

WEBVTT

1

00:00:04.140 --> 00:00:09.960

Carl Racine: i'm happy for everyone who's here today let's open in prayer Lord God we bless you.

2

00:00:11.790 --> 00:00:12.750

Carl Racine: For this day.

3

00:00:14.460 --> 00:00:16.020

Carl Racine: Excuse me, we bless you for.

4

00:00:17.190 --> 00:00:26.250

Carl Racine: This Community that is gathered together to share with one another and learn from one another and learn from your word and we pray that you would guide our discussion.

5

00:00:27.870 --> 00:00:33.000

Carl Racine: And our conversation together in the name of Jesus amen.

6

00:00:39.420 --> 00:00:50.220

Carl Racine: We were we've been thinking about this whole idea of the fear of the Lord and it's it's a it's a sort of complex thing and i've been trying to unravel some pieces of it.

7

00:00:52.350 --> 00:01:01.830

Carl Racine: Last week we we looked at one important aspect of it it's usually actually translated as reverence or off and.

8

00:01:02.610 --> 00:01:19.620

Carl Racine: We looked we've been looking specifically at the idea of standing in awe in the presence of the the creator of the universe in the in the in the face of the magnificent complexity of the created world.

9

00:01:21.540 --> 00:01:22.260

Carl Racine: and

10

00:01:23.610 --> 00:01:27.060

Carl Racine: We saw that that sort of reverential our.

11

00:01:28.440 --> 00:01:35.790

Carl Racine: develops in part, when we forget about ourselves and focus outward focus on who God is.

12

00:01:37.020 --> 00:01:38.790

Carl Racine: Rather than our own.

13

00:01:40.230 --> 00:01:41.250

Carl Racine: situation.

14

00:01:42.270 --> 00:01:54.840

Carl Racine: So the worship, which develops out of that reverence or off for God is really not about me and about what i'm getting out of it, but about.

15

00:01:56.790 --> 00:02:17.700

Carl Racine: Opening ourselves up to God, who is ultimately beyond our understanding, we can know bits and pieces, but we have to recognize that the we are limited as human beings, and always will be, and so eventually we realize that and like job we stand in silent amazement at.

16

00:02:19.200 --> 00:02:28.350

Carl Racine: Who God is we stop thinking about ourselves, and we wait patiently for that still small voice from heaven.

17

00:02:30.810 --> 00:02:38.940

Carl Racine: But there's one other aspect that I wanted to explore here before we finish out this section on on the fear of the Lord.

18

00:02:40.410 --> 00:02:45.750

Carl Racine: And, and that is something that I think is very closely connected to worship and that's what.

19

00:02:46.890 --> 00:02:48.660

Carl Racine: What I call obedience.

20

00:02:49.830 --> 00:02:54.180

Carl Racine: doing what God tells us, because in worship, we

acknowledge.

21

00:02:55.980 --> 00:03:01.980

Carl Racine: god's authority over us we acknowledge god's claim on our lives that God.

22

00:03:04.980 --> 00:03:22.170

Carl Racine: asks us for certain things, and so our attitude of profound reverence in the presence of the Lord is is is more than just an inner feeling and emotion that we kind of wells up inside of us, it must lead to action.

23

00:03:24.330 --> 00:03:31.260

Carl Racine: And the Bible makes this really clear as sister Carol if we could see slide number 11 please.

24

00:03:31.680 --> 00:03:32.130

share.

25

00:03:49.530 --> 00:03:56.910

Carl Racine: And there are a number of passages, and I could have picked some others, but just as an example here from a book of Ecclesiastes these.

26

00:03:59.220 --> 00:04:07.350

Carl Racine: The sort of the ending of this long kind of philosophical wrestling with the nature of life.

27

00:04:08.970 --> 00:04:22.620

Carl Racine: The author says so here's here's the conclusion here's what i've come to after thinking about all of this fear of God and obey his commandments, for you know that's what is the the sort of sums up.

28

00:04:23.070 --> 00:04:44.670

Carl Racine: His perspective on things, and in fact the Book of deuteronomy here deuteronomy six one and two indicates that you precisely you fear the Lord by keeping all his degrees and commands that I give you so that you may enjoy long life that the fear of the Lord really has to do with.

29

00:04:45.840 --> 00:04:48.510

Carl Racine: obeying what God has asked us to do.

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00:04:49.800 --> 00:05:01.920

Carl Racine: First Samuel says something similar, if you will, fear the Lord and serve him and obey his voice and not rebel against the commandment of the Lord and if both you and the King, who reigns over you will follow the Lord your God it will be well.

31

00:05:04.650 --> 00:05:11.130

Carl Racine: Fear worship and obedience are all part of one package.

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00:05:14.250 --> 00:05:16.020

Carl Racine: So the prophets.

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00:05:17.100 --> 00:05:30.630

Carl Racine: And the prophets consider worship, they do not fault Israel for observing outward religious acts of worship, without having the proper inner attitude.

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00:05:32.130 --> 00:05:36.030

Carl Racine: Now that has historically been the Christian slander of Judaism.

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00:05:37.080 --> 00:05:47.640

Carl Racine: That it's all about externals just putting up a good show without having the proper sort of attitude of the heart.

