

WEBVTT

1

00:00:00.480 --> 00:00:10.410

Carole Copeland Thomas: Okay, of course, we are lifting everybody up in prayer in the Ukraine their relatives who are here in the US elsewhere, this is a quite a matter.

2

00:00:10.830 --> 00:00:15.179

Carole Copeland Thomas: That is important to all of us, and I will be putting out a.

3

00:00:15.750 --> 00:00:22.920

Carole Copeland Thomas: newsletter that will have a comprehensive look historically of Ukraine what's going on now, because it is a very complex matter.

4

00:00:23.280 --> 00:00:38.220

Carole Copeland Thomas: So i'll make sure that i'll post this with this recording as well that's why i'm saying that number two a huge huge Thank you to brother Carl Racine our trusty leader who has created this class on Friday.

5

00:00:39.660 --> 00:00:49.800

Carole Copeland Thomas: I was one of the keynote speakers at Curry college Curry college and Milton Massachusetts has received a rash of anti Semitic.

6

00:00:50.610 --> 00:01:06.030

Carole Copeland Thomas: crimes that have happened on the campus along with racial crimes that have taken place, they targeted black students on the 13th of February and the 22nd of February, telling them whoever's doing this that.

7

00:01:07.230 --> 00:01:17.790

Carole Copeland Thomas: Be prepared because something's going to go down on the 13th and the 22nd fortunately nothing happened, but clearly the campus is up in arms.

8

00:01:18.600 --> 00:01:41.250

Carole Copeland Thomas: Along with the 14 historically black colleges and universities around the country who have received bomb threats during black history month, so that prompted Curry college to have a

rally a anti hate rally on campus was actually virtual and I was one of the keynote speakers, along with.

9

00:01:42.450 --> 00:02:02.490

Carole Copeland Thomas: Ben of rabbi Alfred Benjamin who is one of the rabbi's he is the senior rabbi at the synagogue in Milton Massachusetts so his record his remarks were recorded and then I spoke for about a half an hour and I had a slide presentation that I could put together.

10

00:02:04.470 --> 00:02:09.180

Carole Copeland Thomas: Maria saying University of mass and has also had incidences as well.

11

00:02:09.510 --> 00:02:14.790

Marie Doubleday: yeah and that goes back a few years, because it was brought up in the New England area conference.

12

00:02:15.090 --> 00:02:20.730

Marie Doubleday: Of the N double a CP all what went down was not good.

13

00:02:21.030 --> 00:02:21.330

hmm.

14

00:02:23.190 --> 00:02:31.290

Carole Copeland Thomas: So these universities, unfortunately, are under attack, and I was able to very easily share me play this.

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00:02:32.790 --> 00:02:44.790

Carole Copeland Thomas: Quote rabbi Abraham joshua heschel because of this class and I mentioned this class, in particular, and this was the quote, that I use fewer guilty, but all are responsible.

16

00:02:45.840 --> 00:03:03.150

Carole Copeland Thomas: And then I also quoted our pastor, let me just move up a little bit and me stop sharing the screen and go back to this one page I quoted our pastor pastor hammond and let me.

17

00:03:04.800 --> 00:03:16.350

Carole Copeland Thomas: Do this fast okay Now let me go to his quote so I had a number of quotes here, and this was the quote, that I used

from pastor hammond.

18

00:03:21.270 --> 00:03:33.120

Carole Copeland Thomas: That talked about night vision and he said, some time ago that night vision comes through problems, so I was able to tie in our class our church.

19

00:03:33.510 --> 00:03:42.000

Carole Copeland Thomas: With my comments about stand up stand tall stand together so that's number one, and then the last thing I want to share with you.

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00:03:42.330 --> 00:03:55.260

Carole Copeland Thomas: and welcome everybody so glad everybody is here is a few more facts about black history, since this is the last Sunday, with black history and I thought this may be a value to you, so let me.

21

00:03:55.890 --> 00:04:01.710

Carole Copeland Thomas: Okay, good I can do that, and hopefully this will slide somewhat sometimes my my.

22

00:04:02.340 --> 00:04:11.970

Carole Copeland Thomas: slides don't want to work properly and then sometimes they do work properly, but I want to share with you a couple of great women and I probably need to add another woman.

23

00:04:12.780 --> 00:04:22.230

Carole Copeland Thomas: That that's recent has now making recent history but want to share with you some of the great black women of action, past and present.

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00:04:23.550 --> 00:04:36.630

Carole Copeland Thomas: want to share, first of all, was Sarah Allen she was the second, wife of Richard Allen the founder of our church, the first consecrated and elected bishop of the African Methodist episcopal church.

25

00:04:37.200 --> 00:04:47.340

Carole Copeland Thomas: And brother melvin brother jack melvin i'm finding out whole lot of connections between the Episcopal Church and the amy church at the beginning.

26

00:04:47.850 --> 00:05:00.000

Carole Copeland Thomas: Including absalon Jones who became an episcopal priest and laid his hands on Richard Allen during that first consecration after his election, being the Bishop so.

27

00:05:00.450 --> 00:05:05.070

Carole Copeland Thomas: We have lots of close connections between the Episcopal Church and the am he church.

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00:05:05.670 --> 00:05:13.620

Carole Copeland Thomas: But Sarah Allen was the second wife, the first wife was flora Allen she probably got sick passed away and then shortly afterward.

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00:05:14.040 --> 00:05:24.630

Carole Copeland Thomas: He Allen married Sarah Allen they had six children together very prosperous family she is considered the mother of the women's missionary society.

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00:05:25.440 --> 00:05:30.540

Carole Copeland Thomas: And she was a participant, along with her husband and others with the underground railroad that took place.

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00:05:30.960 --> 00:05:43.350

Carole Copeland Thomas: i'll quickly go on and talk about the first woman who was recognized as a preacher in the amy church that in the 20th century century, but in the 19th century and that's georgina Lee.

32

00:05:44.400 --> 00:06:03.210

Carole Copeland Thomas: And she actually stood up to Richard Allen when he refused to have her to preach at first, and finally realized when she just stood up extemporaneously and one of the services and just preached her heart out he realized this woman was called by God, and he then recognized her by.

33

00:06:05.040 --> 00:06:13.890

Carole Copeland Thomas: As a true woman of action and faith and she then began to preach throughout the soon to be connection amy church.

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00:06:14.400 --> 00:06:28.830

Carole Copeland Thomas: She supported the abolitionist movement and she was born into a free family in 1783 so you can read a lot of information about during the Lea and various books now because she for women in ministry they really look up to her.

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00:06:29.820 --> 00:06:38.640

Carole Copeland Thomas: And then there Sarah gorham Sarah gorham was a member of our sister church here in Boston Charles street am he church.

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00:06:39.510 --> 00:06:47.370

Carole Copeland Thomas: She had gone to Liberia and became very inspired by what was taking place there, that was during the back to Africa movement.

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00:06:47.730 --> 00:07:01.080

Carole Copeland Thomas: After slavery, when some blacks chose to move back to the motherland and then the newly formed territory and ultimately country of Liberia, was the place that many of them ended up.

38

00:07:01.740 --> 00:07:10.860

Carole Copeland Thomas: She then became a missionary while she was a Charles street a me and then was Center was your chose to go to Sierra Leone.

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00:07:11.820 --> 00:07:23.250

Carole Copeland Thomas: Which is on the western coast of Africa as well, along with Liberia and unfortunately she caught malaria and she died in 1894 she was actually buried in Sierra Leone and Freetown.

40

00:07:23.550 --> 00:07:35.190

Carole Copeland Thomas: Sierra Leone, but she is known as the first woman missionary of the foreign missionary international missionary of the amy church yes amen Sarah gorham.

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00:07:35.670 --> 00:07:41.610

Carole Copeland Thomas: We move on and have some present day history with Alice coombs yes Alice coombs.

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00:07:42.030 --> 00:07:48.630

Carole Copeland Thomas: Is a we're still going to claim her even

though she and her husband have moved to Virginia she's teaching there now.

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00:07:48.990 --> 00:07:59.130

Carole Copeland Thomas: Alice coombs was a member of very active member of Bethel amy church and she became the first black female president of the New England medical society.

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00:07:59.790 --> 00:08:08.190

Carole Copeland Thomas: she's now past President, obviously, but that was a great day, many of us at Bethel had a chance to attend that installation service, it was wonderful.

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00:08:08.580 --> 00:08:14.520

Carole Copeland Thomas: And she has had many roles she's board certified in several different disciplines specialties.

46

00:08:14.940 --> 00:08:22.710

Carole Copeland Thomas: She worked under the Obama Administration, for I believe it was medicare with health related issues as well.

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00:08:23.070 --> 00:08:35.760

Carole Copeland Thomas: She is the lovely wife of outcomes who attends our Bible studies on Wednesday and she's the mother of Albert Andrew and Angela they are all successful dentists, doctors and CPA a's.

48

00:08:36.240 --> 00:08:46.230

Carole Copeland Thomas: And they have children and all that good stuff so that's our schools and then Dr JESSICA Henderson Daniel, who was a member of Charles street a me church.

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00:08:46.680 --> 00:08:57.060

Carole Copeland Thomas: She has had some health issues so she's now at the Goddard house, but she was the first female president of the American psychological association.

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00:08:57.840 --> 00:09:10.110

Carole Copeland Thomas: And there have been now for black women in succession, who served or will serve as President of APA including Dr team of bryant.

