

WEBVTT

1

00:00:00.120 --> 00:00:03.929

Carl Racine: For people who are here, we especially this sister.

2

00:00:05.819 --> 00:00:09.660

Carl Racine: Gloria and her terrible loss for summer we just.

3

00:00:10.920 --> 00:00:12.840

Carl Racine: Our hearts go out to her we.

4

00:00:14.370 --> 00:00:28.260

Carl Racine: We just want as together as a community to lift her up to continue to keep her and prayer and Lord God pray that you would strengthen her and comfort her and bring people to her.

5

00:00:29.340 --> 00:00:35.130

Carl Racine: As she goes to this time lord and may we not forget.

6

00:00:36.510 --> 00:00:41.730

Carl Racine: that one of our own is suffering deeply in the midst of.

7

00:00:43.140 --> 00:00:54.390

Carl Racine: All of the rest of the activities involved in in prayer to regard our discussion this morning guide our discussion this morning, as we look to your word and the name of Jesus amen amen.

8

00:00:57.420 --> 00:01:11.010

Carl Racine: we're going to be starting a new unit today is to care if we could have the first slide I want to show you the outline, at least for what the topic is and, eventually, where we where we will be going.

9

00:01:13.380 --> 00:01:18.300

Carl Racine: We want to look at we're looking at the the whole idea of.

10

00:01:19.860 --> 00:01:21.690

Carl Racine: crime and punishment and.

11

00:01:24.360 --> 00:01:31.080

Carl Racine: So sort of connected or segue from that into the scriptural theme of the fear of the Lord.

12

00:01:33.330 --> 00:01:34.410

Carl Racine: Which is a.

13

00:01:35.880 --> 00:01:42.900

Carl Racine: An important theme that I don't get think it's talked about, and that as much as it may be, should, given its importance in the scriptures.

14

00:01:43.320 --> 00:02:08.340

Carl Racine: And it's connected to a lot of things and so i've organized our discussion under four categories, fear and punishment, fear and holiness fear and worship and, finally, fear and obedience would probably get through the first two in the next three weeks best but there's no rush.

15

00:02:10.110 --> 00:02:14.940

Carl Racine: And I want to make sure people have time to think about it and discuss it.

16

00:02:17.310 --> 00:02:17.700

Carl Racine: um.

17

00:02:18.870 --> 00:02:20.760

Carl Racine: The the church that I grew up.

18

00:02:21.930 --> 00:02:31.230

Carl Racine: In California was like Bethel in one respect wasn't very much like Bethel but in one respect, that was like Bethel that the sermon for the day.

19

00:02:31.740 --> 00:02:39.210

Carl Racine: was based on whatever Bible texts that the preacher felt like preaching on and and sometimes that meant like at Bethel that you hear.

20

00:02:39.540 --> 00:02:45.690

Carl Racine: preaching on the same few passages over and over again, the preachers favorite passages so.

21

00:02:46.110 --> 00:02:57.210

Carl Racine: When I came to Boston in 1982 and started attending an episcopal church, I was amazed that the wide variety of scripture passages that we heard in church service each Sunday.

22

00:02:57.960 --> 00:03:14.400

Carl Racine: It visible church like a lot of historic denominations, like the Catholic Church, the Eastern Orthodox Church, the Lutheran church the visible church follows a lectionary a group of set readings from the scriptures that's assigned for each Sunday.

23

00:03:16.500 --> 00:03:21.570

Carl Racine: And this is a practice, it goes back at least to the time of Jesus.

24

00:03:23.040 --> 00:03:32.430

Carl Racine: And in the Episcopal church We actually had four different Bible readings each Sunday, there would be an Old Testament reading.

25

00:03:33.120 --> 00:03:55.410

Carl Racine: A reading from the song, one of the Psalms a reading from one of the New Testament epistles letters and a reading from one of the Gospels so over a three year period, it was in a three year cycle of readings that repeated after the third year we covered a good part of the Bible.

26

00:03:57.000 --> 00:04:02.580

Carl Racine: But not all of it as I noticed beginning when I started to look at what was left out.

27

00:04:03.960 --> 00:04:17.370

Carl Racine: Because, in addition to leaving out some of the tedious parts, like the genealogies we were also spared a lot of the harsher passages in the Bible that talk about god's judgment.

28

00:04:19.800 --> 00:04:32.040

Carl Racine: But no such luck in the Jewish synagogue because Jews also follow a set cycle of weekly readings, as I said that probably

was going on, even in Jesus day in the synagogue.

29

00:04:32.670 --> 00:04:44.940

Carl Racine: So the Jews follow a set cycle of weekly readings, that in one year's time covers the whole of Torah the whole five books of Moses every single word every year.

30

00:04:45.810 --> 00:04:57.750

Carl Racine: Which means that they have to read four sometimes five chapters from from a book of Moses in one week, they are long readings and they have readings from the profits or other parts of the scriptures as well.

31

00:04:58.800 --> 00:05:06.780

Carl Racine: But they cover the whole of Torah because it's the month for them, the most important part of the Bible, and they don't want to leave out any of it.

32

00:05:07.110 --> 00:05:14.910

Carl Racine: But one passage in Torah that has been particularly troublesome to both the ancient rabbis and to modern Jews.

33

00:05:15.810 --> 00:05:39.750

Carl Racine: Because, although Torah outlines many blessings that follow from loving and obeying God, when you get to deuteronomy 27 and 28 and I asked him look at chapter 28 to get a flavor of this deuteronomy 27 and 28 is a long and harrowing list of curses of punishments if Israel for sakes got.

34

00:05:41.400 --> 00:05:56.160

Carl Racine: Some Jews leave the synagogue during the reading of this passage others avoid the synagogue altogether that week, many of them refuse the honor of being called up front to read from this portion of the Torah.

35

00:05:57.300 --> 00:06:06.960

Carl Racine: And some synagogues just leave them out entirely from their reading cycle they're very disturbing, as you can see, if you read chapter 28, especially in the right.

36

00:06:07.770 --> 00:06:19.320

Carl Racine: And these passages, like others in the Old Testament are

the basis of been the basis for the anti Jewish slander that regards the Old Testament is teaching a harsh rathbone judgmental God.

37

00:06:19.800 --> 00:06:28.110

Carl Racine: As opposed to the loving forgiving god of Jesus and we've seen over and over again, what a gross distortion of the teaching, that is.

38

00:06:28.680 --> 00:06:34.350

Carl Racine: The teachings of Jesus and we just looked at from the sermon on the Mount actually echo these passages of judgment.

39

00:06:35.160 --> 00:06:47.670

Carl Racine: But historically Christians have tended to apply the blessings in the old testament to the Church, while continuing to see the curses as directed at Israel.

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00:06:48.660 --> 00:07:01.500

Carl Racine: So we sing the song we sing a song that we've sung at Bethel we're blessed in the city blessed in the fields blessed when we common when we go that song is taken directly from the first part of deuteronomy 28.

41

00:07:02.310 --> 00:07:15.030

Carl Racine: But it conveniently ignores the strong warnings and the rest of the chapter, including a parallel passage about being cursed in the city cursed in the fields and cursed when you come and go.

42

00:07:17.040 --> 00:07:33.510

Carl Racine: And I wonder if the church can really sing this song so arrogantly as if we have been more faithful to God than Israel is Can we just pick and choose the few Bible passages that we, like the ones that make us feel comfortable.

43

00:07:36.780 --> 00:07:52.260

Carl Racine: Despite disparaging Judaism as a religion of harsh judgmental ISM Christian preachers have been fond of raffle judgmental sermons threatening hellfire for all those who don't believe their particular version of the gospel.

44

00:07:53.460 --> 00:07:56.130

Carl Racine: If we could see slide number two please.

