: Now you're totally right and I actually wrote this article around.

173

00:28:40.620 --> 00:29:02.640

Bill Hughes: around the Black lives matter movement and defunding the police and I wrote the article is called free D fund or redesign and I believed that defund the police was a statement to evoke a reaction, but it's actually not good policy because.

174

00:29:03.720 --> 00:29:15.030

Bill Hughes: We depend on policing for a number of things, but the nature of the policing is wrong and what I didn't realize because I got a couple of responses that were like.

175

00:29:15.540 --> 00:29:20.190

Bill Hughes: violently in disagreement, even though they weren't disagreeing with what my intent was.

176

00:29:20.730 --> 00:29:27.030

Bill Hughes: Was people were saying you can't redesign you have to tear it down and it, but if you actually have a redesigned something.

177

00:29:27.510 --> 00:29:38.460

Bill Hughes: That is what you got is how you redesign it is that you, you start with a clean sheet you design what you want, and then you systematically dismantle everything that's in the way.

178

00:29:39.030 --> 00:29:49.200

Bill Hughes: of getting to the design that you want yeah, but it does it does you know we used to when I was doing strategy consulting we actually did that, with one of the largest financial.

179

00:29:50.010 --> 00:30:01.200

Bill Hughes: services companies in in Boston for business, they were they were selling off we we literally did that whole process and it's painful and it requires leadership and requires patience.

180

00:30:01.500 --> 00:30:09.660

Bill Hughes: But but coming back to your other point about the like the free lunch society as radical quote unquote, as that is it's eminently doable.

181

00:30:10.410 --> 00:30:16.770

Bill Hughes: yeah I mean you really would only have to decide, you know how much in load you're willing to make and then.

182

00:30:17.730 --> 00:30:27.780

Bill Hughes: set aside for for However much money you think people would have to pay a normal interest you set aside a philanthropic pool and you pay that interest off.

183

00:30:28.170 --> 00:30:35.070

Bill Hughes: With the philanthropic pool and then people who see benefit in it contribute to that philanthropic pool.

184

00:30:35.400 --> 00:30:41.280

Bill Hughes: And that pool can grow and grow and grow, so that you can you can deliver more and more and more loans it's actually.

185

00:30:41.700 --> 00:30:53.550

Bill Hughes: I mean, of all the things that I said it's the easiest thing to do, because it's structural ways of doing it historical precedents for doing it and and I actually think it's most aligned with economic.

186

00:30:54.960 --> 00:30:57.210

Bill Hughes: motivations and culture of the country.

187

00:30:57.930 --> 00:30:59.430

Bill Hughes: was why I want to see it because.

188

00:30:59.700 --> 00:31:11.490

Bill Hughes: I think you need to ride, I think you, I think we need to align with those things, because if we undermine the economic system of the country, then nothing else will hold together everything else.

189

00:31:12.330 --> 00:31:19.200

Bill Hughes: will fall apart so once it's in our best interest for the economy to be strong, but to be strong in the right way okay.

190

00:31:19.350 --> 00:31:30.330

Beverly Williams: No radical about it is not is not concept, what is radical is that we would have the audacity to ask for.

191

00:31:32.490 --> 00:31:32.820

Bill Hughes: Right.

192

00:31:33.480 --> 00:31:39.510

Beverly Williams: And and working with gbi Oh, you know I struggle, you know online and I have to reconcile.

193

00:31:40.410 --> 00:31:53.370

Beverly Williams: The work that I do it to be I Oh, because this takes a movement and we're not gbi on necessarily isn't like spot in a moment, we need a movement to start things and to sustain it.

194

00:31:53.790 --> 00:32:09.390

Beverly Williams: And the work that gbi oh does it's it is at least an interruption, so that people can get their foot in to come together

and organize on a bigger moment, this has to be a nationwide movement.

195

00:32:11.700 --> 00:32:16.950

Carole Copeland Thomas: You know it's interesting you brought up the police defunding the police and and and that.

196

00:32:18.510 --> 00:32:29.370

Carole Copeland Thomas: Those kinds of crimes that are now coming out this weekend i'm participating with my sororities legislative conference that they've had for the last 2025 years it's now virtual.

197

00:32:29.790 --> 00:32:44.220

Carole Copeland Thomas: There about 4000 saw roars who are participating in some of them are actually in Congress and marcia fudge she was our new Secretary of housing and urban affairs is our national was a past national President I i've been in her office and I know her.

198

00:32:45.300 --> 00:32:54.420

Carole Copeland Thomas: But they had as one of the very good workshops yesterday, the chief of police from Durham North Carolina who has been in other police departments.