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00:09:10.470 --> 00:09:20.010

Carole Copeland Thomas: Dr TIM Brian is out in California her parents her father was a bishop, where he's a retired Bishop in the AMA church very profound.

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00:09:20.220 --> 00:09:29.880

Carole Copeland Thomas: folks and they are the father and mother in the Ministry of the hammonds So you see that connection there, but she also mentored Dr team up Brian.

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00:09:30.360 --> 00:09:39.540

Carole Copeland Thomas: I wrote an article in the Christian recorder and i've had a chance to physically take it to her last week bound copy so that was a lot of fun.

54

00:09:40.020 --> 00:09:50.130

Carole Copeland Thomas: And the last person who's not up here because it's so new is judge qatanani Jackson, who is not an AMA.

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00:09:50.910 --> 00:10:01.260

Carole Copeland Thomas: But she has been nominated by President Biden, to be a member of the Supreme Court, we pray that all works well for her.

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00:10:01.680 --> 00:10:08.880

Carole Copeland Thomas: And that she gets at least one extra vote probably going to be kamala Harris, to put her over the top, for her confirmation.

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00:10:09.150 --> 00:10:15.840

Carole Copeland Thomas: So we wish her well for that and I just found out today that she's a member of my sorority delta Sigma theta sorority so that's a really good thing.

58

00:10:16.140 --> 00:10:30.210

Carole Copeland Thomas: So that's your black history, this is the book that I pulled a lot of the information from and that's Dr Dennis dickerson his his daughter i'll talk about her at another time has written an amazing book on black.

59

00:10:31.320 --> 00:10:42.450

Carole Copeland Thomas: Black Friedman, and indigenous people are

Indians, because their early on, was a strong presence of indigenous people, including preachers.

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00:10:42.840 --> 00:10:53.400

Carole Copeland Thomas: From native American Communities in the AMA church and she's now done all that scholarly research and has a great book that I haven't read, yet I just got it this week, but her father was the.

61

00:10:54.000 --> 00:11:04.650

Carole Copeland Thomas: Official he was our general officer of the amy church historian of the amy church and has written this great book called the African American episcopal church of history.

62

00:11:05.100 --> 00:11:15.510

Carole Copeland Thomas: tons of footnotes and everything, but a lot of you want real information, you need to read this book or check in with him because he's such an incredible source so that's your black history month.

63

00:11:16.170 --> 00:11:25.590

Carole Copeland Thomas: Information tidbits so we've covered the gamut and black history is definitely American history, so I will now turn it over to our master teacher.

64

00:11:26.730 --> 00:11:28.380

Carole Copeland Thomas: Dr Carl Racine.

65

00:11:32.580 --> 00:11:41.460

Carl Racine: Thank you good morning everybody yeah history history is important pastor emphasize that in his sermon this morning.

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00:11:42.480 --> 00:11:46.140

Carl Racine: The importance of living in the past sort of remembering the past and learning.

67

00:11:47.430 --> 00:11:50.370

Carl Racine: lessons from the past, most importantly.

68

00:11:51.780 --> 00:12:00.150

Carl Racine: And so the more that we know about history, the more we

can sort of understand what's going on currently.

69

00:12:01.500 --> 00:12:09.000

Carl Racine: How we got to where we are, and this is true, whether it's black history or Ukrainian history or Jewish history and.

70

00:12:10.950 --> 00:12:15.540

Carl Racine: I brother bill Hughes last week mentioned.

71

00:12:16.560 --> 00:12:20.910

Carl Racine: Some lectures on YouTube by a professor name.

72

00:12:22.050 --> 00:12:24.120

Carl Racine: Henry Abraham Abraham son.

73

00:12:26.190 --> 00:12:33.390

Carl Racine: I watched a few of them i'm not sure I watched the ones that he and the link that he gave in the thing didn't work for me.

74

00:12:34.410 --> 00:12:48.030

Carl Racine: But this fellow Henry Abraham said and i'll put this in the chat actually um he is an amazing lecture he's he's he's clear and.

75

00:12:49.110 --> 00:12:53.340

Carl Racine: concise and funny he sometimes tells some.

76

00:12:54.720 --> 00:12:58.050

Carl Racine: kind of lame jokes that he interweaves with his lectures.

77

00:12:59.130 --> 00:13:03.270

Carl Racine: So they're they're entertaining things to watch and.

78

00:13:04.680 --> 00:13:08.520

Carl Racine: So I recommend kind of just browsing through.

79

00:13:10.290 --> 00:13:16.080

Carl Racine: YouTube under Henry Abraham some that the the ones that I watched was a series of four.

80

00:13:17.220 --> 00:13:30.810

Carl Racine: lectures called a crash course in Jewish history, but there are lots and lots of other ones on more specific topics, as well as general ones, and if you want to explore more about Jewish history.

81

00:13:31.890 --> 00:13:34.050

Carl Racine: It would be a good place to start.

82

00:13:35.280 --> 00:13:36.120

Carl Racine: The second.

83

00:13:37.320 --> 00:13:41.550

Carl Racine: That of information that I wanted to put in the chat.

84

00:13:43.110 --> 00:13:50.820

Carl Racine: I was on a zoom meeting with let's see if this works yeah with temple Israel.

85

00:13:53.310 --> 00:13:53.820

That didn't work.

86

00:13:59.010 --> 00:14:00.660

Carl Racine: With temple Israel this week.

87

00:14:06.240 --> 00:14:10.530

Carl Racine: it's not coming up i'm not sure what the deal is um.

88

00:14:13.890 --> 00:14:14.970

Carole Copeland Thomas: Let me try it one more time.

89

00:14:15.180 --> 00:14:17.820

Carole Copeland Thomas: Anyway, screen brother Carl.

90

00:14:18.030 --> 00:14:18.630

Carole Copeland Thomas: To me.

91

00:14:18.720 --> 00:14:20.040

Carl Racine: Not just trying to put something in the.

92

00:14:20.070 --> 00:14:21.210

Carole Copeland Thomas: chat okay all right.

93

00:14:22.440 --> 00:14:22.980

Carl Racine: um.

94

00:14:32.190 --> 00:14:35.130

Carl Racine: let's try, one more time copy.

95

00:14:38.160 --> 00:14:38.820

Carl Racine: paste.

96

00:14:42.300 --> 00:14:42.900

It doesn't work.

97

00:14:44.520 --> 00:14:52.980

Carl Racine: i'll have to send it out with the notes um I was in a in a zoom meeting with temple Israel with their group on.

98

00:14:54.090 --> 00:15:14.400

Carl Racine: what's a subgroup of the sort of racial justice initiative that they have and specifically this group's interest is in working on voter rights and the speaker that we had this week was a woman named Reverend Monica Spencer, who is an anime pastor in Georgia.

99

00:15:16.080 --> 00:15:17.670

Carl Racine: And she.

100

00:15:18.780 --> 00:15:28.800

Carl Racine: knows the hammonds, of course, and the hammonds know her and she has a group called vote writers like freedom riders.

101

00:15:29.700 --> 00:15:45.450

Carl Racine: That they're working with a number of other groups in Georgia to deal with the whole assault on voter rights and but this folk the specific focus of her group is to help people get an ID.

102

00:15:46.830 --> 00:15:54.480

Carl Racine: People who, for various reasons don't have a State issued ID can't vote, they can't get work.

103

00:15:55.710 --> 00:16:05.670

Carl Racine: and especially for the kind of poor and more rural population that may have trouble coming up with a birth certificate.

104

00:16:07.080 --> 00:16:17.490

Carl Racine: they've made things incredibly complicated there for people in difficult, obviously with the point of discouraging people from from even bothering.

105

00:16:18.630 --> 00:16:26.550

Carl Racine: So she is working to try to help rectify that situation and would love help.

106

00:16:26.940 --> 00:16:36.360

Carl Racine: it's not clear to me exactly how we can help here from Boston but temple Israel, but I have her contact information she said, feel free to get in touch with her.

107

00:16:36.960 --> 00:16:48.510

Carl Racine: And i'll put that in the in the notes that I send out, but you can also get in touch with me if you want to be involved in this temple Israel project because they're working, not just with the situation in Georgia.

108

00:16:49.440 --> 00:16:55.320

Carl Racine: But with situations in other states, they have a postcard writing campaign right now for Florida.

109

00:16:56.280 --> 00:17:15.270

Carl Racine: they're looking more broadly at the places the states in in this country that are trying to again it's the new Jim crow roll roll back the clock on voter rights, so if anyone is interested in participating in that I know the people at temple Israel would love to have whatever help.

110

00:17:16.830 --> 00:17:27.450

Carl Racine: People people are willing to give and if you really want

to help Reverend Monica you can go to go down to Georgia for a month and help sign people up.

111

00:17:28.770 --> 00:17:36.210

Carl Racine: it's not specifically registering to vote it's helping individuals get an ID and go through the paperwork of that.

112

00:17:37.230 --> 00:17:37.650

Carl Racine: Murray.

113

00:17:38.100 --> 00:17:52.800

Marie Doubleday: yeah, as I said before, all similar issue as folks know i'm very involved with the naacp here in the vineyard and i've gone to the National Convention so around three or four years ago.

114

00:17:53.910 --> 00:18:04.350

Marie Doubleday: You know it's a organization of over 100 years old, so their statistics are pretty much there and what brother college just mentioned, is a problem.

115

00:18:04.830 --> 00:18:16.200

Marie Doubleday: Her what I understood, a few years ago in the south, as far as voter ID and license P, you know it's interesting as I were talking about it, what I was thinking.