45

00:07:57.990 --> 00:08:05.940

Carl Racine: And perhaps historically the most famous of these in America has one called sinners in the hands of an angry God.

46

00:08:07.200 --> 00:08:12.720

Carl Racine: preached in 1741 by Jonathan Edwards.

47

00:08:14.130 --> 00:08:35.400

Carl Racine: right here in North Hampton Massachusetts and Edwards develops his argument, both from the Old and New Testament the title itself is an allusion to the passage you see here on your screen from he was 1031 is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

48

00:08:38.160 --> 00:08:48.570

Carl Racine: And such preaching this sermon is, it is a classic example of that type of stuff, but such preaching as fallen out of fashion, for the most part of the Church.

49

00:08:48.960 --> 00:08:57.660

Carl Racine: So it is worth recognize that even Jesus himself speaks of casting people into some sort of eternal fire.

50

00:08:58.380 --> 00:09:09.990

Carl Racine: In Matthew 25 here, and you see that the quote on your screen from Matthew five depart from me, you cursed into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

51

00:09:10.260 --> 00:09:16.800

Carl Racine: For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, etc, etc, should be a familiar passage to you.

52

00:09:20.070 --> 00:09:29.790

Carl Racine: The people Jesus speaks about in this passage aren't the usual people that Christian preachers have targeted for their particular version of judgmental hellfire sermons.

53

00:09:31.140 --> 00:09:45.720

Carl Racine: And, but as we've seen throughout the New Testament

there's passages that speak about god's judgment on sand about being thrown into a place of utter darkness where there's weeping and gnashing of teeth about the lake of fire for the destruction of evil Doers.

54

00:09:47.520 --> 00:09:50.130

Carl Racine: And if we could go to slide number three please.

55

00:09:53.010 --> 00:10:00.720

Carl Racine: there's lots of examples I just put a few here, Paul regularly talks about being saved from the coming wrath of God.

56

00:10:02.550 --> 00:10:05.520

Carl Racine: The Book of Revelation will do.

57

00:10:08.250 --> 00:10:11.430

Carl Racine: screen just went crazy the Book of Revelation.

58

00:10:13.110 --> 00:10:21.030

Carl Racine: dramatically depicts god's coming wrath on Babylon the great which is symbolic of all human empires.

59

00:10:22.170 --> 00:10:24.000

Carl Racine: And you see this quote from.

60

00:10:25.050 --> 00:10:31.740

Carl Racine: revelation 19 he himself treads the wine press of the fierceness and wrath of almighty God.

61

00:10:32.580 --> 00:10:48.540

Carl Racine: The well known civil war song, the battle hymn of the Republic druids famous phrase the grapes of wrath from this imagery and it's celebrated god's judgment on the confederacy glory glory hallelujah indeed.

62

00:10:50.340 --> 00:11:01.980

Carl Racine: And in a passage that drives Protestant theologians NUTS Paul speaks of Christians being called before the judgment seat of Christ second Corinthians two five to 10.

63

00:11:02.310 --> 00:11:15.150

Carl Racine: to receive recompense for what we have done good or bad that expectation Paul says is the basis for his having the fear of the Lord.

64

00:11:16.170 --> 00:11:17.220

Carl Racine: As a Christian.

65

00:11:18.630 --> 00:11:29.820

Carl Racine: And Paul says something similar in Romans two and Peter in first Peter, he says also something very similar in the quote, that you see on your screen.

66

00:11:30.990 --> 00:11:51.810

Carl Racine: Quoting in the passage he quotes leviticus 19 to exhorting people to live a life of holiness be holy, for I the Lord your God, importantly, because as Peter says, if you call as father, the one who judges all people impartially according to their work then live your lives here in here.

67

00:11:54.990 --> 00:12:01.440

Carl Racine: So the fear of the Lord is very much a New Testament doctrine for Christians.

68

00:12:02.340 --> 00:12:10.800

Carl Racine: Jesus makes this clear when he wants his disciples again, you see this quote from Luke 12 do not fear those who kill the body and after that can do no more.

69

00:12:11.160 --> 00:12:23.940

Carl Racine: But I will tell you, whom to fear fear the one who, after killing the body has the authority to throw you into get Hannah yes, I tell you fear that one.

70

00:12:25.110 --> 00:12:35.430

Carl Racine: And we saw in the sermon on the Mount last in the last section that Jesus repeatedly threatened some sort of punishment for those who break the commandments both in this life and in the next.

71

00:12:36.960 --> 00:12:45.240

Carl Racine: question I want to raise and have us think about as we go through all this material, is it really desirable to serve God out of



abject fear.

72

00:12:46.350 --> 00:12:51.150

Carl Racine: If not, why does the Bible spend so much time talking about fearsome judgment.

73

00:12:51.720 --> 00:13:02.220

Carl Racine: Why are we told that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom proverbs 19:10 very famous verse or work out your own salvation with fear and trembling from.

74

00:13:02.760 --> 00:13:17.040

Carl Racine: Philippians 2:12 another famous verse, how can we love God, with all of our being if we're scared to death is faith just an abusive relationship.

75

00:13:18.360 --> 00:13:33.630

Carl Racine: Where we love God, out of fear is Christianity just fire insurance so i'd like to explore this idea of the fear of the Lord a little bit more, but I like to just hear some initial comments or questions on on what i've said.

76

00:13:43.920 --> 00:13:46.740

Carole Copeland Thomas: Well, the first thing that comes to mind for me.

77

00:13:47.910 --> 00:14:11.400

Carole Copeland Thomas: In terms of fear is the relationship that we have with our parents i'm Thompson i'm speaking about the fear that we have for our parents when we're children and the fear that we have of the Lord obviously not on the same level, but i'm just making an analogy, that we can.

78

00:14:12.870 --> 00:14:36.360

Carole Copeland Thomas: love our parents yet fear, if we are disobedient or if we contrast them or speak back at them, where I was afraid of my mother, for what she would do to me and my mother was my best friend I loved her until I love her now, even though she's been gone 23 years so.

79

00:14:37.470 --> 00:14:40.410

Carole Copeland Thomas: You can both love and fear.

80

00:14:41.550 --> 00:14:45.240

Carole Copeland Thomas: In this instance, similar to God I.

81

00:14:46.260 --> 00:14:54.240

Carole Copeland Thomas: I don't want to act out and that crazy and do things because I am afraid, what will happen to me in the long run.

82

00:14:55.290 --> 00:15:02.370

Carole Copeland Thomas: From a from a biblical perspective, a spiritual perspective, so I think I think both can operate at the same time.

83

00:15:05.550 --> 00:15:12.690

Carl Racine: Okay, and you, you actually have and we'll we'll look at this shortly you actually have good biblical.

84

00:15:15.210 --> 00:15:28.590

Carl Racine: precedent for the the analogy you're driving the thing the Bible talks about that and we'll look at some passages shortly So yes, I that's a very helpful way of thinking that.

85

00:15:30.540 --> 00:15:31.380

Carl Racine: anybody else.

86

00:15:33.840 --> 00:15:38.790

Susan Racine: Well, I know it said that we desire judgment for our enemies and mercy for ourselves.

87

00:15:40.770 --> 00:15:51.600

Susan Racine: But it is, I think it is helpful for those of us who are at least you're trying to somewhat follow god's will to to know that there is.

88

00:15:53.460 --> 00:15:56.760

Susan Racine: That people aren't going to get away with murder that God is ultimately.

89

00:15:58.500 --> 00:16:13.020

Susan Racine: upholds justice and doesn't turn it turn away from it

doesn't turn a blind eye to it, it just sort of is in keeping with god's character that there is justice it's at some point.

90

00:16:13.620 --> 00:16:14.340  
Absolutely.