199

00:32:54.990 --> 00:33:05.670

Carole Copeland Thomas: Captain Davis I can't think of her first name but she was looking at these issues from a systemic perspective from a policy perspective.

200

00:33:06.270 --> 00:33:16.260

Carole Copeland Thomas: In terms of what police departments have to do and I found her remarks very interesting, along with some others, but just some of the over policing.

201

00:33:16.770 --> 00:33:28.080

Carole Copeland Thomas: That has been pushed on black and brown people that don't apply to white people that then lead to these horrific issues that we have.

202

00:33:28.650 --> 00:33:41.010

Carole Copeland Thomas: And she was even saying going into the Durham system some things she had to dismantle that were then being unfairly impacting the black and brown community and in the Durham area.

203

00:33:41.610 --> 00:33:52.500

Carole Copeland Thomas: That then led to over policing in those areas which you know we now see where you have an air freshener, then you get shot and killed if you're 20 years old air freshener dangling from your your.

204

00:33:52.950 --> 00:34:04.110

Carole Copeland Thomas: Your will your mirror visor so i'm that session in particular was so powerful i'm going to go back and listen to it again and I.

205

00:34:04.560 --> 00:34:12.570

Carole Copeland Thomas: have to have notes here just because it goes to that level of change that beverly is talking about in terms of policy.

206

00:34:13.110 --> 00:34:22.950

Carole Copeland Thomas: That bill is alluding to also that Carl is talking about in terms of reparations, but it has to be a systemic shift.

207

00:34:23.460 --> 00:34:30.570

Carole Copeland Thomas: So that it then translates downward to much more fairness, of all people, which clearly we're seeing.

208

00:34:31.470 --> 00:34:39.210

Carole Copeland Thomas: that's not happening, especially now they're writing articles about Darren show Derek chauvin and his blank face.

209

00:34:39.690 --> 00:34:48.870

Carole Copeland Thomas: That just appeared throughout killing a man for almost 10 minutes and then right down to the verdict that was rendered to him, he he's expressionless.

210

00:34:49.320 --> 00:34:56.610

Carole Copeland Thomas: And one of the articles is talking about indifference just that is the opposite of love not hate, but in difference.

211

00:34:57.000 --> 00:35:07.380

Carole Copeland Thomas: So I mean all these things are sort of tied together, and you know how we're going to really move forward is really tackling some of these very tough issues that people like to stay away from.

212

00:35:09.090 --> 00:35:11.760

Beverly Williams: In order terms, we always start with.

213

00:35:13.500 --> 00:35:30.900

Beverly Williams: we'll start with something like the police, but if we started from another place and we started a farm close and the economic gap in and we focus on economic development and poor Community if we start there.

214

00:35:32.250 --> 00:35:43.440

Beverly Williams: There is something that just the the people that you empower the people who become economically flesh it becomes part of the political they become part of the political fabric.

215

00:35:43.890 --> 00:36:00.870

Beverly Williams: They start to be able to rise up into to exercise their voice their power, so we start from the police and say, well, we need police and let's just make it a little less severe that they're not us and.

216

00:36:01.770 --> 00:36:17.940

Beverly Williams: Extreme for us, we don't have to start with the police, because, again, poverty is criminalized so you got to start you know the police have a puffs you got to get to the core of the of the of the acne.

217

00:36:19.230 --> 00:36:19.800

Beverly Williams: The place.

218

00:36:19.980 --> 00:36:20.880

Carl Racine: adjust the price.

219

00:36:21.060 --> 00:36:33.330

Beverly Williams: And that will we always start okay let's bust the pimple you know let's clean it up aesthetically and let's move on we've never get to the core and it's it's.

220

00:36:34.890 --> 00:36:35.490

Beverly Williams: it's poverty.

221

00:36:37.050 --> 00:36:50.130

Bill Hughes: yeah I would I would go even a step farther than poverty, because I think I think poverty is the thing that people are policing, I agree with that, I think, for me, the core of it is.

222

00:36:51.540 --> 00:37:03.330

Bill Hughes: dehumanization like the ability for one person to treat another person in a social construct as less than so as less than human as less than.

223

00:37:04.650 --> 00:37:31.410

Bill Hughes: You know, having being on equal footing from a basic human level is the beginning of all of these problems it's the beginning of sex trafficking, where you can have women's bodies being the object of men's whatever whether there be adventures or power or status or whatever you have.

224

00:37:32.610 --> 00:37:34.890

Bill Hughes: You know, black and brown bodies being.

225

00:37:36.330 --> 00:37:52.860

Bill Hughes: abused and taken advantage of just because, when someone looks at a person who's darker if you can convince them of a story that that person is not different from you and, therefore, is deserved.