116

00:18:16.620 --> 00:18:23.070

Marie Doubleday: Is you know people around here they get their drivers license well as soon as it's 1616 and a half.

117

00:18:23.520 --> 00:18:35.160

Marie Doubleday: And and and the number of cars, I guess down south, particularly in the rural poor areas that's not the case, and they make the whole track.

118

00:18:35.790 --> 00:18:48.390

Marie Doubleday: For registration or to vote a distance, they there's a reason for this, so this voter suppression has been going on for a number years additionally the naacp.

119

00:18:49.860 --> 00:19:00.870

Marie Doubleday: does fall legislative issues, both on the national in

on this date, the person that they had on for national Susan Susan.

120

00:19:01.260 --> 00:19:18.090

Marie Doubleday: was a tree killer but the information that he put out was phenomenal So yes, it's always best if we someone you know you contact within your region Senator Markey Elizabeth Warren but it doesn't hurt to contact.

121

00:19:19.260 --> 00:19:32.700

Marie Doubleday: Those legislators down South if there's enough of us to do that, that makes sense and brother Carl, thank you for allowing me to speak but and and voter.

122

00:19:33.300 --> 00:19:47.070

Marie Doubleday: suppression is now throughout this country in there is what as suppression State legislation going on here in Massachusetts so let's not be egotistical about be up north, thank you for letting me speak.

123

00:19:51.090 --> 00:19:57.390

Carl Racine: Anyway, those are important issues for us to consider.

124

00:19:58.860 --> 00:20:05.040

Carl Racine: In general, and again if if people want to be more involved, please get in touch with me.

125

00:20:07.980 --> 00:20:17.190

Carole Copeland Thomas: Carl what I want I don't want to be disrespectful, but I think brother jack do you have photos for us to see today or.

126

00:20:22.170 --> 00:20:23.010

Carole Copeland Thomas: brother jack.

127

00:20:24.120 --> 00:20:34.110

Jack Melvin: i'm i'm here, yes, hold on a second i'm in a different place right now and see where I am i'm i'm in coupon ruinous i'm buying some property.

128

00:20:35.940 --> 00:20:45.930

Jack Melvin: With my spiritual daughter here and trying to set up my

new mission well i'll just give you, you have a typical house and hamburgers.

129

00:20:48.270 --> 00:20:48.870

Carole Copeland Thomas: Really.

130

00:20:51.270 --> 00:20:53.550

Jack Melvin: Pretty basic pretty basic down here so.

131

00:20:54.720 --> 00:20:57.690

Jack Melvin: i'll give you guys some pictures next week when i'm back home.

132

00:20:57.870 --> 00:21:01.260

Carole Copeland Thomas: Thank you, thank you all right.

133

00:21:04.680 --> 00:21:05.130

Carl Racine: Okay.

134

00:21:06.510 --> 00:21:13.890

Carl Racine: let's something in prayer Lord God we bless you for the day we bless you for this group we bless you for the.

135

00:21:13.890 --> 00:21:14.970

efforts that are.

136

00:21:16.410 --> 00:21:22.230

Carl Racine: being made to help bring a little more justice and a little more freedom to a country.

137

00:21:23.250 --> 00:21:30.690

Carl Racine: And we pray that you would guide all of us in our discussion this morning and in our.

138

00:21:31.770 --> 00:21:44.850

Carl Racine: Use of our time as pastor talked about in his sermon this morning and how we can use those precious minutes as precious seconds that you have given to us each day we we.

139

00:21:46.290 --> 00:21:49.350

Carl Racine: raise all this up in the name of Jesus amen.

140

00:21:54.390 --> 00:22:00.330

Carl Racine: Okay, we started last week a discussion of something that isn't probably going to make your brains hurt a little bit.

141

00:22:01.590 --> 00:22:15.210

Carl Racine: Because it's a discussion of what something I see as a problem in Christianity, the Christian overemphasis on life after death to the neglect of life before death and I pointed out.

142

00:22:16.860 --> 00:22:31.320

Carl Racine: Last week that the Old Testament focuses squarely on this life and has virtually no mention of any afterlife there's only one clear verse in the whole of that long Old Testament that says anything clear about.

143

00:22:31.860 --> 00:22:36.840

Carl Racine: A resurrection it's not a significant part of israel's faith.

144

00:22:37.380 --> 00:22:51.690

Carl Racine: And and many Christians have been puzzled by this fact, this is the most important part of their religion for a lot of people going to heaven when I die, and yet it's totally absent from the Old Testament that what was God doing why didn't God make this.

145

00:22:52.740 --> 00:22:58.170

Carl Racine: fundamental truth more clear to everybody, from the very beginning.

146

00:22:59.790 --> 00:23:11.430

Carl Racine: wiser no mention of in the scriptures if it's so important and i've got to sort of related responses to this one from rabbi sacks and one from a Christian.

147

00:23:12.060 --> 00:23:23.160

Carl Racine: Old Testament scholar named john golden gate will start with rabbi sacks rabbi sacks addresses the question he calls this the biblical concealment of the hope for a world to come.

148

00:23:24.150 --> 00:23:37.530

Carl Racine: And he sees that as intentional as an intentional reaction to and polemic against the beliefs and practices of the Egyptian society that Israel had been liberated from.

149

00:23:38.490 --> 00:23:53.010

Carl Racine: And remember we've talked about this repeatedly Israel was to be the antithesis of Egypt, they were to be a Community shaped by radically different values and purposes, and if we can see side to again, please.

150

00:23:56.460 --> 00:24:02.820

Carl Racine: So we saw last week, what everybody knows about Egypt, you know in our culture is.

151

00:24:04.380 --> 00:24:08.130

Carl Racine: You know the pyramids, and the mummies and all of that sort of stuff.

152

00:24:09.210 --> 00:24:13.110

Carl Racine: But Israel as to be different from Egypt.

153

00:24:14.700 --> 00:24:18.360

Carl Racine: Then that sort of stuff had to be left.

154

00:24:18.390 --> 00:24:19.590

Carl Racine: Behind and so.

155

00:24:19.590 --> 00:24:21.420

Carl Racine: In contrast, and really.

156

00:24:21.420 --> 00:24:40.170

Carl Racine: striking contrast to the obsession with death and the afterlife that we find in Egyptian culture with the construction of these massive pyramids, and the elaborate tombs of the Pharaohs and all of that that still 4000 years later, are still with us.

157

00:24:41.250 --> 00:24:47.010

Carl Racine: In contrast to all of that, when Moses dies, the end of the book of deuteronomy.

158

00:24:48.480 --> 00:25:09.030

Carl Racine: deuteronomy says Moses died there in the land of MOAB he hasn't entered the promised land Moses, the servant of God, just as God said God buried him in the valley in the land of MOAB opposite death pay or no one knows his burial site to this very day.

159

00:25:10.800 --> 00:25:24.120

Carl Racine: So the greatest leader of the Israelites a prophet who spoke to God face to face rests in an anonymous grave that no terrorist can visit nor pilgrim revere.

160

00:25:25.290 --> 00:25:41.670

Carl Racine: And yet the counter cultural community that he helped bring into being persists to this very day as a greater monument living Memorial, not only to Moses, but also to the God that he's served.

161

00:25:42.900 --> 00:25:55.440

Carl Racine: and, interestingly enough, there is this, you have a picture here this kind of tombstone like monument on mountain he bow, which is where Moses was when he died.

162

00:25:56.370 --> 00:26:18.030

Carl Racine: As a as a memorial monument to Moses, but notice it was erected not by the Jews, but by the Christians by the franciscans and it's directed, as a Christian holy place and note on the inscription it's in Arabic and English, but not in Hebrew.

163

00:26:19.680 --> 00:26:21.840

Carl Racine: So, again.

164

00:26:23.190 --> 00:26:31.800

Carl Racine: This is a Christian obsession that you don't find in Judaism and and rabbi sex says.

165

00:26:34.050 --> 00:26:39.990

Carl Racine: In his final speech, the reason for this in his final speech, so if we go to slide number three.

166

00:26:40.530 --> 00:26:55.050

Carl Racine: Moses exhorts the Israelites to choose life you hear this, you see this quote from deuteronomy 30:16 today i've given you a choice between life and death, between blessings and curses Oh, that you would choose life.

167

00:26:56.280 --> 00:27:05.550

Carl Racine: That you and your descendants descend I love the graphic here sort of emphasizing the the ongoing nature of this, the text only has one.

168

00:27:06.240 --> 00:27:13.950

Carl Racine: Word there, but the Union your descendants might live choose life as a major theme in Judaism.

169

00:27:14.790 --> 00:27:20.670

Carl Racine: The energies of the people are to be directed towards establishing a nation of people, a community.

170

00:27:21.480 --> 00:27:28.470

Carl Racine: that's characterized by the compassionate justice that's the way of the Lord to care and serve for this world.

171

00:27:29.130 --> 00:27:49.170

Carl Racine: Not only the people in this world, but also the physical creation so rabbi sex says Judaism has relentlessly sought God in the here and now, of life on earth, yes, we believe in life after death, but it is in life before death that we truly find human greatness.

172

00:27:50.250 --> 00:28:10.200

Carl Racine: And he gives this sort of succinct statement kind of summary of his view of Judaism God is close God is here, God is life therefore celebrate life sanctified life turn life into a blessing and make a blessing over life that is Judaism in 25 words.