91

00:16:18.600 --> 00:16:19.380  
Carl Racine: anybody else.

92

00:16:24.270 --> 00:16:28.590  
Carl Racine: All right, well let's move in the time about fear and punishment because.

93

00:16:29.280 --> 00:16:40.440  
Carl Racine: As I said, the Bible does speak regularly about the importance of fearing God and usually what happens, and I was very surprised, nobody said this, because I assume people have heard this before, but usually what happens.

94

00:16:41.310 --> 00:16:49.320  
Carl Racine: Is that preachers and Bible commentators are very quick to say that this really means having reverence for God being in awe of God.

95

00:16:50.490 --> 00:16:54.840  
Carl Racine: And some of the Bible translations tend to.

96

00:16:56.790 --> 00:17:08.010  
Carl Racine: translate that word fear that way, and if you compare say the King James to some of the more modern translations you'll see that a lot of the fears that taken out of the Bible, it makes people uncomfortable.

97

00:17:08.610 --> 00:17:17.730  
Carl Racine: But the the word that's used both in Hebrew and Greek is the normal word for being afraid the Greek word is for us, which from we get phobia from.

98

00:17:18.870 --> 00:17:36.750  
Carl Racine: it's not as it's not a separate word that means reverence or off, but it is a word that does have a wide range of meanings that

includes everything from being terrified to being in awe so on reverence aren't wrong they're only a part of the meaning.

99

00:17:38.100 --> 00:17:47.640

Carl Racine: That same word is used to denote both a debilitating a paralyzing terror and a positive respect and reverence for someone.

100

00:17:49.860 --> 00:18:04.530

Carl Racine: It can also, as you see here on your screen, it can also refer to the act of worship itself as well as to a person of great piety to someone who is a true believer to someone who worships in the proper way.

101

00:18:05.280 --> 00:18:15.270

Carl Racine: Fear of the Lord in in the Hebrew scriptures I think is almost the equivalent of what we call religion in this quote from second kings 17.

102

00:18:16.470 --> 00:18:30.360

Carl Racine: You see that one either fears and serves the one true God the God of Israel or one fears and serves false gods idols the gods of other nations.

103

00:18:30.870 --> 00:18:43.830

Carl Racine: And in the New Testament gentiles who had attach themselves to the synagogue and adopted at least some Jewish religious practices are called God fears.

104

00:18:44.340 --> 00:19:02.520

Carl Racine: And in acts 10 here cornelius the centurion that Peter goes to is one of those people he is devout and God fearing he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly, even though he's a Gentile he hasn't converted.

105

00:19:03.180 --> 00:19:12.810

Carl Racine: But he has been following Jewish practices and therefore has referred to someone who fears God, who has has the proper religious attitude.

106

00:19:15.150 --> 00:19:22.110

Carl Racine: And some passages actually play on the double meaning of the word fear as both fear and.

107

00:19:23.130 --> 00:19:37.560

Carl Racine: respect and law so i'm 33 Lisa don't have the science museum so i'm 33 speaks of both of our reacting in order to god's power and creation which we'll talk about when we get to the section on.

108

00:19:38.190 --> 00:19:48.840

Carl Racine: worship, but also the fearfulness of a God, who has power over the military might have other nations, so those two aspects are brought together.

109

00:19:49.410 --> 00:19:56.700

Carl Racine: And in a passage that I think has very current relevance I love this quote, that I found a while ago.

110

00:19:57.330 --> 00:20:16.170

Carl Racine: From Isaiah that you see on your screen do not call conspiracy all that this people calls conspiracy and do not fear what it fears are being dread, but the Lord of hosts him, you shall regard is holy let him be your fear and let him be your dread.

111

00:20:17.370 --> 00:20:31.530

Carl Racine: In other words, there's a proper fear of God that contrast the fears of other people other conspiracy theorists and our world is rife with conspiracy theorists these days and the fear that people stoke.

112

00:20:32.100 --> 00:20:40.680

Carl Racine: As a result of that is driving people to act in ways that are utterly and completely irrational.

113

00:20:42.030 --> 00:20:57.990

Carl Racine: The fears that were raised, for example, around the coven 19 vaccine got people believing ludicrous stuff that you if you were vaccinated and you stood next to a woman who was pregnant, you could cause her to miscarry.

114

00:20:59.580 --> 00:21:05.430

Carl Racine: That comes from the fears that the world is able to.

115

00:21:07.530 --> 00:21:27.270

Carl Racine: Bring and build up in people and causes people to act in all sorts of awful ways so Isaiah way long time 26 2700 years ago so don't be afraid of what the world fears don't listen to those conspiracy theorists but do fear God.

116

00:21:28.650 --> 00:21:41.760

Carl Racine: The fear that focuses on the evils that human beings are doing in the world leads us to make bad decisions and the Prophet exhorts us to focus on God and god's power which can bring blessing or destruction.

117

00:21:43.530 --> 00:21:53.400

Carl Racine: So this catalogue of curses that you find in deuteronomy 28 appeals to that same fear of the Lord it's a fear of punishment for wrongdoing.

118

00:21:54.240 --> 00:22:03.990

Carl Racine: If you do not obey God and walk in his ways God will bring disaster on you and you see quote from verse 15 year.

119

00:22:04.800 --> 00:22:10.950

Carl Racine: God will bring misery on you and the language when you go on to read the rest of this passage.

120

00:22:11.940 --> 00:22:27.930

Carl Racine: Sometimes is over the top It just seems outlandish it says things like people will be reduced to eating their children and a mother who's just given birth will hide the placenta for herself so that her family will not eat it first.

121

00:22:29.940 --> 00:22:39.300

Carl Racine: No wonder people don't want to read this in the synagogue or in the church for something you have me asking you to read these passages.

122

00:22:42.180 --> 00:22:43.350

Carole Copeland Thomas: Thank you very much.

123

00:22:44.520 --> 00:22:47.430

Carl Racine: I guarantee you, we are looking at and will.

124

00:22:47.640 --> 00:22:55.650

Carl Racine: In this particular unit will look at passages that you don't hear talked about in church at all, and probably rarely talked about in the similar.

125

00:22:59.370 --> 00:23:04.770

Carl Racine: But you can see why people don't want to read this stuff I mean it is frightening and it's meant to be frightening but.

126

00:23:05.010 --> 00:23:18.660

Carl Racine: there's a couple of important contextual matters is I really want us to understand why why this stuff is in the Bible there's some important contextual matters that help us understand the purpose of this passage and deuteronomy 28.

127

00:23:20.040 --> 00:23:36.870

Carl Racine: there's two major considerations, first the language that's used there is actually a common part of standard of a standard political literary form and the ancient Near East archaeologists have discovered.

128

00:23:39.300 --> 00:23:51.330

Carl Racine: Just in the 20th century, hundreds of ancient treaties or covenants between nations that come from around the time of the second millennium BC, that is to the time of the exodus.

129

00:23:53.280 --> 00:24:10.410

Carl Racine: nations that were surrounding Israel regularly made covenant with each other and they all what the scholars have noted, is that these covenants that they found copies of have the same sort of format or literary structure.

130

00:24:11.670 --> 00:24:29.370

Carl Racine: it's a kind of legal boilerplate so when the Torah speaks of the Covenant between God and Israel, it follows closely this structure of these international treaties and they tend to be a treaty between a more powerful ruler, and a subject nation.

131

00:24:30.780 --> 00:24:40.470

Carl Racine: Okay we've we rather than me coming in, as the powerful ruler, and simply wiping you out, which you know I could do.

132

00:24:41.310 --> 00:24:46.770

Carl Racine: But that's a lot of trouble for me and it sort of ruins things in your country.