226

00:37:53.880 --> 00:37:55.410

Bill Hughes: being treated less than human.

227

00:37:56.640 --> 00:38:02.640

Bill Hughes: And then you end up you know when the second order of that is oh and they're scarier they're more dangerous.

228

00:38:04.590 --> 00:38:17.220

Bill Hughes: So therefore there you know deserving of overwhelming force and and then you know you get all these other all these other problems, but I do agree with you that that the the.

229

00:38:18.690 --> 00:38:24.030

Bill Hughes: Police itself and policing is not the heart of the whole thing it's symptomatic.

230

00:38:25.980 --> 00:38:34.920

Carl Racine: Well sister Beverly you've you've left us with a wonderful image to meditate and contemplate this this week about this is.

231

00:38:37.620 --> 00:38:38.010

Carole Copeland Thomas: wow.

232

00:38:38.940 --> 00:38:41.040

Carl Racine: This has been really helpful to me.

233

00:38:41.520 --> 00:38:44.400

Carl Racine: And I'm gonna I'm I've been taking notes and I'm going to.

234

00:38:44.430 --> 00:38:46.710

Carl Racine: sort of summarize the main points.

235

00:38:47.700 --> 00:38:59.790

Carl Racine: In the in the email, I sent out to people this week, and obviously we could continue this, but I think I want to move back to the other material, but let me just say a couple things that help clarify my mind number one.

236

00:39:00.180 --> 00:39:05.070

Carl Racine: Why was uncomfortable with the idea of just sending checks to individual households.

237

00:39:07.440 --> 00:39:21.420

Carl Racine: I think, as as brother Bill and other people pointed out the the need for economic assistance has to be done in a slightly different way other than that, but I think the other thing that doing that does.

238

00:39:22.860 --> 00:39:34.500

Carl Racine: Is it it, it allows people to say you know the the

whoever you know there's been different groups in this country that have actually been trying to do this, say, well we've.

239

00:39:35.220 --> 00:39:43.830

Carl Racine: we've made reparations right we send some people some money, so we made reparations and now we're good, we can put all that behind us and move on.

240

00:39:44.430 --> 00:39:56.310

Carl Racine: Without recognizing the stuff that people here today in this discussion, have been talking about the very deep rootedness of the the problems that continue to exist, slavery didn't end.

241

00:39:57.270 --> 00:40:11.700

Carl Racine: And the problems associated slavery didn't end in 1865, and so what people have been talking about here today is is really important stuff that has to be addressed and much more.

242

00:40:13.470 --> 00:40:19.770

Carl Racine: Broadly broad address much more broadly and deeply at the same time, excuse me.

243

00:40:21.510 --> 00:40:21.990

Carl Racine: and

244

00:40:23.220 --> 00:40:47.550

Carl Racine: But, but the other thing that that it is as i'm sitting here being educated by you all i'm letting you be the teacher today for me is that i'm hearing stuff that most white evangelicals never hear because of the segregated nature of the church that education about.

245

00:40:51.960 --> 00:41:06.480

Carl Racine: Poverty yeah I agree it's not just poverty about systemic oppression treating people dehumanizing people, the effects of it, though not just the economic effects, but the as as brother Peter pointed out the.

246

00:41:07.650 --> 00:41:20.880

Carl Racine: Mental health issues, the stress of simply living under under a sense of fear, all the time and a sense of fear of everything from being brutalized by the police to where's my next meal coming

from.

247

00:41:22.740 --> 00:41:23.730

Carl Racine: That.

248

00:41:24.810 --> 00:41:43.050

Carl Racine: Education, it seems to me, is a necessary part of this, if anything, is going to happen, even within the church so in terms of pastor sermon this morning about go into all the world and and and preach to people.

249

00:41:44.700 --> 00:41:56.010

Carl Racine: This might be a challenge to the black church to to take a risk and and go into the white church and provide some education.

250

00:41:57.720 --> 00:42:09.060

Carl Racine: simply tell again tell your stories, I have been a member of predominantly black churches, for the last 25 years and a lot of my education.

251

00:42:10.080 --> 00:42:11.250

Carl Racine: has simply been.

252

00:42:12.390 --> 00:42:24.930

Carl Racine: sitting with people and hearing Their stories hearing Their stories hearing Their stories hearing stories of people who grew up in this country hearing stories of people who grew up in Africa hearing stories of people who grew up in the Caribbean.

253

00:42:26.340 --> 00:42:27.150

Carl Racine: and

254

00:42:28.410 --> 00:42:36.150

Carl Racine: that education is something i've been blessed with that most white people haven't a clue about.