173

00:28:11.400 --> 00:28:29.370

Carl Racine: So as we've seen Torah carefully separates anything having to do with death or even having the appearance of death from israel's religious observances and from their holy place from the sanctuary Jewish priests did not officiate it at funerals they couldn't.

174

00:28:30.600 --> 00:28:39.120

Carl Racine: And significantly in Judaism there's an ancient prayer called the mourners kaddish if we could go to the next slide please.

175

00:28:41.040 --> 00:28:51.300

Carl Racine: And it's a prayer this recited when a loved one dies but it's also recited in the synagogue services we've we've done it when we've been with temple Israel.

176

00:28:51.570 --> 00:28:58.560

Carl Racine: In remembrance of the dead there's, if you remember, if you've been in that service remember there's a portion where the debtor remembered.

177

00:28:59.460 --> 00:29:14.970

Carl Racine: And, and this short prayer is is decided by the congregation and what's absolutely astonishing about a mourners prayer is in this whole prayer there is not one single word about death.

178

00:29:16.110 --> 00:29:28.230

Carl Racine: And I want to just read this to you and think about for a minute what this sounds like magnified and sanctified be god's great name throughout the world that God created and governed by divine will.

179

00:29:28.680 --> 00:29:39.390

Carl Racine: me the Kingdom of God be established during your lifetime and during your days and during the days of all the House of Israel gaze speedily and in the near future, and let us say amen.

180

00:29:40.050 --> 00:29:53.070

Carl Racine: May god's great name be blessed forever and ever exalted glorified and honored be the name of the blessing holy one whose glory is beyond all blessings hymns and praises that people render and let us say amen.

181

00:29:53.700 --> 00:30:05.160

Carl Racine: May great peace emanate from heaven with good life for us and for all, Israel and let us say amen me the one who makes peace in the heavens make peace for us and for all, Israel and let us say amen.

182

00:30:06.420 --> 00:30:19.620

Carl Racine: This is what you say, when someone has died it's simply a

prayer for the sanctification of the name of God in the world and the establishment of god's rule god's kingdom of peace.

183

00:30:20.130 --> 00:30:33.600

Carl Racine: In essence, this is the same as the prayer Jesus taught his disciples to pray israel's religion is not to be about death, but rather about life about this life.

184

00:30:35.130 --> 00:30:36.690

Carl Racine: Comments questions.

185

00:30:43.140 --> 00:30:45.690

Carole Copeland Thomas: So with oh i'm sorry go on sorry.

186

00:30:47.160 --> 00:30:56.550

Susan Racine: I was gonna be silly but it looked like that marker look like a ti stuff as well for Moses there's a little circle of a tea and it just.

187

00:30:56.550 --> 00:30:57.480

Susan Racine: Oh.

188

00:30:57.990 --> 00:30:58.980

Carl Racine: I don't know what that was.

189

00:31:02.850 --> 00:31:03.900

Carole Copeland Thomas: So.

190

00:31:05.490 --> 00:31:20.940

Carole Copeland Thomas: With a de emphasis on the afterlife I assume you're saying that the emphasis is on making the best out of your 8000 was a 204 I forget what the number was seconds.

191

00:31:21.630 --> 00:31:24.390

Carl Racine: Can absolutely what i'm saying here is.

192

00:31:24.540 --> 00:31:27.570

Carl Racine: Exactly what pastor was talking about in his sermon today he.

193

00:31:27.570 --> 00:31:29.880

Carl Racine: didn't talk about the way i'm talking about it but it's.

194

00:31:29.910 --> 00:31:33.840

Carl Racine: completely in line with what he was saying in the sermon today.

195

00:31:43.710 --> 00:31:49.980

Carl Racine: All right, let's keep going here um so the Old Testament.

196

00:31:50.100 --> 00:31:50.610

Carl Racine: it's not.

197

00:31:50.730 --> 00:31:56.040

Carl Racine: overly concerned about death or what happens when you die death is simply a fact of life.

198

00:31:56.910 --> 00:32:17.100

Carl Racine: And for the individual israelite god's purposes and israel's destiny matter much more than their own death their family and their Community their children and their friends and all live on, and the only real tragedy in the Old Testament is an early death and untimely one.

199

00:32:18.360 --> 00:32:31.200

Carl Racine: So death, if you if you live a full life death is not a threat or the enemy in the Old Testament and the Old Testament has almost no interest in life after death.

200

00:32:31.650 --> 00:32:39.180

Carl Racine: And this really goes against the grain of what most Christians have been taught is the heart of their religion and belief in the afterlife and people are puzzled.

201

00:32:39.480 --> 00:32:45.870

Carl Racine: When I point out that the Old Testament saints, like the ones listed in the in the 11th chapter of the book of Hebrews.

202

00:32:46.320 --> 00:33:04.650

Carl Racine: did not serve God, out of fear of eternal punishment or

to get an eternal reward because they had no such belief, and we can we've seen already earlier in this course that ancient rabbinic tradition actually look down on such an attitude if we could go to the next slide please.

203

00:33:06.240 --> 00:33:22.740

Carl Racine: This quote, that that we've seen before from piercy a vote from an early rabbinic document that's in the town of did not be like servants who serve their master on condition of receiving reward but be like servants who serve their master unconditionally.

204

00:33:24.540 --> 00:33:28.590

Carl Racine: And it's interesting this fellow antagonists of soco.

205

00:33:29.850 --> 00:33:33.420

Carl Racine: who lived a couple hundred years before the time of Jesus.

206

00:33:35.880 --> 00:33:47.370

Carl Racine: Had a couple of pupils who misunderstood the intent of antagonist is saying he wasn't denying an afterlife users thing that's not the reason to serve God.

207

00:33:48.600 --> 00:34:08.070

Carl Racine: And so, his two of his pupils went on to form Jewish sect that denied the existence of an afterlife and one of those groups, we know as the sad jesse's who we know from the New Testament and from josephus as well, did not believe in the resurrection.

208

00:34:10.680 --> 00:34:23.220

Carl Racine: The troublesome question that i've posed to people in the past, and I want you to think about for a minute is would use to be faithful to the God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob, if there were no heaven or hell.

209

00:34:24.150 --> 00:34:42.240

Carl Racine: Would you still want to be a disciple of Jesus or another way of thinking about this, do you think that the way of the Lord taught in the scriptures is the best possible way of life, regardless of what the future might bring or is your Christianity only fire insurance.

210

00:34:43.860 --> 00:34:44.730

Carl Racine: comments.

211

00:34:46.260 --> 00:34:48.690

Carole Copeland Thomas: fire insurance wow.

212

00:34:51.600 --> 00:34:54.900

Carl Racine: You haven't heard anybody say that before i've heard people say it for us.

213

00:35:07.260 --> 00:35:09.930

Carl Racine: Is everybody just stand by these questions.

214

00:35:09.960 --> 00:35:11.490

Marie Doubleday: No um.

215

00:35:12.090 --> 00:35:14.190

Marie Doubleday: You know I think hell is kind of.

216

00:35:14.190 --> 00:35:15.510

Marie Doubleday: Cultural to.

217

00:35:18.780 --> 00:35:21.540

Marie Doubleday: i'm going to get myself in trouble um.

218

00:35:22.890 --> 00:35:28.260

Marie Doubleday: I think typically the Boston Irish Catholics are big believers and out.

219

00:35:29.310 --> 00:35:37.560

Marie Doubleday: of fact, I know that I live with a mother who truly believe in hell and my father didn't know what to do with her.

220

00:35:38.700 --> 00:35:48.180

Marie Doubleday: Because he wasn't culture, the same as her and I, you know if you look at the end I just know Boston I mean if you look at the various cultures.

221

00:35:49.980 --> 00:35:53.880

Marie Doubleday: This different perspectives as to how hot, how can be.

222

00:35:55.290 --> 00:36:00.870

Marie Doubleday: No seriously and then you go in the Catholic religion, they have how, and then they have purgatory.

223

00:36:02.550 --> 00:36:09.300

Marie Doubleday: You know now in the amy church it's my belief that hell is not that hot.

224

00:36:10.980 --> 00:36:19.290

Marie Doubleday: No seriously seriously, you know um it's it's interesting actually.

225

00:36:21.030 --> 00:36:28.050

Marie Doubleday: And you know a lot of this comes from i'm a remnants from Europe.

226

00:36:30.330 --> 00:36:39.030

Marie Doubleday: And perhaps amy from you know the African dysphoria the mix of the African dysphoria with the kind of a European religion.

227

00:36:40.950 --> 00:36:42.060

Marie Doubleday: You know, Christianity.

228

00:36:43.440 --> 00:36:51.390

Peter Barrant: You know the the i've heard by the way, i've heard the term fire insurance as little car also.

229

00:36:52.530 --> 00:36:55.170

Peter Barrant: The The one thing that.

230

00:36:56.490 --> 00:36:59.190

Peter Barrant: becomes that has always I guess.

231

00:37:00.390 --> 00:37:11.820

Peter Barrant: made me wonder is, I think that Christianity is so minded on heaven, because that works saved by grace, are you stay safe from one.

232

00:37:11.910 --> 00:37:23.430

Peter Barrant: And I, I think that Christians have taken that to be saved from how and and you think about many of the arguments among.

233

00:37:24.330 --> 00:37:42.480

Peter Barrant: The various Christian denominations involves the right way to be saved, are you sick, are you baptized well if you're not baptized you're not saved if you are, you did you did you say the prayer this way if you didn't say this way you're you're not saved and you know, to think about.

234

00:37:44.160 --> 00:37:56.580

Peter Barrant: De emphasizing the afterlife really would really be a radical change, for most Christians.