133

00:24:47.460 --> 00:25:03.990

Carl Racine: If we get together and agree that I will be your lord and you will be my people, and we will come to an agreement about a for the mutual benefit, I will provide you with protection from other nations, I will provide you with economic security.

134

00:25:04.320 --> 00:25:12.000

Carl Racine: And you will provide me with resources right, so you come up with a covenant, a treaty between two nations.

135

00:25:12.870 --> 00:25:28.110

Carl Racine: And that format, the way that was laid out by those ancient lawyers, is exactly the same as the literary format of the Covenant in the Bible, in fact, the whole book of deuteronomy is structured on that kind of format.

136

00:25:28.980 --> 00:25:38.760

Carl Racine: And a typical covenant in the ancient Near East had a number of different parts it started out with a review of the historical relationship between the peoples.

137

00:25:39.480 --> 00:25:47.700

Carl Racine: It included specific requirements of this Treaty what specifically each party had to do.

138

00:25:48.450 --> 00:25:58.200

Carl Racine: And then it ended with a section of blessings and curses blessings or curses that would result from keeping or breaking this covenant.

139

00:25:58.920 --> 00:26:07.650

Carl Racine: And the list of curses was usually extensive and detailed and often gruesome just like from our passage in deuteronomy.

140

00:26:08.370 --> 00:26:19.440

Carl Racine: Now, this was something both people agreed to, and this happens in deuteronomy Moses, ask the people to agree to this, to take



these curses upon themselves.

141

00:26:19.800 --> 00:26:35.220

Carl Racine: And it's a way of getting the people to take the relationship seriously with this kind of overstated hyperbolic intense language we've seen Jesus even uses that kind of language to make this point.

142

00:26:37.320 --> 00:26:49.260

Carl Racine: So the Covenant format provides a historical background and the shape of the Covenant provides the context for this passage of curses.

143

00:26:50.970 --> 00:27:09.930

Carl Racine: Excuse me, it can't just be lifted out of the past, out of the book and isolation from the rest, but it's really part of the nation of Israel, affirming or really reaffirming their commitment to the one true God and to the Covenant that they have with God.

144

00:27:11.190 --> 00:27:21.480

Carl Racine: So the horrifying language in this passage is something that was well understood in the culture of the day it was something that everybody agreed to.

145

00:27:22.740 --> 00:27:28.140

Carl Racine: And I want to pause there to see if there's any questions about the whole covenant thing.

146

00:27:29.820 --> 00:27:36.870

Jack Melvin: I have a question, Carl you have historic examples of other covenants.

147

00:27:37.980 --> 00:27:41.670

Jack Melvin: Or is it not good to include them in your notes.

148

00:27:45.270 --> 00:27:49.410

Carl Racine: I mean it's a kind of thing you can look up i've got books that talk about it.

149

00:27:51.630 --> 00:27:55.410

Jack Melvin: Like for example between Egypt and Libya.

150

00:27:56.610 --> 00:27:59.670

Jack Melvin: The nations of the of the Levant and.

151

00:28:00.990 --> 00:28:04.650

Carl Racine: Exactly all of the ancient native nations.

152

00:28:06.390 --> 00:28:13.920

Carl Racine: And they have they have lots and lots of copies of these documents, because part of the.

153

00:28:15.630 --> 00:28:25.320

Carl Racine: One of the stipulations in all of these covenants was the two copies of the Covenant were to be produced.

154

00:28:26.790 --> 00:28:39.240

Carl Racine: it's like when you have a lease with the landlord the landlord keeps a copy of the lease and you keep a copy of the lease as protection for both parties, so when you see Moses, with two tablets of the law.

155

00:28:40.170 --> 00:28:51.330

Carl Racine: That doesn't mean that the law was too long to be written on one tablet it simply means that Moses, has made two copies of this covenant one is god's copy and one is israel's copy.

156

00:28:51.750 --> 00:29:08.580

Carl Racine: Both of those copies are kept in the Ark of the Covenant as a reminder so they're in god's presence in the holy of holy is in the temple but they're a reminder, both to God and to the people of what they've agreed to mutually in that covenant.

157

00:29:11.280 --> 00:29:12.990

Jack Melvin: I have one more question.

158

00:29:14.580 --> 00:29:18.390

Jack Melvin: The beatitudes i've been sort of meditating on the Beatitudes.

159

00:29:20.010 --> 00:29:34.830

Jack Melvin: You know, in the version in Luke as a series of blessings and a series of curses is that you think an echo of the Covenant format and the end the region, the Covenant on Sinai.

160

00:29:36.120 --> 00:29:37.350

Carl Racine: Absolutely yeah.

161

00:29:40.500 --> 00:29:44.700

Carl Racine: that's the question okay anybody else have a question.

162

00:29:46.590 --> 00:29:56.760

Carole Copeland Thomas: I will, I was thinking one of your earlier points just about the Covenant and i'm thinking I translated to nations, where a nation.

163

00:29:57.900 --> 00:30:09.420

Carole Copeland Thomas: will offer protection to another nation in some kind of covenant arrangement, where they have military power and let's say the other country has resources.

164

00:30:11.550 --> 00:30:25.080

Carole Copeland Thomas: Sutton and something where it's not working, that well I look at Russia and the countries near them having covenants with them, because of the the oil relations, the the oil relationship that they have.

165

00:30:25.650 --> 00:30:45.060

Carole Copeland Thomas: Who has the pipelines, who has the oil, but then it gets breached because of russia's overreach, which is one of the reasons why they're not part of the G used to be G H now it's G seven that's meeting right now in Europe that I just was thinking immediately that.

166

00:30:48.060 --> 00:30:51.990

Carl Racine: yeah both parties are faithful to the Covenant, then the Covenant breaks down.

167

00:30:52.050 --> 00:30:57.210

Carl Racine: yeah and part of the will we'll talk about.

168

00:30:58.230 --> 00:31:12.090

Carl Racine: Right now, but part of the emphasis in the Bible on god's faithfulness is God is going to be faithful to this covenant, even when Israel breaks it.

169

00:31:15.480 --> 00:31:21.090

Carl Racine: And you see that happening over and over again, both in in the Old Testament as early as the.

170

00:31:22.380 --> 00:31:29.730

Carl Racine: The incident with the golden calf in the middle of the book of exodus and then later on in the prophets.

171

00:31:30.840 --> 00:31:39.900

Carl Racine: So yeah, especially if the more powerful nation wanted to abuse the relationship there might not be a whole lot, but the.

172

00:31:41.490 --> 00:31:49.470

Carl Racine: The less powerful nation could do, but that's sort of where these curses come into play, because.

173

00:31:51.780 --> 00:32:06.660

Carl Racine: The idea of taking a curse upon yourself saying, if I don't if I am not faithful to my word may these horrible things happen to me and to my family and tell my people people took that kind of stuff pretty seriously.

174

00:32:07.920 --> 00:32:12.240

Carl Racine: Because those were not just words, those were those were.

175

00:32:14.250 --> 00:32:28.380

Carl Racine: Well, those were those were ultimately things that are ratified by the gods in the eyes of these ancient peoples, and so, if you call down curse a curse upon yourself if you broke the Covenant.

176

00:32:29.550 --> 00:32:42.420

Carl Racine: You at least lived even as the powerful nation you lived in a little bit of fear that if you didn't behave yourself and fulfill what you said you were going to do that those curses would happen to you.

177

00:32:46.890 --> 00:32:49.260

Carole Copeland Thomas: I also wanted to go back to.

178

00:32:51.300 --> 00:32:59.580

Carole Copeland Thomas: What you talked about with the do not call conspiracy everything this people that particular section and just how.

179

00:33:00.720 --> 00:33:16.860

Carole Copeland Thomas: When you look at our current age, and the same Alex Jones those kind of conspiracy theorists the Q and on people that take us into the political realm i'm i'm thinking about the fact that you have.