255

00:42:37.350 --> 00:42:54.750

Carl Racine: And so that when, if you haven't seen pastor sermon today it's a powerful limbo and you're thinking about going to all the world, whereas the mission field well that may be one way of thinking about a mission field, at least for some people.

256

00:42:56.820 --> 00:42:58.830

Carole Copeland Thomas: Oh, I there there.

257

00:43:00.060 --> 00:43:01.770

Carole Copeland Thomas: Let me, I want to add to your list.

258

00:43:03.000 --> 00:43:03.450

Carl Racine: Okay.

259

00:43:03.510 --> 00:43:11.610

Carole Copeland Thomas: And I can't but i'm going to try to speak for the three branches of the African diaspora, which is difficult.

260

00:43:12.300 --> 00:43:26.100

Carole Copeland Thomas: Since i'm an African American with roots only in this country, obviously before coming here from Africa, but two things about black people number one is because we've been through all this crap.

261

00:43:27.120 --> 00:43:31.440

Carole Copeland Thomas: Our parents have been through all this crap our grandparents have been through all this crap.

262

00:43:32.520 --> 00:43:35.910

Carole Copeland Thomas: Except because of the the historical nature of racism.

263

00:43:36.990 --> 00:43:54.900

Carole Copeland Thomas: We we come with an innate cautionary mechanism that kicks in that warns us and then, once our children with the police, etc, just because we have experienced so much in this country that.

264

00:43:55.980 --> 00:44:13.410

Carole Copeland Thomas: For some people what happened to George floyd is shockingly amazingly awful but for a black person yeah it happens, and you just got the 17 year old was brilliant and courageous enough to catch it all on tape.

265

00:44:14.460 --> 00:44:22.830

Carole Copeland Thomas: So there's that level of reality yet black people are amazingly forgiving.

266

00:44:24.240 --> 00:44:33.450

Carole Copeland Thomas: And they are amazingly spiritual and accepting of all people in the long run, which which make us.

267

00:44:33.960 --> 00:44:40.350

Carole Copeland Thomas: rather unique from that point of view, now that's, not to say that we don't have intercultural tribal issues and.

268

00:44:40.890 --> 00:44:47.490

Carole Copeland Thomas: Intercultural light skin dark skin all that kind of craziness but those things happen, but in many ways.

269

00:44:48.120 --> 00:44:59.670

Carole Copeland Thomas: black people because of what our experience has been least in this country, make us both cautionary and wary but forgiving and spiritual at the same time, if that makes any sense at all.

270

00:45:02.310 --> 00:45:02.970

Carl Racine: yeah and.

271

00:45:04.320 --> 00:45:10.740

Carl Racine: And that's helpful to again pastor's sermon was powerful in a number of ways.

272

00:45:12.120 --> 00:45:17.580

Carl Racine: But one of the things pastor did brilliantly in the sermon was kind of point to parallel.

273

00:45:18.840 --> 00:45:22.260

Carl Racine: commissioning with the disciples.

274

00:45:22.530 --> 00:45:24.150

Carl Racine: And with the Roman soldier.

275

00:45:25.350 --> 00:45:44.520

Carl Racine: And what you need to recognize in that passage in Matthew is that Jesus is speaking to his disciples who are Jews and they are living in a largely Jewish community, although one that is ruled by the Romans by non Jews.

276

00:45:45.570 --> 00:45:49.950

Carl Racine: The police are gentiles.

277

00:45:51.120 --> 00:46:05.940

Carl Racine: The the police force that that killed Jesus the gentiles and Jesus is sending those Jews out of their comfort zone into the larger Roman occupied empire.

278

00:46:06.570 --> 00:46:18.330

Carl Racine: Of the known world when Jesus says the world that's primarily what his disciples would have thought of the Roman Empire, the world didn't really exist, beyond that, even I think Jesus statement means more than that.

279

00:46:19.170 --> 00:46:34.740

Carl Racine: And he's sending them into a world that is ruled by oppressors by people have by the government that has been oppressing them as Jews, since at least 67 BC.

280

00:46:36.000 --> 00:46:53.190

Carl Racine: So Jesus the context, there is precisely kind of what you're talking about the disciples would have been wary of going out into that will wary of engaging with non Jews wary of.

281

00:46:54.120 --> 00:47:11.040

Carl Racine: of going to the oppressors and yet that's precisely what Jesus and that's why Jesus has to bolster their confidence so much by saying, I will be with you God, you know god's power will be with you this isn't going to be easy.

282

00:47:12.810 --> 00:47:17.100

Carl Racine: So, again, I think you know it's just something to think about.