235

00:37:58.500 --> 00:38:09.600

Marie Doubleday: It Dr by net it's interesting that you say that because I, I believe that i'm you know i've been away from the Catholic Church, for decades, but I believe if.

236

00:38:10.440 --> 00:38:24.090

Marie Doubleday: A baby was not baptized correct me folks if i'm wrong i'm within the Catholic Church and they they in within the Catholic Church, they baptize babies.

237

00:38:24.720 --> 00:38:36.270

Marie Doubleday: i'm that that child wouldn't go to how but wouldn't go to heaven either wouldn't go to purgatory I guess they had some other place for the babies I don't know.

238

00:38:36.780 --> 00:38:38.340

Marie Doubleday: Well rested.

239

00:38:38.580 --> 00:38:40.290

Marie Doubleday: limbo that's yeah.

240

00:38:41.700 --> 00:38:43.440

Carl Racine: I think we we.

241

00:38:43.560 --> 00:38:48.960

Carl Racine: We talked about all this stuff and we talked about a Hannah and tarvaris and hades and all that.

242

00:38:49.380 --> 00:39:03.510

Carl Racine: And I I threw up my hands at one point and said the kind of multiplication of speculation about future rewards and punishments within Christianity, to me, is so utterly unbelievable.

243

00:39:04.500 --> 00:39:11.880

Carl Racine: That I don't even bother wasting my time trying to argue against it and, and this is a perfect example.

244

00:39:12.270 --> 00:39:21.930

Carl Racine: of how we've gotten completely sidetracked what what what Dr Peter said is absolutely right it's a matter of emphasis i'm not denying an afterlife i'm not denying.

245

00:39:22.680 --> 00:39:31.860

Carl Racine: The resurrection or anything like that neither is rabbi Sachs or anybody else it's a matter of emphasis, what matters to you most.

246

00:39:33.300 --> 00:39:42.870

Peter Barrant: And I think, in addition to that, I mean their arguments of about you know I think we're as bad as the the disciples when.

247

00:39:44.160 --> 00:39:58.740

Peter Barrant: One asked who's going to sit on your right hand, you know where we are, we argue about what is going to get you into heaven what what will send you to hell, I mean that's where that phrase go to hell comes from you know the.

248

00:40:00.090 --> 00:40:19.620

Peter Barrant: The arguments about the afterlife about that I sure take up a lot many tones and very little thought on how we can be the best person on earth, I mean and, in fact, you know what is, what is the Christian.

249

00:40:21.390 --> 00:40:32.250

Peter Barrant: goal is to convert as many people into Christianity,

not to necessarily be the best person on earth, that we can be.

250

00:40:34.230 --> 00:40:37.050

Carl Racine: And that's my argument and that show in this section.

251

00:40:38.280 --> 00:40:40.230

Val: I think, for me, I i'm.

252

00:40:41.310 --> 00:40:51.660

Val: I guess for me i'm just it's Nice and comforting to think that as much as you tried on earth to be a good person and serve God.

253

00:40:52.260 --> 00:41:15.630

Val: That there's something better than what's going on now to look forward to, and knowing if there's no heaven or hell, or if that's on earth right now it's a little daunting to know like there is no beautiful a better place after we have worked hard and is able to rest.

254

00:41:17.970 --> 00:41:19.290

Peter Barrant: But that goes back to.

255

00:41:19.500 --> 00:41:22.080

Peter Barrant: What actually gets you into heaven and we.

256

00:41:22.080 --> 00:41:22.590

Peter Barrant: tend to.

257

00:41:22.740 --> 00:41:23.760

Peter Barrant: believe that we are.

258

00:41:23.820 --> 00:41:26.580

Peter Barrant: We know god's mind, and we can figure out.

259

00:41:27.690 --> 00:41:43.230

Peter Barrant: How to get into heaven and that's the presumption of most Christian denominations, I mean so, for example, we've got one denomination which says, if you don't if you don't baptize in this way, then.

260

00:41:43.410 --> 00:41:54.660

Peter Barrant: Do baptized and another denomination says, if you don't if you say, believe that this and you're not and so we're presuming to know all these things that the scriptures didn't actually.

261

00:41:55.860 --> 00:42:10.200

Peter Barrant: Tell us for sure, and rather than spending the time to figure out what is the best thing that we should be doing for people on earth, and you know that manifests itself.

262

00:42:10.590 --> 00:42:22.350

Peter Barrant: In all, a lot of different ways, but I mean, I think we see it mainly and you know things like you know when the we remember the KKK.

263

00:42:22.920 --> 00:42:39.840

Peter Barrant: Though a lot of those folks consider themselves Christians but did not see the the disparity between you know, believing the Bible that they were talking about and what they were doing and, similarly, that we have folks who.

264

00:42:41.250 --> 00:42:54.720

Peter Barrant: are not thinking about their neighbors when they say well we're going to go to heaven, so we don't care about the vaccine mandates, I mean so that's you know, and you know we can we can argue whether how you should treat.

265

00:42:56.340 --> 00:43:06.030

Peter Barrant: folks who entered this country illegally, but the argument is less about how to be humane and which I think would be the the.

266

00:43:06.660 --> 00:43:16.170

Peter Barrant: The better argument and more about what we got here illegally so body bar and you know, I was having a conversation with someone about this and talking about how.

267

00:43:17.340 --> 00:43:19.440

Peter Barrant: How, in the Bible the.

268

00:43:20.880 --> 00:43:21.510

Peter Barrant: The.

269

00:43:22.530 --> 00:43:25.500

Peter Barrant: society that God seemed to have have.

270

00:43:26.700 --> 00:43:41.010

Peter Barrant: envisioned for Israel included, you know, he would talk to me in the Bible, who talked about and treat the stranger this way you know and don't forget that you are one slaves and all those things, and that has gone out the window and in most people's.

271

00:43:42.060 --> 00:43:52.290

Peter Barrant: Thinking, so I think you know it is really helpful to think about why do we put so much emphasis on this afterlife.

272

00:43:52.950 --> 00:43:54.900

Val: I think for oh go ahead, sir.

273

00:43:57.300 --> 00:43:59.040

Marie Doubleday: Okay sorry, you want to speak.

274

00:43:59.400 --> 00:44:11.310

Val: Short, thank you, I think, for one, and maybe because I just think you know humans are imperfect so having knowing that there is a heaven and hell that's not on earth.

275

00:44:11.640 --> 00:44:22.350

Val: I think that kind of gives a little order in terms of what goes on on earth in terms of people who want to do well strive well, knowing that there's something better to.

276

00:44:23.460 --> 00:44:35.130

Val: strive for, but I think it's also very daunting to know that if there isn't a better place, yes, you you automatically should serve your brothers and sisters on earth, because.

277

00:44:35.790 --> 00:44:52.200

Val: that's what Jesus expect of us and that's what God has done for us and giving us mercy and and love, but I just also feel as humans it's I think it's, at least in my nature, knowing that there's a heaven it's like something to strive for something look forward to.

278

00:44:53.880 --> 00:45:01.560

Val: During this journey of helping others in the midst of so much turmoil around us, but knowing that there's something better.

279

00:45:02.640 --> 00:45:12.540

Val: that's achievable, later on, I don't know I just I think it gives me more peace on earth, as I walk this journey, knowing that there's something, hopefully, that is better.

280

00:45:13.410 --> 00:45:21.090

Marie Doubleday: yeah and adding to that and to your comment, Dr Barrett is, I think, for a lot of people.

281

00:45:23.940 --> 00:45:36.150

Marie Doubleday: believe that heaven is a means of reunification, among other things, you know it is but one of the things is a reunification with love once.

282

00:45:36.630 --> 00:45:46.860

Marie Doubleday: You know I have had a discussion and I you guys probably aren't going to be able to push me because we have our own different beliefs, I believe, animals go to heaven.

283

00:45:47.490 --> 00:45:53.220

Marie Doubleday: For the life of me I can understand why God wouldn't want all the beautiful animals that he created.

284

00:45:53.670 --> 00:46:10.140

Marie Doubleday: You know, but that's just me people have different beliefs, but I think for greater number of us there's a belief that we not only would be saved, etc, but, to a lesser degree of being reunited with loved ones that we have lost.

285

00:46:11.610 --> 00:46:16.470

Carl Racine: As well as with a whole lot of people who we couldn't stand when we were here on earth so yeah you're gonna.

286

00:46:16.470 --> 00:46:17.400

Marie Doubleday: have to.

287

00:46:17.610 --> 00:46:28.290

Carl Racine: write and see it's not gonna be all glorious and wonderful you're gonna have to deal with the fact that there's people there that you don't want to be there there's that old joke about the.

288

00:46:31.590 --> 00:46:40.320

Carl Racine: You know there's that old joke about the guy that's getting a tour of heaven and they get to one Horn and his big walled city and.

289

00:46:42.480 --> 00:46:54.270

Carl Racine: You know it's really shut off from the rest of the place and the person says to the guy what's this all about and the guy says quiet that's the Baptist they think they're the only ones here.

290

00:46:55.620 --> 00:47:01.620

Carl Racine: And you know you can substitute your own denomination for that, but yeah you know.

291

00:47:01.800 --> 00:47:02.880

Carl Racine: All that sort of.

292

00:47:03.300 --> 00:47:19.650

Carl Racine: Speculation all of that sort of fantasy imagination Hollywood stuff to me doesn't help us very much Yes it as sister Alaska says it can be a comfort she just lost her mother and it can certainly be a comfort.