180

00:33:18.180 --> 00:33:25.170

Carole Copeland Thomas: Those who leverage fear for their benefit and pass it on to other people.

181

00:33:26.190 --> 00:33:41.280

Carole Copeland Thomas: Who then willfully believe the the the ridiculous whatever they're putting out there's another thing with coven where, if you are vaccinated, then you are your body is magnetized and you.

182

00:33:41.970 --> 00:33:49.980

Carole Copeland Thomas: The sun so stupid, but people believe it that you can have spoons and silverware that will hang on your body, I saw a news feature about that.

183

00:33:50.430 --> 00:34:05.940

Carole Copeland Thomas: So, and one woman went at some hearing and tried to prove a point with this with a spoon or fork that witness down her face but she's still believe the lie so it's allowing yourself to believe the lie.

184

00:34:06.870 --> 00:34:20.250

Carole Copeland Thomas: Because you are afraid because fear controls, you and those who are the perpetrators of the lie because they're manipulative and our control and power hungry so it's like two.

185

00:34:21.540 --> 00:34:34.950

Carole Copeland Thomas: factors and to stakeholders one the believer and one the manipulator manipulating facts and and transposing them

into lies.

186

00:34:38.790 --> 00:34:41.610

Carl Racine: yeah and that's a very effective way of controlling people.

187

00:34:43.410 --> 00:34:43.680

yep.

188

00:34:45.210 --> 00:34:46.650

Susan Racine: Unfortunately, I think.

189

00:34:48.240 --> 00:35:08.400

Susan Racine: Typically, maybe just evangelicals, but I think religious people tend to be more gullible for these crazy ideas, because we do have you know faith that is present, despite the outward appearances so.

190

00:35:09.210 --> 00:35:13.110

Carole Copeland Thomas: A man with us sister Susan yes.

191

00:35:16.230 --> 00:35:18.180

Carl Racine: Well it's especially.

192

00:35:19.290 --> 00:35:22.800

Carl Racine: Prominent in groups of people who.

193

00:35:25.800 --> 00:35:28.530

Carl Racine: who give too much power to the devil.

194

00:35:30.120 --> 00:35:36.300

Carl Racine: You see, the devil behind every door and under every bed, you see the devil at work.

195

00:35:38.670 --> 00:35:46.920

Carl Racine: You know the devil is is kind of the original conspiracy theorist kind of idea and CS Lewis, said that you know.

196

00:35:47.700 --> 00:35:52.590

Carl Racine: there's two problems with you know with believing in the devil, the two ways of sort of.

197

00:35:53.280 --> 00:36:00.210

Carl Racine: causing problems by believing in the devil one is to not believe at all, and the other is to believe in too much and given too much power.

198

00:36:01.050 --> 00:36:12.720

Carl Racine: But there are there are Christian groups that that are looking for the devil everywhere, and you know that ends up becoming a version of a conspiracy theory, I suppose.

199

00:36:16.710 --> 00:36:18.750

Bill Hughes: I also think that there will be.

200

00:36:20.550 --> 00:36:22.230

Bill Hughes: You know a lot of what we're talking about.

201

00:36:24.900 --> 00:36:40.470

Bill Hughes: who's you know, for example with with God and an anthropomorphize God, you know that we imagined it, but the fear that care and stuff like that, and the devil the way imagine the horns and a pitchfork you know long fingernails or something.

202

00:36:43.050 --> 00:36:56.490

Bill Hughes: Those I think are useful in you may help us organize our thinking and focus our thinking to something we can relate to but.

203

00:36:58.980 --> 00:37:03.720

Bill Hughes: They also if you're not careful, and I think most people probably aren't.

204

00:37:06.390 --> 00:37:07.800

Bill Hughes: They actually become.

205

00:37:09.180 --> 00:37:14.430

Bill Hughes: We become a thing that we conjure and I was thinking that we that this morning.

206

00:37:16.080 --> 00:37:29.370

Bill Hughes: You know, listening to someone talked about yesterday someone making having a kind of a prayer at a secular school, we had a graduation, and they ended the prayer in in terms of in the name of the universe.

207

00:37:30.480 --> 00:37:37.350

Bill Hughes: As opposed to the name of Jesus, in the name of God or whatever, and the moment universe, and it was entirely appropriate.

208

00:37:38.550 --> 00:37:44.370

Bill Hughes: If you listen to the prayer because what he was talking about was that there were these forces in the universe.

209

00:37:45.990 --> 00:37:51.780

Bill Hughes: forces that can conspire from good and for the benefit of people and forces that can inspire.

210

00:37:53.700 --> 00:38:04.770

Bill Hughes: You know, for evil and he wasn't talking about you know, like demons with you know that sit on people show this who's talking about little forces forces of oppression forces and.

211

00:38:06.150 --> 00:38:16.350

Bill Hughes: manipulation of fear and how that can actually stoke things in society, you know these are real things that don't that you don't need.

212

00:38:17.790 --> 00:38:24.780

Bill Hughes: likely you don't need the Bible, and you don't need to believe in Jesus and His story to understand.

213

00:38:25.800 --> 00:38:34.590

Bill Hughes: And what we have done, however, as Christians, I think, is we, in order to bolster our own thing, and in what we believe.

214

00:38:35.190 --> 00:38:44.760

Bill Hughes: We basically said, the only way, you can believe and understand things to understand our specific models for describing the world and how the world works.

215



00:38:45.300 --> 00:38:52.200

Bill Hughes: Even the spiritual spiritual things in the world and then that leads us to conjuring up you know.

216

00:38:53.130 --> 00:39:11.520

Bill Hughes: A devil that we over amplify and and a God that we have to fear, not because he's protecting us from Sweden, their main function of fear and anxiety is to protect us, but you know it's not about protection it's about a moderation right so.

217

00:39:13.770 --> 00:39:33.600

Bill Hughes: You know I feel like that that we're taking my main point is that it's easy if you know, to the work of meditating and thinking about the things that you believe it's easy to take someone else's labels for that make them your own and then start going off track quickly.

218

00:39:36.510 --> 00:39:40.890

Carl Racine: I mean there's a healthy type of fear it as as bill said it's.

219

00:39:42.120 --> 00:39:45.090

Carl Racine: there's there's type of fear that we have this built in that.

220

00:39:46.230 --> 00:39:47.490

Carl Racine: is for our protection.

221

00:39:49.320 --> 00:40:01.650

Carl Racine: But then there's an unhealthy type of fear here, but the the passage from Isaiah and that really reflects a biblical perspective is that that ultimately, the fear of the Lord.

222

00:40:03.180 --> 00:40:12.540

Carl Racine: puts the rest of the fears that are possible to conjure up I love that word kinder kinder up in the world in perspective.

223

00:40:14.340 --> 00:40:18.270

Carl Racine: Because I think, in addition to the devil.

224

00:40:19.800 --> 00:40:26.010

Carl Racine: Humans are spiritual beings and the human spirit has tremendous power.

225

00:40:27.870 --> 00:40:33.930

Carl Racine: For evil as well as for good and doesn't necessarily need a whole lot of help from the death.

226

00:40:36.150 --> 00:40:45.300

Carl Racine: So I think things are more complicated than just the Holy Spirit and the devil it's it's we're humans are in the middle.

227

00:40:47.430 --> 00:40:58.050

Carl Racine: Well, so I was talking about the sort of over the top, language and deuteronomy 28 as impart reflecting the standard.

228

00:41:00.960 --> 00:41:04.260

Carl Racine: format of of ancient near Eastern.

229

00:41:05.340 --> 00:41:21.630

Carl Racine: Covenant documents but it's also the language in the Bible of the of Israel's prophets and that prophetic literature also is founded in this notion of the Covenant and if we could move to the next slide number five, please.