283

00:47:18.900 --> 00:47:34.080

Carl Racine: That the, to my mind, one of the gifts that the black church could offer to the white church or the church as a whole is

simply a matter of education of telling your story.

284

00:47:36.240 --> 00:47:41.970

Carl Racine: And some people are going to listen and some people are not gonna listen, but the ones who do.

285

00:47:43.980 --> 00:47:52.650

Carl Racine: will be receptive there will be a receptiveness to it and Jesus said, the people that don't listen to just shake the dust off your sandals and go on.

286

00:47:54.300 --> 00:47:54.810

Carl Racine: um.

287

00:47:55.170 --> 00:47:56.520

Susan Racine: I have one thing to say.

288

00:47:56.790 --> 00:48:11.460

Susan Racine: Sure, just in terms of an example of what is going on now you've got two leader faith leaders working together one white and one black to tell the story, and that would be.

289

00:48:12.720 --> 00:48:22.350

Susan Racine: Reverend we Barber and Elizabeth I don't know how to say your last name thea Horace in who are leading the poor people's campaign and going all over the country virtually and.

290

00:48:23.520 --> 00:48:25.710

Susan Racine: To tell the story of what.

291

00:48:27.000 --> 00:48:41.550

Susan Racine: Poverty is doing and and certainly persons of color are going to be large the most part, represented by this coalition and since it is being led by two Christian leaders they.

292

00:48:42.870 --> 00:48:44.550

Susan Racine: Just inviting churches to.

293

00:48:46.770 --> 00:48:55.440

Susan Racine: To hear their story to hear their prophetic words might

be a start and you've got not just an African American.

294

00:48:56.640 --> 00:48:57.990

Based leader but also.

295

00:48:59.190 --> 00:49:00.300

A white cake leader.

296

00:49:01.560 --> 00:49:02.640

In this in this.

297

00:49:03.840 --> 00:49:06.540

Susan Racine: In the poor people's campaign and.

298

00:49:06.600 --> 00:49:11.520

Carl Racine: And that might be a very way very good way of doing this.

299

00:49:14.490 --> 00:49:20.550

Carl Racine: let's let's move back to the sermon on the Mount for a minute and the setup the next.

300

00:49:24.810 --> 00:49:32.100

Carl Racine: aspect of this topic because we're going to continue to talk about this issue of crime and punishment if you take a canoe to talk about what justice looks like.

301

00:49:33.600 --> 00:49:38.610

Carl Racine: Through the eyes of Jesus, in particular, as we work through Matthew five.

302

00:49:39.900 --> 00:49:54.060

Carl Racine: Because the comments that we looked at that we've been looking at about an eye for an eye Jesus says, you have heard it said, an eye for an eye, a tooth for tooth but I say to you, and then gives the series of examples that we looked at last week.

303

00:49:55.470 --> 00:50:00.210

Carl Racine: there's a whole series of those kinds of commentaries and reflections on Torah.

304

00:50:00.690 --> 00:50:09.420

Carl Racine: In Matthew five verses 17 to 48 and if you haven't looked at that it's it should be familiar enough to be but it's worth looking at.

305

00:50:09.870 --> 00:50:21.330

Carl Racine: Again, as we work through this material and each each one of the there's a whole bunch of different sections in there and each one has that same literary structure, you have heard it said but I say to you.

306

00:50:22.470 --> 00:50:35.490

Carl Racine: And sometimes that structure has been misunderstood to mean that Jesus is teaching something brand new that he's contradicting what has come before what has been said before.

307

00:50:35.850 --> 00:50:49.050

Carl Racine: So Jesus, then, is seen by many scholars, as the new the new Moses ascending the mountain to proclaim a revised Christian version of Torah and there's an element of truth in that, but.

308

00:50:50.310 --> 00:50:57.060

Carl Racine: In looking at the passage that way, what has happened is a Christians have tend to see.

309

00:50:58.140 --> 00:51:10.920

Carl Racine: The passage as as creating a series of antithesis or opposites, as if what Jesus was doing is substituting his own brand new ideas for those of Torah.

310

00:51:11.370 --> 00:51:25.830

Carl Racine: And that is we've already seen as simply not the case Jesus is not saying there's anything wrong with the iPhone I principle we saw what that meant, any more than he saying there's something wrong with its prohibition of murder and adultery.

311

00:51:27.630 --> 00:51:39.570

Carl Racine: And amy Jo levine says that this idea that Jesus pronouncements here are antithesis isn't really the right way, even though that's that's common and how people talk about this passage.