293

00:47:20.100 --> 00:47:30.270

Carl Racine: In certain times, but the question that i'm posing here that i'm providing a couple of at least thought answers to things to stir you up a little.

294

00:47:30.690 --> 00:47:42.540

Carl Racine: Why didn't God, if this was so important for people if this was so important for people's faith why didn't God reveal this to Abraham at the beginning, why did Abraham and Moses and David and Jacob and Rebecca.

295

00:47:42.930 --> 00:47:55.290

Carl Racine: And the and Rachel and all of the rest of those people

Isaiah and Jeremiah not have a faith in an afterlife, and yet they faithfully serve God, despite not having that belief.

296

00:47:56.880 --> 00:48:04.260

Carl Racine: We don't quite we can't get our heads around it as Christians, because it's become such an obsession it's become such a.

297

00:48:04.800 --> 00:48:11.790

Carl Racine: focus of our understanding of our theology of God and of our life here on earth and.

298

00:48:12.720 --> 00:48:19.050

Carl Racine: So rally sex says it was it was impart so that Israel would be different from Egypt.

299

00:48:19.410 --> 00:48:34.290

Carl Racine: john golden gai has a an interesting perspective on this as well he's an evangelical Christian Old Testament scholar, who I really like and if we go to slide number six and then we'll continue this thinking about this we're not leaving this.

300

00:48:35.730 --> 00:48:45.660

Carl Racine: He suggested it was risky business for God to reveal the idea of the resurrection to humans and let God wisely delayed that revelation.

301

00:48:48.810 --> 00:48:55.800

Carl Racine: That it was God again it was intentional and god's part of that advice access the same thing.

302

00:48:56.340 --> 00:49:01.050

Carl Racine: And and it's also important to point out that the doctor the revelation of the of the resurrection.

303

00:49:01.320 --> 00:49:11.580

Carl Racine: is a thoroughly Jewish doctrine, it is not a Christian, I mean Christians believe it, but it was something that was there already in Jesus day the pharisees believed it the pharisees Saul of tarsus.

304

00:49:12.270 --> 00:49:24.210

Carl Racine: Who knows the Apostle Paul believed in the resurrection long before he had his vision and encounter with the risen Lord on the road to Damascus road to Damascus did not did not have to convince.

305

00:49:24.600 --> 00:49:38.910

Carl Racine: The apostle Paul that there was such a thing as a resurrection and afterlife he already believed in that it's a Jewish doctrine that Christians have also adopted and that's really important for us to understand rabbi Sachs believed as much in the resurrection as we do.

306

00:49:40.530 --> 00:49:43.800

Carl Racine: As it Abraham Joshua Heschel and all of the rest of those people.

307

00:49:44.430 --> 00:49:59.100

Carl Racine: And yes, on the one hand, it gives hope to communities facing severe persecution, such as the Jews in the time of the Maccabees, which is the first place in the book of Second Maccabees the first place where we have a really comprehensive statement in Jewish literature.

308

00:49:59.370 --> 00:50:14.460

Carl Racine: about the resurrection a couple hundred years before the time of Christ, it also gave hope to communities Christian community is facing severe persecution, later on, under the Roman Empire so it's not unimportant it's very important.

309

00:50:14.880 --> 00:50:18.090

Carl Racine: it's a matter of emphasis and.

310

00:50:19.050 --> 00:50:30.030

Carl Racine: John G. G. says that it was risky business for God to reveal the resurrection because it risks discouraging people from taking our earthly life as seriously as it deserves as God's gift.

311

00:50:30.330 --> 00:50:36.480

Carl Racine: It risks are not experiencing life's pains, as well as its joys and less squandering them.

312

00:50:37.230 --> 00:50:45.180

Carl Racine: Christians frequent failure to take this life seriously

shows god's wisdom and delaying the revealing of the resurrection.

313

00:50:45.630 --> 00:50:50.670

Carl Racine: And I think he's absolutely right, and he goes on to quote Dietrich bonhoeffer who you see here.

314

00:50:51.420 --> 00:50:58.890

Carl Racine: One of the most influential people in my life is because of discipleship that I read when I was in high school.

315

00:50:59.340 --> 00:51:07.650

Carl Racine: was one of the turning points in my life, along with Martin Luther king's strength to love, which I was reading at the same time, writing from a Nazi.

316

00:51:08.430 --> 00:51:21.420

Carl Racine: prison in 1943 bonhoeffer who was one of the few Christian clergyman who oppose the Nazis and said now we're not going to go along with this and, like most of the Christians in Germany.

317

00:51:22.710 --> 00:51:41.430

Carl Racine: was arrested for this part in a plot by the German generals to assassinate Hitler and by barnhart excuse me by half was actually executed, a month before the Third Reich fell in 1945 for his role in that plot.

318

00:51:42.780 --> 00:51:50.940

Carl Racine: So we have a bunch of letters and papers that he wrote when he was in prison and and one of them, he says it and then again he is in prison on death row.

319

00:51:51.300 --> 00:52:01.020

Carl Racine: It is only when one loves life in the earth so much that without them, everything would be gone that one can believe in the resurrection and the new world.

320

00:52:02.160 --> 00:52:15.000

Carl Racine: God wanted the Covenant community, the community of faith for first to be firmly rooted in this life and focus on an otherworldly establishment of justice.

321

00:52:15.720 --> 00:52:28.650

Carl Racine: undermines our desire to work for justice now and we're citizens, as some people very common and it's also served to justify all sorts of in human behavior by Christians in this world.

322

00:52:28.950 --> 00:52:40.770

Carl Racine: rabbi sex argues here somewhat counter intuitively I suppose there is almost no injustice that cannot be justified by reference to life after death.

323

00:52:41.310 --> 00:52:56.910

Carl Racine: Terrorists suicide bombing is the latest example when Karl Marx called religion, the opium of the people, this is what he had in mind that the promise of bliss and an afterlife makes people accept chains and injustices in this life.

324

00:52:58.770 --> 00:53:06.480

Carl Racine: The men who flew the planes into the twin towers did so precisely because of their hope of a reward in paradise.

325

00:53:08.130 --> 00:53:23.100

Carl Racine: You can get all those virgins right Jim Jones convince parents to give poisoned Kool aid to their children and commit mass suicide by telling them that death was a friend, that would allow them to pass over into another plane of life.

326

00:53:23.640 --> 00:53:33.150

Carl Racine: and slave owners in America taught their version of Christianity, to their slaves, with the hope that it would pacify them and make them, except their calf captivity.

327

00:53:34.080 --> 00:53:45.030

Carl Racine: Throughout history prominent Christian theologians from saying that guests into Martin Luther to Reinhold Niebuhr have worked with a dualistic worldview that separates god's future spiritual kingdom.

328

00:53:45.330 --> 00:53:55.740

Carl Racine: From present day earthly kingdoms, and this is allowed Christians to tolerate and defend the secular political actions that were profoundly unchristian.

329

00:53:55.980 --> 00:54:07.350

Carl Racine: loser even makes that point he says it's okay for the German Christian, the German princes to act contrary to the teachings of Christ, because they are part of this world.

330

00:54:07.800 --> 00:54:18.120

Carl Racine: And because of that doctrine of the two kingdoms Luther gave his support to those German princes slaughter of hundreds of thousands of peasants who are demanding better treatment.

331

00:54:19.020 --> 00:54:30.060

Carl Racine: More recently, Umberto Gonzales as so called evangelical Christian developed legal arguments to justify the Bush administration's use of torture in Guantanamo Bay.

332

00:54:30.720 --> 00:54:45.120

Carl Racine: And another devout Christian Lieutenant General William G blinken was so enthralled by this idea by this practice that he engaged in a secret operation within the Bush Defense department to in his words getting allies.

333

00:54:45.690 --> 00:55:05.700

Carl Racine: The Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq to turn it into another Guantanamo Bay, leading to the horrors that we have learned took place there and Christian history is full of such examples of people who thought deeply about the future and cared nothing about the President.

334

00:55:07.050 --> 00:55:08.880

Carl Racine: Comments questions.

335

00:55:11.370 --> 00:55:21.270

Carole Copeland Thomas: One exception, I would say your your examples are right on, and you know, certainly the suicide bombers and the virgins and all that stuff is.

336

00:55:21.810 --> 00:55:33.540

Carole Copeland Thomas: way they're outliers compared to what normal rational people would be thinking, the only thing I can think of would be my ancestors and those slaves picking cotton.

337

00:55:34.230 --> 00:55:43.650

Carole Copeland Thomas: In those hot fields and wondering, you know

where Am I why Why am I doing this, why don't I just end it all.

338

00:55:44.190 --> 00:55:55.830

Carole Copeland Thomas: And two things went through their heads, I would imagine number one is that if they had children and they were children was still on the plantation if they weren't sold off and even if they were sold off.

339

00:55:56.280 --> 00:56:06.660

Carole Copeland Thomas: They still wanted to live life so that it would be ultimately better for their answers for their descendants, and also.

340

00:56:08.130 --> 00:56:23.040

Carole Copeland Thomas: You know, perhaps thinking about some kind of better life after the fact, because life here was on was held so that would be my exception which is counter to a suicide bomber.

341

00:56:24.270 --> 00:56:25.920

Carl Racine: Absolutely and.

342

00:56:26.940 --> 00:56:34.350

Carl Racine: Certainly, there are places, as I said, people suffering deeply and suffering persecution in particular.