230

00:41:27.120 --> 00:41:27.540

Carl Racine: and

231

00:41:28.680 --> 00:41:48.270

Carl Racine: there's a lot of language judgment in the prophets and what's interesting, for example in the Prophet Amos You see, on your screen Emma says it is precisely that special covenant relationship that Israel has with the Lord that singles them out for judgment.

232

00:41:49.500 --> 00:41:56.130

Carl Racine: You only got 60 Israel have I known of all the families of the earth.

233

00:41:58.470 --> 00:42:07.680

Carl Racine: Therefore, I will punish you for all your iniquities it's precisely because we have this special relationship that you're going to be punished.

234

00:42:08.010 --> 00:42:15.540

Carl Racine: In the Book of Hosea the intimate relationship between God and Israel is likened to a marriage, where one partner has been unfaithful.

235

00:42:15.990 --> 00:42:22.440

Carl Racine: And God's anger and Israel's sin comes from the pain and hurt of their betrayal of God's love.

236

00:42:23.160 --> 00:42:33.510

Carl Racine: So the prophetic message is clear you think your special relationship with God will protect you from harm, but in fact it exposes you to it in a unique way.

237

00:42:33.780 --> 00:42:49.260

Carl Racine: If God didn't care so much about you God would not be so upset at your facelessness and somehow when Christians talk about how wonderful it is to have a personal relationship with God they never mentioned this biblical aspect of that relationship.

238

00:42:51.150 --> 00:43:01.860

Carl Racine: But as Hosea makes clear the message of judgment is a painful one for God, and this is true in the prophets in general.

239

00:43:02.370 --> 00:43:12.780

Carl Racine: Jeremiah illustrates this very well, he is known as the weeping prophet because he issues his warning of judgment reluctantly.

240

00:43:13.350 --> 00:43:18.300

Carl Racine: It gives him pain, he is literally in pain, by having he doesn't want to even.

241

00:43:19.020 --> 00:43:32.790

Carl Racine: convey this message that God has given him to the nation's he does so with tears in his eyes and too often creatures of hellfire and brimstone have conveyed just the opposite sense.

242

00:43:33.210 --> 00:43:41.910

Carl Racine: One of smug self centered smug satisfaction and even joy

at condemning seminary centers and those kinds of sermons are not.

243

00:43:45.180 --> 00:44:02.640

Carl Racine: In deuteronomy in this passage that we're thinking about neither God or Moses once those curses to actually take place as the Book of jonah illustrates the prophetic message of judgment is always issued with the hope of repentance.

244

00:44:03.360 --> 00:44:22.710

Carl Racine: The larger context of deuteronomy makes this clear as we've seen one of the key words in deuteronomy is return the Hebrew word for what we call repentance and Moses immediately goes on in Chapter 30 to say judgment is never god's final word when judgment comes God says.

245

00:44:24.060 --> 00:44:36.900

Carl Racine: God says to the people here in deuteronomy 32 and three on your screen return to the Lord your God obey him with all your heart with all your soul according to everything I command you today, then the Lord God will restore you.

246

00:44:37.860 --> 00:44:44.820

Carl Racine: I have set before you life and death blessings and curses now choose life.

247

00:44:45.870 --> 00:44:49.170

Carl Racine: That you and your children may live.

248

00:44:50.790 --> 00:44:59.670

Carl Racine: So you have a choice, the blessings and curses there are to remind you of the seriousness of the choices that you have before you.

249

00:45:00.600 --> 00:45:11.190

Carl Racine: And rabbi heschel sites in time about this rabbi heschel sites of famous mid rash oh rabbinic homily to make this point and i've got it on your screen.

250

00:45:11.910 --> 00:45:26.160

Carl Racine: The mid rash goes they asked wisdom what should be the punishment of a sinner and wisdom said misfortune pursues sinners quoting the wisdom literature proverbs 1321.

251

00:45:27.300 --> 00:45:36.120

Carl Racine: They asked prophecy what should be the punishment of a sinner and prophecy said the soul that sin shall die is equal 18.

252

00:45:37.830 --> 00:45:48.270

Carl Racine: Then they asked the Holy one blessed be he what should be the punishment of a sinner and he said, let him repent and he will be a tone before.

253

00:45:50.730 --> 00:46:00.690

Carl Racine: So here the ancient rabbis recognize that, although, as we see in scripture contains a variety of voices and messages, including the message of judgment.

254

00:46:01.260 --> 00:46:20.160

Carl Racine: The last word belongs to God and that's a word of forgiveness and reconciliation, so when you talk about judgment that has to be kept in mind as well because god's final word is always one of a loving commitment to the Covenant leviticus.

255

00:46:22.230 --> 00:46:30.930

Carl Racine: here that you see even if Israel breaks that covenant, and God will never abandon Israel completely or cease calling them to return.

256

00:46:31.230 --> 00:46:48.060

Carl Racine: And Paul affirms the same fundamental theological principle, the gifts and calling of God, are irrevocable he says in Romans 11:29 and that's in the middle of talking precisely about god's covenant with Israel.

257

00:46:49.800 --> 00:47:06.180

Carl Racine: So in that whole passage in Romans 11 paul's point is that God continues to love Israel and intends to show them mercy, even now, despite their past disobedience god's wrath is never god's last word for his covenant people.

258

00:47:08.790 --> 00:47:16.050

Carl Racine: But the words of judgment are there and, like most modern Christians, the rabbi's were uncomfortable with these passages.

259

00:47:16.470 --> 00:47:26.070

Carl Racine: rabbinic tree teaching teachers that one who observes god's commandments out of fear of punishment or love of reward is someone who doesn't worship, for the right reasons.

260

00:47:26.730 --> 00:47:34.110

Carl Racine: And although the rabbi's regularly speak of the rewards that come to people who are faithful especially people who are faithful and studying Torah.

261

00:47:34.590 --> 00:47:47.370

Carl Racine: They recognize that such motivation desire for reward reward that motivation in and of itself does not lead to a mature spiritual life we could go to the next slide please.

262

00:47:48.450 --> 00:47:49.080

six.

263

00:47:50.760 --> 00:48:05.550

Carl Racine: piercy I vote the ancient collection of rabbinic wisdom sayings that we've looked at before actually begins with an interesting quote from emptiness of social the third century BC so a couple hundred years before Jesus.

264

00:48:06.120 --> 00:48:21.450

Carl Racine: Do not be like servants who serve their master on condition of receiving reward that be like servants who serve their master not unconditionally receiving an award but then he goes on to say, and let the fear of heaven be upon you.

265

00:48:23.280 --> 00:48:37.860

Carl Racine: my mind at ease the great 12th century Jewish philosopher labels worship, out of a desire for blessing or fear of punishment is unworthy and says, this is not at the level of the prophets or the wise.

266

00:48:39.060 --> 00:48:45.930

Carl Racine: He says, and you see on your screen, the rest of the quote the only ones who serve God in this way or the uneducated and children.

267

00:48:46.350 --> 00:49:00.570

Carl Racine: who are trained to serve from fear until their knowledge grows and they come to serve out of love so for the rabbi's a loving Worshipful reverence for God is a higher attitude than such fear.

268

00:49:02.550 --> 00:49:13.380

Carl Racine: But to me that's a little bit precious the Bible appeals to both as we've seen the Bible knows that, at times, our basic elements need this fear to keep us in line.

269

00:49:13.950 --> 00:49:21.300

Carl Racine: We are often more like young children as sister Carol said, who only respond to the fear of punishment.

270

00:49:21.930 --> 00:49:31.800

Carl Racine: to become mature, they need to learn the reasons for and respect for proper behavior they need to learn to value for its.