312

00:51:40.020 --> 00:51:46.590

Carl Racine: She said they would better be characterized as extensions of the law developments of its meaning or purpose.

313

00:51:47.040 --> 00:52:03.660

Carl Racine: Jesus here is teaching like a rabbi showing his disciples how to interpret and apply the law, so I want to look a little more closely at the rest of this passage to see, in fact, what Jesus is doing and i'll just make one point today and then and then.

314

00:52:05.880 --> 00:52:16.380

Carl Racine: we'll move into the one general point today that the passage starts out with and then we'll move into the specifics next week, if we could see slide number 11 please.

315

00:52:18.930 --> 00:52:19.980

Carole Copeland Thomas: share, let me cue it up.

316

00:52:52.260 --> 00:52:52.950

Carl Racine: Okay, great.

317

00:52:56.880 --> 00:52:59.520

Carl Racine: So yeah the the passage.

318

00:53:00.570 --> 00:53:09.180

Carl Racine: begins with verses 17 to 20 and here Jesus makes some general comments.

319

00:53:10.680 --> 00:53:16.380

Carl Racine: about his approach to Torah before looking at some specific examples.

320

00:53:17.490 --> 00:53:26.160

Carl Racine: And he here very strongly affirms both the law and the prophets their eternal value.

321

00:53:26.490 --> 00:53:31.590

Carl Racine: And the importance of teaching them faithfully and following them carefully.

322

00:53:32.670 --> 00:53:46.440

Carl Racine: Jesus said, do not think I came to abolish the law or the prophets I did not come to abolish but to fulfill and I like this little graphic that I found I didn't come to abolish Torah I came to show you how to live it.

323

00:53:48.420 --> 00:53:57.660

Carl Racine: For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the law until all is accomplished.

324

00:53:58.050 --> 00:54:09.060

Carl Racine: Whoever then a knows, one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same shall be called least in the Kingdom of heaven but whoever keeps them and teaches them.

325

00:54:09.630 --> 00:54:21.510

Carl Racine: He shall be called great in the Kingdom of heaven for I say to you that, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and pharisees you will not enter the Kingdom of heaven.

326

00:54:22.350 --> 00:54:35.070

Carl Racine: And Matthew the passage that pastor preached on today, that are the very last verses in the book of Matthew reaffirms that part of the great commission of go into all the world is to teach.

327

00:54:35.520 --> 00:54:45.750

Carl Racine: All people to observe everything that Jesus has commanded and here Jesus begins to tell us what those commandments look like.

328

00:54:46.170 --> 00:54:53.430

Carl Racine: Jesus is making it clear that in no way, as he overturning Torah he has come to show people how to live it.

329

00:54:54.270 --> 00:55:03.000

Carl Racine: Jesus is not concerned here to avoid that great boogeyman of Protestant theology works righteousness he encourages it.

330

00:55:03.840 --> 00:55:19.530

Carl Racine: and Christian commentators on this passage usually jump quickly to statements from Paul or Martin Luther to override what Jesus says and essentially nullify it and that's a practice which

Jesus actually condemns in this passage in verse 19.

331

00:55:20.760 --> 00:55:32.670

Carl Racine: Jesus calls for a righteousness greater than that of the pharisees that's a high standard Jesus did not criticize the pharisees because they were legalistic.

332

00:55:33.270 --> 00:55:43.230

Carl Racine: Jesus criticisms of them, as you see here in verse Matthew 23:23 was that they weren't sufficiently observant of the law.

333

00:55:43.860 --> 00:56:02.220

Carl Racine: Woe to you scribes and pharisees hypocrites for you tithe of mint and dill and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law, justice and mercy and faithfulness these you ought to have done without neglecting the other.

334

00:56:03.990 --> 00:56:12.180

Carl Racine: So it's not that the pharisees were legalistic they just weren't sufficiently observant of the of the.

335

00:56:13.350 --> 00:56:17.850

Carl Racine: Most important aspects of law that's Jesus criticism.

336

00:56:19.230 --> 00:56:31.710

Carl Racine: But as we've seen in both the example of the righteous Joseph who didn't follow the letter of the law in having Mary be stoned.

337

00:56:32.700 --> 00:56:52.290

Carl Racine: but also in Jesus comments on the eye for an eye principle, the law can't be just reduced to isolated commandments Jesus calls Israel to be faithful to the whole of its covenant teachings and in doing so, they will be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

338

00:56:53.640 --> 00:57:07.140

Carl Racine: So how do you live out the law and the prophets faithfully Jesus gives some examples and we're going to go begin next week, looking at those examples, the first two are murder and adultery.