343

00:56:35.430 --> 00:56:42.660

Carl Racine: um for for whom this belief is really important to help them go on.

344

00:56:44.610 --> 00:56:48.300

Carl Racine: i'm talking about the majority of Christians who.

345

00:56:50.670 --> 00:56:53.130

aren't in those kinds of situations.

346

00:56:55.500 --> 00:57:07.530

Peter Barrant: You know, one of the things that i've wondered about a lot is the origin of the Church, if you think about the the paul's conversion.

347

00:57:08.640 --> 00:57:30.660

Peter Barrant: Paul wasn't stopped and say you're going to hell, so therefore convert I mean it the his his conversion had nothing to do with going to heaven or hell, and if you think about it much, much of what they spoke about in acts that also did not sound like those folks were believing.

348

00:57:31.980 --> 00:57:49.080

Peter Barrant: Those believers were there because they're going to heaven, but that that is, that is how i've read those scriptures and i've always wondered why about this whole emphasis, and you know this is the reason to become a Christian that doesn't seem to be how the church started.

349

00:57:52.620 --> 00:58:06.180

Carl Racine: yeah I mean again what I say about Paul was a fair see and we know it's very clear both from the New Testament and from josephus the Jewish historian writing in the first century.

350

00:58:06.720 --> 00:58:26.010

Carl Racine: that one of the one of the central teachings of the pharisees and this goes back several hundred years it goes back at least at the time of the maccabees was in a doctrine of the resurrection they believed in the general resurrection in the future of all the righteous dead.

351

00:58:27.150 --> 00:58:36.960

Carl Racine: not clear whether it was all the data or just all the rights is dead, it depends on who you read so Paul when he was Saul of tarsus before he.

352

00:58:37.560 --> 00:58:44.790

Carl Racine: Had that encounter on the road to Damascus didn't have to be convinced about that truth.

353

00:58:45.180 --> 00:58:54.720

Carl Racine: He didn't have to know that there was a loving God, who was willing to forgive sinners he already knew that because he was a good Jew, and a good ferriss.

354

00:58:55.170 --> 00:59:01.980

Carl Racine: He didn't have to be taught about justice in this world, he had learned that at his mother's knee.

355

00:59:02.760 --> 00:59:26.940

Carl Racine: What Paul learned on the road to Damascus was one simple earth shattering truth for him or or world transforming truth for him, not that there would be a general resurrection in the future, but that this one man Jesus of Nazareth had already been raised from the dead.

356

00:59:28.380 --> 00:59:41.130

Carl Racine: that's what turned paul's life around that's what turned the early Christians around was not the belief in an afterlife but the belief in something about Jesus of Nazareth.

357

00:59:42.240 --> 00:59:47.070

Carl Racine: So that's a completely different focus.

358

00:59:48.270 --> 00:59:53.520

Carl Racine: From, I think, from what most Christians, think of as what conversion me.

359

00:59:57.270 --> 01:00:09.120

Carl Racine: And there's even debate about whether you talk about paul's experience as a conversion or as a call Paul never uses the word conversion he talks about his call.

360

01:00:11.040 --> 01:00:11.970

that's another debate.

361

01:00:19.980 --> 01:00:25.710

Peter Barrant: Oh well, I also want to bring up something that you know, Maria brought up that also has has.

362

01:00:27.210 --> 01:00:48.240

Peter Barrant: Had me and i'm wondering, because we have a certain belief about Lucifer being cast out of heaven and and and becoming the the angel of death and I haven't I have maybe it's just my own ignorance i've not been able to find scriptures that actually support all of make that whole.

363

01:00:50.370 --> 01:01:03.300

Peter Barrant: I guess the narrative and you know, there are references that I see but i've never found anything that that that

fully describes that chain of.

364

01:01:03.750 --> 01:01:13.500

Peter Barrant: This is what happened, and therefore this is what was going to happen, plus the the other fact about what we talked about in the past about you know and.

365

01:01:15.630 --> 01:01:18.600

Peter Barrant: hell was cast into hell in residence in.

366

01:01:20.460 --> 01:01:24.660

Peter Barrant: The revelations made it makes it more confusing.

367

01:01:27.240 --> 01:01:29.400

Carl Racine: I mean that's a whole other can of worms.

368

01:01:32.940 --> 01:01:38.130

Carl Racine: When I was a new member of Bethel and go into the Wednesday night Bible study.

369

01:01:40.590 --> 01:01:43.110

Carl Racine: The Bible study was being led one night by.

370

01:01:46.560 --> 01:01:50.790

Carl Racine: I can't remember name, there was a married couple who were both.

371

01:01:52.350 --> 01:01:53.220

Carole Copeland Thomas: The whitley's.

372

01:01:53.280 --> 01:01:54.480

Carole Copeland Thomas: Or the mantra in.

373

01:01:54.540 --> 01:01:56.220

Carole Copeland Thomas: Canada lately yeah.

374

01:01:57.300 --> 01:02:07.710

Carl Racine: And she was talking about a passage is from one of the prophets I can't remember it's either I think it's Isaiah but it might

be as the kill i'm pretty sure it's Isaiah.

375

01:02:08.880 --> 01:02:15.540

Carl Racine: And I can look it up, but but it's the passage that this idea about Lucifer being cast out of heaven.

376

01:02:16.560 --> 01:02:39.060

Carl Racine: Is is was based on and so we're reading the text and she's talking about all that stuff and I raised my hand somewhat innocently and said well the passage doesn't here doesn't say anything about Satan but the passage clearly says that the Prophet is talking about the King of Babylon.

377

01:02:42.540 --> 01:02:58.260

Carl Racine: And everybody's scrambled to look at their Bible, and the read the passage again and saw that yes indeed Isaiah makes it i'm pretty sure it's Isaiah Isaiah makes it really clear that he signed about the King of Babylon and later Christian speculation about all this stuff.

378

01:02:59.520 --> 01:03:08.070

Carl Racine: Applied that to this whole myth of the fall of Satan and all that which, as you say you can actually find the text for it, but they had to find a proof text.

379

01:03:09.210 --> 01:03:18.690

Carl Racine: And Sandra God bless her was so stunned as many times as she'd read that text and prepared this study on it.

380

01:03:19.080 --> 01:03:26.250

Carl Racine: she'd never noticed that, because she had been taught to read that into the text, so when she actually had to confront with the text said.

381

01:03:26.850 --> 01:03:38.160

Carl Racine: She didn't know what to do with it and to her credit, she said to me, I don't know what to say i'll have to look this up and study it some more and get back to you.

382

01:03:40.020 --> 01:03:41.310

Carl Racine: And I thought okay.

383

01:03:42.540 --> 01:03:51.750

Carl Racine: There we are well God bless her two weeks later, she did come up to me and she says i've looked this up, and the only thing I can find is that this is what our tradition tells us.

384

01:03:54.150 --> 01:04:03.960

Carl Racine: And this is what I am arguing in this class in 100 different ways that our tradition is handed a certain ways of understanding the Bible that may or may not be accurate.

385

01:04:05.220 --> 01:04:09.420

Carl Racine: And that we need to rethink some of those traditions, and this is one of them.

386

01:04:12.750 --> 01:04:22.020

Carl Racine: So yeah there's no justification for that in the scriptures, but it was something that it's something we've learned from milton's paradise lost.

387

01:04:22.830 --> 01:04:25.140

Carl Racine: In the Bible, and has.

388

01:04:25.170 --> 01:04:37.860

Carl Racine: greatly influenced have Christian think about a whole lot of stuff and it actually is contradicted by I did a whole study on this later on it's actually contradicted by stuff in the Book of Revelation It makes no sense but.

389

01:04:38.940 --> 01:04:39.570

Carl Racine: There you have it.

390

01:04:42.570 --> 01:04:47.820

Carl Racine: we're stuck with it, because people believe it we're stuck with talking about going to heaven when you die because that's what people believe.

391

01:04:48.840 --> 01:05:00.840

Carl Racine: Even though the Bible says really clearly that that our hope is for a new heavens, and a new earth and the earth, the new earth a renewed Earth is where we're going to live not hip heavens, where God lives.

392

01:05:03.180 --> 01:05:16.680

Carl Racine: And the whole thrust of the Bible from the old testament to the New Testament is to provide a dwelling place for God on earth for god's will to be done on earth, as it is in heaven because Earth is where we are.

393

01:05:21.510 --> 01:05:21.870

Carl Racine: So.

394

01:05:23.700 --> 01:05:33.600

Carl Racine: I will leave you with all of that, for for pondering and we'll come back to this next week and talk a little bit more about this topic which is very.

395

01:05:37.110 --> 01:05:38.130

Carl Racine: difficult for people.

396

01:05:38.460 --> 01:05:39.150

controversial.

397

01:05:40.470 --> 01:05:45.810

Susan Racine: One it's the one verse in the Old Testament it talks about the afterlife he said there was one verse somewhere.

398

01:05:46.380 --> 01:05:48.180

Carl Racine: In Daniel.

399

01:05:49.920 --> 01:05:57.150

Carl Racine: Well, talking about people being resurrected to hope, or something like that.

400

01:05:58.740 --> 01:05:59.760

Carl Racine: it's in Daniel.

401

01:06:12.510 --> 01:06:14.910

Carole Copeland Thomas: Well, the chat certainly has been busy today.

402

01:06:16.560 --> 01:06:25.350

Carole Copeland Thomas: There has been the alternative discussion point from your topic has been very even bill Hughes was on a plane has been participating.