271

00:49:32.310 --> 00:49:45.900

Carl Racine: To value good behavior for itself as something intrinsically good rabbi Norman lamb comments on this fear of punishment sees sin as dangerous reverence sees it as disgusting.

272

00:49:49.320 --> 00:50:02.970

Carl Racine: But for the most part, people fear unpleasant the fear of unpleasant consequences that people have is a stronger motivator, especially when we need to change deeply ingrained bad habits.

273

00:50:03.750 --> 00:50:15.540

Carl Racine: Paul speaks of judgment on wayward Christians now is a kind of discipline, so that they will learn to behave and not be condemned, ultimately, and you see the quote from first Corinthians 11.

274

00:50:15.960 --> 00:50:21.720

Carl Racine: When we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord, so we will not be condemned, along with the world.

275

00:50:22.260 --> 00:50:27.300

Carl Racine: And then the passage from Hebrews 12 that also reflects what sister Carol was saying.

276

00:50:27.750 --> 00:50:40.950

Carl Racine: That discipline is a positive sign of god's parental love for his children and it produces a life of Holiness, so the author of Hebrews says don't despise.

277

00:50:41.280 --> 00:50:51.330

Carl Racine: It when you are rebuked when you're chasing when when the Lord punishes you because the Lord loves like a father, the Lord loves those who he chases.

278

00:50:52.590 --> 00:51:05.670

Carl Racine: Know chasing no discipline verse 11 seems to be joyful for the present, but painful nevertheless afterwards it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who've been trained by it.

279

00:51:06.090 --> 00:51:15.000

Carl Racine: And all of this again the idea of of how you discipline children that God has to treat us as children first.

280

00:51:16.380 --> 00:51:29.550

Carl Racine: selfless service to God is the goal, but to reach that goal we need incentives, and that includes the fear of punishment, so the Bible definitely believes, both in using the carrot and the stick.

281

00:51:31.560 --> 00:51:39.240

Carl Racine: So the fear of the Lord does include the fear of punishment of judgment and we've seen this is not simply an Old Testament idea.

282

00:51:39.660 --> 00:51:52.980

Carl Racine: But one affirmed in the New Testament as well and it's more than simply a fear of final judgment, the fear of going to hell as we've seen judgment in both the old and new testament also comes in this life.

283

00:51:54.060 --> 00:52:12.240

Carl Racine: Through divine actions or those of human agents, such as a Syria and Babylon or even local courts sin has consequences and the biblical warnings of judgment are there to encourage us to avoid having to suffer those consequences.

284



00:52:14.940 --> 00:52:26.490

Carl Racine: And when level is as Susan said we like this idea of punishment of judgment for sin, we want centers to be punished because we have a sense of justice we don't want people to get away with wrongdoing.

285

00:52:27.510 --> 00:52:38.610

Carl Racine: We just don't like so much the idea of punishment when it's applied to ourselves, you want justice to be inflicted on others, but mercy on ourselves so Christians have developed a strong sense of personal protection from judgment.

286

00:52:39.000 --> 00:52:43.050

Carl Racine: That ignores or cancels out this whole aspect of biblical teaching.

287

00:52:44.580 --> 00:52:48.930

Carl Racine: The prophets message of judgment was directed primarily to Israel to god's people.

288

00:52:50.160 --> 00:53:00.630

Carl Racine: And Jesus strong words of judgment we're also primarily directed against good religious folks that when they're ready to literally attended services and thought of themselves as devout faithful followers of God.

289

00:53:01.410 --> 00:53:10.020

Carl Racine: And the Bible makes it clear that god's People may well feign fate may well face various forms of judgment here and now.

290

00:53:10.560 --> 00:53:20.280

Carl Racine: And for some that judgment may be quite devastating the idea that God is going to rapture us out of this whirlwind serious trouble comes to simply unbiblical.

291

00:53:21.180 --> 00:53:34.650

Carl Racine: So the church as a Community also needs to hear this message of judgment, it needs to hear about the wrath of God, not just for individuals but also coming on a Community on a nation on god's own people.

292

00:53:35.670 --> 00:53:44.070

Carl Racine: The Church needs to hear that some of her teachings and actions may have essentially made her an apostate institution and idolatrous people.

293

00:53:44.280 --> 00:53:49.320

Carl Racine: A community that has wholeheartedly embraced the pagan values of the world around it.

294

00:53:49.620 --> 00:54:02.370

Carl Racine: The Church needs to hear the message that God may need to dismantle and destroy everything she considers sacred so that God may come once again to dwell among his people.

295

00:54:02.880 --> 00:54:17.790

Carl Racine: The Church needs to rediscover the fear of the Lord not directed at others, but for ourselves for our own good for our own discipline and growth, I think i'm going to.

296

00:54:19.080 --> 00:54:24.930

Carl Racine: Stop there for today and people can make final comments and we'll continue with this next week.

297

00:54:25.470 --> 00:54:32.370

Carole Copeland Thomas: brother Carl a sister Hannah in the chat had this question, what do you think Israel is today.

298

00:54:41.100 --> 00:54:42.570

Hannah Brooks: or who like who is this.

299

00:54:44.730 --> 00:54:46.710

Carole Copeland Thomas: Oh i'm sorry who pardon me oh.

300

00:54:47.160 --> 00:54:50.070

Carl Racine: I apologize Israel is today.

301

00:54:51.480 --> 00:54:52.050

Carl Racine: um.

302

00:54:53.700 --> 00:54:54.840

Carl Racine: I mean, I think.

303

00:54:58.140 --> 00:55:10.200

Carl Racine: I think Israel today is still the Jewish people as a whole, not specifically the modern nation state of Israel.

304

00:55:11.730 --> 00:55:12.330

Carl Racine: But.

305

00:55:13.710 --> 00:55:22.830

Carl Racine: God Jewish people as a whole, the people who trace their ancestry and religious practices back to Moses, and to Abraham.

306

00:55:28.860 --> 00:55:33.660

Janet Humdy Morrison: I guess asked another way could we be thinking of Christians as Israel.

307

00:55:38.370 --> 00:55:39.810

Janet Humdy Morrison: As the Biblical Israel.

308

00:55:41.190 --> 00:55:47.040

Carl Racine: The my opinion, the answer to that is both yes and no i'm.

309

00:55:49.740 --> 00:55:59.580

Carl Racine: Paul never blurs the distinction between Jews and gentiles those distinctions, despite what he says about in Christ there's no Jew or Gentile.

310

00:56:03.480 --> 00:56:17.010

Carl Racine: that's true On one level, but on another level for Paul those those distinctions are very important, and he works with them repeatedly and all of his letters, so there is a sense in which, as.

311

00:56:19.170 --> 00:56:28.620

Carl Racine: The people of God, who trace their spiritual ancestry to the one Jewish Jesus of Nazareth.

312

00:56:29.820 --> 00:56:32.730

Carl Racine: The Church is connected to Israel.

313

00:56:34.980 --> 00:56:48.690

Carl Racine: in certain ways and that we can learn from Israel scriptures about how God deals with people who want to be faithful to the God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob.

314

00:56:49.890 --> 00:57:00.780

Carl Racine: However, I do not believe that the Church has in any way replaced Israel as the exclusive people of God.

315

00:57:02.190 --> 00:57:13.770

Carl Racine: The New Testament it seems to me, is very clear on the fact that God is still working with the Jewish people along with Christians.

316

00:57:15.840 --> 00:57:25.590

Carl Racine: It would take me some time to make that argument more extensively, but I think there's a danger, and that, historically, this has been done.

317

00:57:26.880 --> 00:57:36.330

Carl Racine: For Christians to simply say well we're now the new Israel, I think, Israel, the Jewish people still exist.