339

00:57:07.770 --> 00:57:15.660

Carl Racine: Which i'm going to call crimes of passion, because of i've indicated before, these are more than just private sins or public crimes.

340

00:57:16.350 --> 00:57:23.970

Carl Racine: But those examples, make it clear that Jesus is far from overturning the law Jesus is not saying murder adultery or okay.

341

00:57:24.570 --> 00:57:35.550

Carl Racine: intent, instead, what Jesus is doing is intensifying the law he's doing with the rabbi's call for the very beginning of pure K, a vote that that collection of.

342

00:57:36.090 --> 00:57:55.230

Carl Racine: rabid rabbinic sayings in the mission to make a fence for the Torah, this is the very first verse the the man of the great assembly, the ancient rabbis pre time of Jesus said three things be cautious and judgment established many pupils and make a fence around Torah.

343

00:57:56.310 --> 00:58:07.620

Carl Racine: That is create a protective barrier that will make it more difficult for people to come close to breaking the law don't let people play the game of seeing how closely can get to.

344

00:58:08.220 --> 00:58:21.960

Carl Racine: To it without technically violating one of its teachings, and so the rabbi's made fences around a lot, but not all of the laws and sometimes put fences around the fences and sometimes other rabbis complained about that.

345

00:58:22.500 --> 00:58:36.990

Carl Racine: So if you aren't supposed to work or engage in commerce on shabbat on the Sabbath, then you should avoid even picking up a tool or handling money for any reason, so that's why synagogues don't take an offering on shabbat because you're not supposed to handle money.

346

00:58:38.310 --> 00:58:50.700

Carl Racine: Then the most extreme example of this prohibition is the one of consuming any meat and milk product together as a way of

keeping from violating the commandment not to cook a kid goat in its mother's milk.

347

00:58:51.930 --> 00:59:01.680

Carl Racine: Now last we get to superior in our attitude towards these rabbis Christians have done much the same thing, just in my own lifetime.

348

00:59:02.190 --> 00:59:19.680

Carl Racine: If the Bible prohibits drunkenness, then we will ban all alcohol use if Jesus prohibited lustful thoughts, we will ban going to movies or dances if gambling is wrong, then we will prohibit playing cards of any sort.

349

00:59:21.450 --> 00:59:31.980

Carl Racine: Now those same Christians, of course, spent a lot of time sermonizing against the legalism of the Jews and thinking themselves superior to those who follow religion, full of all sorts of rules.

350

00:59:32.250 --> 00:59:39.120

Carl Racine: But those are the rules, I some of the rules, I grew up with that, essentially, our way of making a fence around the love saying.

351

00:59:39.450 --> 00:59:45.390

Carl Racine: Well, if it's wrong to do this, then let's let's not even get close to violating that law.

352

00:59:45.750 --> 00:59:59.250

Carl Racine: And the rabbi's work hard at doing the same thing, and what i'm going to argue next week is that that's what Jesus is doing throughout this whole passage making a fence around the law protecting the law from violation.

353

01:00:00.510 --> 01:00:03.930

Carl Racine: So we'll stop there if anybody have any last minute questions.

354

01:00:04.800 --> 01:00:08.490

Beverly Williams: yeah, I just wanted to know cow, which is the.

355

01:00:10.620 --> 01:00:15.000

Beverly Williams: provider of a lot is what is that is that so.

356

01:00:16.680 --> 01:00:18.000

Carl Racine: yeah we looked at that.

357

01:00:19.260 --> 01:00:28.080

Carl Racine: while ago it's part of the mission so it's in the top is one of the it's one of the earliest collections rabbinic teaching.

358

01:00:28.590 --> 01:00:38.640

Carl Racine: But it's a section that has has has kind of become very well known in Judaism, because, rather than being a kind of detailed discussion.

359

01:00:39.000 --> 01:00:45.540

Carl Racine: Of scriptural passages and laws and trying and analyzing that which the rest of the rabbinic discussion is.

360

01:00:46.200 --> 01:00:52.290

Carl Racine: It is it's it's basically a series of saying it's kind of like a bartlett's familiar quotations.

361

01:00:52.950 --> 01:01:08.250

Carl Racine: From the rabbi's going back to rabbis that are a couple hundred years before the time of Jesus, so the collection was made in around 200 so it it's a wonderful thing we've looked at a lot of the saints from that the stuff around.

362

01:01:13.080 --> 01:01:28.770

Carl Racine: I can't remember that off the top of my head, but but we've looked at a whole lot of different sayings in that and and this one about making a fence around Torah is perhaps one of the most well known, because it it sort of provides a.

363

01:01:28.770 --> 01:01:32.970

Carl Racine: justification for what the rabbi's are actually going to do.