403

01:06:28.440 --> 01:06:38.670

Marie Doubleday: And the other thing brother cop, is that you know when you look at the Bible this different translations and the translations come from ancient languages.

404

01:06:40.620 --> 01:06:41.190

Carl Racine: yeah.

405

01:06:41.670 --> 01:06:42.510

Marie Doubleday: So a me.

406

01:06:46.410 --> 01:06:57.300

Carl Racine: Sure, but you know we used to use the King James and now we have you know, a whole multiplicity of translations that people use.

407

01:06:57.660 --> 01:07:07.110

Marie Doubleday: But even the King James which was written in the 1600s was based upon ancient languages.

408

01:07:07.980 --> 01:07:22.050

Marie Doubleday: Right and there were several languages for table at the time of Jesus because i've been in Bible whoop where people will argue about the the mean ancient Greek.

409

01:07:22.500 --> 01:07:30.540

Marie Doubleday: Am array of what what did Jesus speak in ancient Hebrew and they get into a whole discussion over you think you were in the Supreme Court.

410

01:07:33.720 --> 01:07:38.310

Marie Doubleday: i'm just saying i'm just putting that card down, which makes it even more of a challenge.

411

01:07:38.520 --> 01:07:38.850

Carole Copeland Thomas: But I.

412

01:07:39.120 --> 01:07:45.030

Peter Barrant: Think Carl has brought that up in the past in terms of the fact is that what we read our translations and.

413

01:07:46.080 --> 01:07:46.380

Marie Doubleday: know.

414

01:07:46.650 --> 01:07:59.760

Peter Barrant: Very often, going back to looking at what's some of the original language at least of what we understand was and then that does lead to some different interpretations based on which word was was.

415

01:08:00.300 --> 01:08:16.740

Peter Barrant: Put there, but I think I think you know more germane to what we were talking about here is the fact that there are a lot of traditions that were brought down that people because I mean one of the things that you hear sometimes.

416

01:08:17.310 --> 01:08:30.060

Peter Barrant: If people start to explain you you shouldn't do this because Christians don't do that, and you ask them why and they'll go and they'll talk to themselves and press into pretzels trying to explain why that thing is.

417

01:08:30.060 --> 01:08:37.650

Peter Barrant: Bad because the Bible is really say that there, that is, that is a tradition that was passed down in their denomination.

418

01:08:38.010 --> 01:08:51.810

Peter Barrant: And I think part of what the conversation is here is, you know, there are traditions that are Christian traditions and not all of them aren't necessarily found in the Bible, no matter what translation you're using.

419

01:08:56.760 --> 01:09:04.950

Marie Doubleday: i'm in agreement with you, I think, when you look at older European history, probably going from the 1400s on would.

420

01:09:05.370 --> 01:09:13.980

Marie Doubleday: You know, because i've been involved with this black

print with the school system and they go back to that period, and how the Europeans put down other Europeans.

421

01:09:14.310 --> 01:09:24.210

Marie Doubleday: Based upon their works and that sort of thing I think I think now I haven't done the research with it, if you look at the Irish Americans that came over here from the famine.

422

01:09:24.540 --> 01:09:40.590

Marie Doubleday: I wouldn't be don't know for a fact, but I wouldn't be surprised if the English who are a different denomination of Christianity than most of the Irish probably you know us how is the way to get on the Irish to.

423

01:09:41.760 --> 01:09:42.750

Marie Doubleday: To to.

424

01:09:45.060 --> 01:09:51.720

Marie Doubleday: break down because you know it's it's big within that denomination.

425

01:09:52.980 --> 01:09:55.560

Marie Doubleday: i'm just i'm just using that as an example.

426

01:09:56.700 --> 01:10:01.830

Marie Doubleday: I don't know you know it could be also broken down culturally I guess what i'm saying to.

427

01:10:03.480 --> 01:10:06.120

Carole Copeland Thomas: Well, you can also I mean that's why I always.

428

01:10:07.350 --> 01:10:11.280

Carole Copeland Thomas: Look at the evangelicals with suspect because.

429

01:10:11.340 --> 01:10:18.000

Carole Copeland Thomas: Right um so many of them, along with the southern Baptists use scripture to justify slavery.

430

01:10:18.540 --> 01:10:27.390

Carole Copeland Thomas: When slavery was an existence, and so this

whole groups populations denominations have taken certain.

431

01:10:28.440 --> 01:10:35.910

Carole Copeland Thomas: scriptures manipulated them or interpreted them a certain way to justify their behaviors actions and policies.

432

01:10:37.440 --> 01:10:37.860

Marie Doubleday: Great.

433

01:10:38.820 --> 01:10:45.540

Carl Racine: And those Christians made life hell for the Africans that they brought to this country.

434

01:10:46.140 --> 01:10:49.140

Carl Racine: So the fact that they.

435

01:10:50.670 --> 01:10:54.570

Carl Racine: say they believe in heaven and hell and yet treat people that way.

436

01:10:57.120 --> 01:11:05.340

Carl Racine: Just makes you wonder what their belief really means, and you know I I just got done reading this book.

437

01:11:06.900 --> 01:11:09.390

Carl Racine: The warmth of other sons which.

438

01:11:10.200 --> 01:11:12.810

Carole Copeland Thomas: Well, you read quickly I book a 600 pages long.

439

01:11:14.640 --> 01:11:16.200

Carl Racine: itself spellbinding.

440

01:11:17.760 --> 01:11:18.390

Carl Racine: um.

441

01:11:19.500 --> 01:11:35.550

Carl Racine: And it did it again kind of brought up the horrific

nature of Jim crow it wasn't just a kind of segregation, but it was enforced by obscene amounts of brutality.

442

01:11:37.140 --> 01:11:43.560

Carl Racine: Against largely against African Americans, but also against any white person who might go against the system.

443

01:11:45.270 --> 01:11:48.120

Carl Racine: And those were good church going people who were doing.

444

01:11:49.230 --> 01:11:57.810

Carl Racine: So again, the the larger question that has prompted my whole journey in the last few years.

445

01:11:58.320 --> 01:12:08.340

Carl Racine: about trying to find a different way of understood that the Protestant Christian theology in America has failed the Church has failed America.

446

01:12:08.970 --> 01:12:23.370

Carl Racine: And that there is something fundamentally wrong with our theology, not just with our behavior that the theology, and I think this emphasis on the afterlife, this is one of those things.

447

01:12:25.290 --> 01:12:43.170

Carl Racine: So, again, I just want to leave you the question, would you be faithful to God, if you were living in a time such as the time of Moses, or the time of David when there was no belief or understanding in an afterlife.

448

01:12:44.190 --> 01:12:49.470

Carl Racine: When you just thought that everyone went to the same place, like the Book of Ecclesiastes he says.

449

01:12:50.040 --> 01:13:09.060

Carl Racine: Would you be faithful to God, would you want to live the kind of life that Jesus tells his disciples he wants them to live if the end Jesus, you know doesn't well, what about this, would you want to live the kind of life that Jesus tells his disciples he wants them to live.

450

01:13:10.440 --> 01:13:12.690
Carl Racine: If this was all their work.

451
01:13:14.370 --> 01:13:26.400
Carl Racine: Or are you just are you only embracing this like I said for fire should only embrace this because of a hope for the future is there anything about this way of life that recommends it to itself.

452
01:13:28.320 --> 01:13:35.370
Carl Racine: in and of itself, is this the most attractive way of living, if not, why are you living.

453
01:13:40.230 --> 01:13:40.680
Carl Racine: So.

454
01:13:41.040 --> 01:13:48.240
Carl Racine: i'll just leave that it wouldn't pass our time and we can come back and think about that some more next week, but.

455
01:13:50.190 --> 01:13:54.210
Carl Racine: Those are important questions, this is why, why are you a Christian.

456
01:14:01.050 --> 01:14:01.560
Carole Copeland Thomas: amen.

457
01:14:02.310 --> 01:14:04.860
Carl Racine: All right, anyone like to close us out in prayer please.

458
01:14:10.470 --> 01:14:14.220
Peter Barrant: Dear God we do thank you that you have given us this opportunity to study your.

459
01:14:14.220 --> 01:14:15.210
Carl Racine: word and it.

460
01:14:16.320 --> 01:14:21.690
Peter Barrant: reflects on the meaning of your word we thank you for having.

461

01:14:22.650 --> 01:14:40.110

Peter Barrant: Carl as teachers that and the job that he has been doing, we thank you that you have been revealing yourself throughout the centuries, and that we can get a better understanding of you as we study your word, we ask that you would.

462

01:14:41.130 --> 01:14:59.580

Peter Barrant: bless each one of us and and help us to be lights in this world to to love our fellow man and to to to be servants, such that your Kingdom can be made here on earth, as it is in heaven, we ask that you would take us through this coming week amen.

463

01:15:01.620 --> 01:15:02.160

Carole Copeland Thomas: amen.

464

01:15:03.180 --> 01:15:07.650

Carole Copeland Thomas: God bless everybody take care, we have our marching orders progress to peak.

465

01:15:08.910 --> 01:15:09.390

Carole Copeland Thomas: amen.

466

01:15:09.930 --> 01:15:10.560

Marie Doubleday: Thank you.

467

01:15:11.370 --> 01:15:11.970

Val: Thank you.

468

01:15:12.750 --> 01:15:14.310

Carole Copeland Thomas: Take care God bless everybody.

469

01:15:14.610 --> 01:15:18.330

Susan Racine: God bless condolences Merrill.