318

00:57:37.080 --> 00:57:44.160

Carl Racine: In a covenant relationship of some sort of with God, because, as we saw in those quotes that I made earlier.

319

00:57:44.550 --> 00:58:01.170

Carl Racine: God is not going to turn his back on Israel just because Israel has been unfaithful and if we do not affirm that doctrine, then we have all people are was because if we as Christians are unfaithful then God will turn his back on us.

320

00:58:02.190 --> 00:58:09.180

Carl Racine: So if you believe that God is going to be faithful to us as a church, despite our many.

321

00:58:10.890 --> 00:58:11.790

Carl Racine: transgression.

322

00:58:13.200 --> 00:58:21.180

Carl Racine: You also have to believe that God is is going to continue to be faithful to the Covenant he established with Israel.

323

00:58:23.160 --> 00:58:25.620

Carl Racine: way along the thousands of years ago.

324

00:58:29.190 --> 00:58:30.150

Carl Racine: That helpful.

325

00:58:35.700 --> 00:58:45.420

Carl Racine: that's why we're sort of wrestling with all these issues here, because the relationship between the church and Israel is a complicated one and it's not one that.

326

00:58:49.680 --> 00:59:00.270

Carl Racine: Is disentangled so easily, which is why people have so much trouble with what Paul says in Romans nine to 11 just doesn't make sense to them.

327

00:59:02.490 --> 00:59:05.400

Carl Racine: Is it true that everyone sits in their own bottom purse.

328

00:59:06.420 --> 00:59:08.280

Carl Racine: not sure I understand the question habit.

329

00:59:10.680 --> 00:59:25.650

Hannah Brooks: I mean like what I mean is, everyone is going to be judged individually, based on how they see things or how their understanding, or how they see things are where God knows where that person is maybe.

330

00:59:27.330 --> 00:59:32.850

Carl Racine: Well, I mean what Paul says that I quoted, there is a people be justified, according to what they've done.

331

00:59:33.930 --> 00:59:34.560

Carl Racine: and

332

00:59:36.270 --> 00:59:46.710

Carl Racine: which raises a whole lot of complicated questions, but we tend to think in terms of individuals, what i've done as an individual.

333

00:59:47.100 --> 00:59:55.650

Carl Racine: But the language of judgment that we've been looking at this is why I made the connection with the Church, the language of judgment that we looking at that we have been looking at today.

334

00:59:56.010 --> 01:00:13.500

Carl Racine: Is not simply focused on individual centers the language is focused on nations on Israel and Babylon I mean you read the prophets they don't just issue warnings of judgment to Israel, issue warnings of judgment to Babylon and tire and a Syria and.

335

01:00:14.070 --> 01:00:18.510

Carl Racine: In MOAB and all of the all of the rest of those nations that were surrounding.

336

01:00:18.900 --> 01:00:29.820

Carl Racine: God deals with people as as as a as a group of people, as a community of people, not simply as individuals and our American individualism kind of blinds us to that.

337

01:00:30.540 --> 01:00:42.510

Carl Racine: reality in the scriptures but I really think that the churches in serious trouble in the in this world as a whole and that that's really part of god's judgment on the church as a.

338

01:00:42.900 --> 01:00:53.340

Carl Racine: Community as an institution as a as a corporate body, not simply as offensive individuals who've done something the Church has not been faithful to it's calling.

339

01:00:54.300 --> 01:01:03.300

Carl Racine: To be disciples of Jesus Christ in the world and be a light to the world the churches as involved itself too often with the idolatry of the world.

340

01:01:03.810 --> 01:01:21.420

Carl Racine: etc, etc, etc, and the churches has arguably become an apostate institution a church that for hundreds and hundreds and

hundreds of years could support and justify on the basis of its scriptures the enslavement of Africans.

341

01:01:23.100 --> 01:01:33.150

Carl Racine: is deeply deeply flawed a church that for two millennia has brutally persecuted Jewish people slaughtered.

342

01:01:34.320 --> 01:01:39.810

Carl Racine: marginalized and otherwise mistreated Jewish people.

343

01:01:40.980 --> 01:01:45.840

Carl Racine: is an institution that's deeply deeply flawed and deeply in need of judgment.

344

01:01:49.170 --> 01:01:50.130

Carl Racine: So.

345

01:01:50.610 --> 01:01:51.540

Carole Copeland Thomas: You know one thing.

346

01:01:51.690 --> 01:01:56.070

Carl Racine: You know this language of judgment is really important to sister Carol.

347

01:01:56.550 --> 01:02:06.420

Carole Copeland Thomas: I didn't mean to interrupt you, I was going to say that you brought clarity for me when you associated the word reverence have reverence with fear.

348

01:02:07.140 --> 01:02:22.410

Carole Copeland Thomas: And, and knowing how as a child your fear then becomes reverence and, in my case, for your parents, because of what they stand for and the maturity of understanding the difference.

349

01:02:23.640 --> 01:02:39.210

Carole Copeland Thomas: versus being a kind of Christian who remains a child believes, whatever the in this case the manipulator will say, and so you then believe all kinds of crazy things, including magnetic spoons.

350

01:02:43.290 --> 01:02:46.530

Carole Copeland Thomas: that's that anybody will share with you, I saw that on.

351

01:02:47.790 --> 01:02:51.150

Carole Copeland Thomas: NBC see was it was not fox what's.

352

01:02:52.380 --> 01:02:52.680

Carole Copeland Thomas: Next.

353

01:02:54.750 --> 01:02:57.000

Janet Humdy Morrison: I sorry to Carol I can't remember which.

354

01:02:58.740 --> 01:03:00.570

Janet Humdy Morrison: One it was, but I did see it yeah.

355

01:03:02.640 --> 01:03:11.730

Carl Racine: And we run over time here, and I think we'll put a positive say we come back and talk about this, some more, but I think you know we.

356

01:03:13.410 --> 01:03:23.640

Carl Racine: Like Israel, we are a stiff neck hard hearted people and sometimes we need this kind of wake up call.

357

01:03:25.170 --> 01:03:41.520

Carl Racine: In the scriptures from the word of God to just remind us of how important these matters are and remind us of who God is and we're going to go on eventually to talk about reverence for God and and just standing in awe of God.

358

01:03:42.600 --> 01:03:52.950

Carl Racine: When we talk about worship and we'll talk about obedience Finally, but I wanted to start with the judgment thing because it's it's so much a part of the scripture that we don't.

359

01:03:54.960 --> 01:03:56.700

Carl Racine: tend to think about are talking about.

360

01:03:57.960 --> 01:04:03.450



Carl Racine: So can someone close us out in prayer and we will resume next week with this with this topic.

361

01:04:04.800 --> 01:04:05.280

Please.

362

01:04:08.070 --> 01:04:10.920

Carole Copeland Thomas: sister Janet will you do us the honors or yes.

363

01:04:11.100 --> 01:04:18.630

Janet Humdy Morrison: Okay, my God almighty Thank you so much for these classes and for your the clarity that has been brought to your word.

364

01:04:19.020 --> 01:04:27.600

Janet Humdy Morrison: Thank you for the group that has gathered here and God we asked that up with sister Gloria and let you give her comfort in this most terrible time.

365

01:04:28.110 --> 01:04:40.440

Janet Humdy Morrison: God, we thank you again for just this beautiful day and for the wisdom that you have bestowed on us and we ask that you give us all safe passage for the rest of the day in Jesus name, we pray amen.

366

01:04:41.160 --> 01:04:42.180

Carl Racine: amen man.

367

01:04:43.620 --> 01:04:45.780

Carole Copeland Thomas: See you next week, everybody God bless have a.

368

01:04:45.780 --> 01:04:47.970

Hannah Brooks: Wonderful week a great study, thank you.

369

01:04:48.180 --> 01:04:48.510

bye.