364

01:01:34.830 --> 01:01:35.250

Beverly Williams: Thank you.

365

01:01:37.920 --> 01:01:42.420

Beverly Williams: And thank you Carol for suggesting that we.

366

01:01:42.480 --> 01:01:46.860

Beverly Williams: have some of that discussion at the beginning, around.

367

01:01:48.450 --> 01:01:50.310

Beverly Williams: Justice reparations.

368

01:01:51.510 --> 01:01:56.250

Beverly Williams: Accountability Thank you and thank you, Carl for always being well prepared and.

369

01:01:57.510 --> 01:01:58.140

Beverly Williams: When we grow.

370

01:01:59.430 --> 01:02:06.030

Carole Copeland Thomas: And I was just merely responding and affirming so thank you sister beverly for your leadership role.

371

01:02:09.270 --> 01:02:10.020

Carl Racine: yeah I wanna.

372

01:02:10.410 --> 01:02:10.890

Carl Racine: Watch.

373

01:02:11.520 --> 01:02:14.010

Carole Copeland Thomas: I want to provide a man.

374

01:02:14.370 --> 01:02:19.830

Carl Racine: As as we've done before, I want to provide opportunity for us to think about.

375

01:02:21.090 --> 01:02:38.700

Carl Racine: issues that are raised in the scriptures in terms of our our current situation, and it seems to me this idea that if you've wronged somebody you need to do whatever you whatever whatever it

takes to make things right.

376

01:02:39.810 --> 01:02:51.870

Carl Racine: is something that exists, both in the Jewish tradition and in Jesus teaching in the sermon on the Mount here and so it's something that you know.

377

01:02:52.620 --> 01:03:06.120

Carl Racine: speaks directly to what we talked about already, this is not a kind of separate discussion, this is a discussion growing out of the words of Jesus himself and we'll see more of this next week, when we look at.

378

01:03:08.010 --> 01:03:09.210

Carl Racine: The passage.

379

01:03:09.750 --> 01:03:19.020

Carl Racine: You five, so I encourage you to go back and look at that as well, somebody close us out in prayer I don't want people to miss oh and and.

380

01:03:19.560 --> 01:03:33.000

Carl Racine: Well, I sent out the email about the the temple Israel thing and there's be announcement about it in the church service today if you can already get it, but a week from tomorrow there'll be a discussion about a film about the.

381

01:03:34.470 --> 01:03:45.210

Carl Racine: Historic connection in America between Jewish communities and African American Communities fighting for civil rights and and I think it'd be something that people in this class might be particularly interested in.

382

01:03:45.720 --> 01:03:53.550

Carl Racine: participating in so I I encourage you to do so and i'll send the information with that, along with the class notes this week as well.

383

01:03:53.910 --> 01:04:02.580

Carole Copeland Thomas: And brother Carl is you explain with the q&a with the coffee hour, but you have to watch the movie before the discussion next week right.

384

01:04:02.790 --> 01:04:20.040

Carl Racine: yeah you go to trample at temple Israel website register for the thing and and also know how to do that and I sent a link for that already, but if you didn't get it i'll send it again and and then they'll send you a link to watch this documentary.

385

01:04:21.240 --> 01:04:34.200

Carl Racine: And sometime in the next week, then you have the opportunity time you want to watch the documentary on Monday that third of March of May, they will not be showing the documentary they will simply be having a discussion of it.

386

01:04:34.800 --> 01:04:43.980

Carl Racine: And there will also be an opportunity in the link that they give you to submit questions about the documentary that will be part of the discussion.

387

01:04:46.050 --> 01:04:46.470

Carole Copeland Thomas: evening.

388

01:04:48.960 --> 01:04:51.330

Carl Racine: Okay Can somebody close us out in prayer please.

389

01:04:51.480 --> 01:04:53.760

Carole Copeland Thomas: sister Janet would you do the honors.

390

01:04:54.030 --> 01:05:01.200

Janet Humdy Morrison: Yes, heavenly Father We thank you for this time we thank you for this education, we thank you for your grace and your mercy.

391

01:05:01.620 --> 01:05:14.400

Janet Humdy Morrison: We thank you God for all you do for the sun, the moon, the earth, the rain, the sunshine and we ask that you keep all of us as we go forward today in Jesus name, we pray amen.

392

01:05:14.910 --> 01:05:17.790

Carole Copeland Thomas: amen Thank you all so much God bless.

393

01:05:22.200 --> 01:05:22.680
Marc Germain: Thank you.

394
01:05:23.490 --> 01:05:24.060
Carole Copeland Thomas: Thank you.