36

00:05:49.590 --> 00:05:59.430

Carl Racine: But, in fact, there was plenty of enthusiastic praise and worship going on in ancient Israel and that's clear from the scriptures the prophets.

37

00:06:00.480 --> 00:06:16.680

Carl Racine: condemn the people, not because they don't have the proper attitude, but that their worship doesn't result in proper behavior towards other people, that is one of the key themes throughout all of the prophets and and you can look through.

38

00:06:18.960 --> 00:06:34.350

Carl Racine: i'm just going to give a couple of examples, the Book of

Isaiah begins with this complaint in Chapter one the Prophet Isaiah says, the people are celebrating lavish worship services lifting up holy hands to the Lord praying without ceasing.

39

00:06:35.550 --> 00:06:42.030

Carl Racine: But they're not seeking justice for widows and orphans and so God says those prayers are useless.

40

00:06:43.320 --> 00:06:51.690

Carl Racine: Amos says the because the court systems and economic structures of society are rigged against the poor.

41

00:06:52.260 --> 00:07:13.230

Carl Racine: God despises their praise and worship services and in a very famous passage that we usually just quote part of Amos says away with the noise of your songs I will not listen to the music of your harps but let justice roll on like waters righteousness like a never failing torrent.

42

00:07:14.730 --> 00:07:18.390

Carl Racine: And the Prophet Mike Mike in Chapter six says something very similar.

43

00:07:19.020 --> 00:07:34.140

Carl Racine: And Jeremiah at the sort of really beginning of his Public Ministry in Chapter seven, when he and in those verses are on your screen when he stands in the temple is sort of called his temple sermon is where he first gets the notice of.

44

00:07:35.160 --> 00:07:51.480

Carl Racine: The people and of the leadership he stands in the temple gates and warns of people that simply coming there to worship will not keep them safe from judgment if they continue to oppress the poor and the immigrant in their midst.

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00:07:52.770 --> 00:08:08.490

Carl Racine: So, in the absence of obedience to god's commands to establish a just society that cares for the needy and does not participate in the idolatry of the surrounding cultures heartfelt worship counts for nothing, it will only lead to judgment.

46

00:08:10.050 --> 00:08:14.910

Carl Racine: And rabbi heschel comments if we could move to the next slide number 12 please.

47

00:08:18.900 --> 00:08:28.680

Carl Racine: worship and living are not two separate rounds unless living as a form of worship our worship, has no life.

48

00:08:29.910 --> 00:08:37.380

Carl Racine: So you can't separate what you do in church on Sunday or in synagogue on Saturday from the LIFE you live, the rest of the week.

49

00:08:38.400 --> 00:08:57.330

Carl Racine: repeatedly the biblical authors make this point proverbs 1431 which you see on your screen there in two separate versions which i'm going to talk about whoever oppresses the poor blast themes his maker, but whoever is gracious to the needy honors him honors God.

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00:08:59.490 --> 00:09:07.200

Carl Racine: Now this verse in the Hebrew has the same ambiguity as the English translation.

51

00:09:09.210 --> 00:09:14.460

Carl Racine: What does the pronoun his or in modern inclusive English, we would say their maker.

52

00:09:15.540 --> 00:09:17.250

Carl Racine: What does that refer to.

53

00:09:18.900 --> 00:09:27.000

Carl Racine: Does that refer to the oppressor the one doing the oppressing blast themes, the one who has made the oppressor.

54

00:09:28.530 --> 00:09:39.060

Carl Racine: Or does it refer to the poor person that the oppressor blast themes, the one who has made the poor person well, of course, it's both it's not either or.

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00:09:40.050 --> 00:09:55.260

Carl Racine: It reminds us again of what i'm increasingly come to consider is one of the most important verses in the whole of the Bible in genesis one that humans are created in the image of God.

56

00:09:56.370 --> 00:10:02.190

Carl Racine: And so my maker is also their maker.

57

00:10:03.960 --> 00:10:15.060

Carl Racine: If you don't see god's image in the face of a person in need, you will never understand that your mistreatment of that person is an assault on God.

58

00:10:15.780 --> 00:10:29.610

Carl Racine: As Jesus said what you do to them you do to me and again heschel comments there's no reverence for God without reverence for man, the fear, lest we heard a poor man must be as deep as the fear of God.

59

00:10:31.350 --> 00:10:45.930

Carl Racine: Human beings who bear god's image, then, are really brought into this idea of the fear of the Lord, because if you are oppressing the poor, you are acts of worship or not praise, but blasphemy.

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00:10:47.580 --> 00:10:50.190

Carl Racine: Comments questions.

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00:10:55.410 --> 00:10:57.570

James Williams: Yes, you know.

62

00:10:58.920 --> 00:11:09.510

James Williams: I hear what you're saying call, and it certainly makes a lot of sense it what's, I guess, been a challenge is how the lines get blurred you know I.

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00:11:12.000 --> 00:11:14.910

James Williams: was something on Facebook recently, and it was.

64

00:11:16.530 --> 00:11:39.120

James Williams: Talking about with password talked about in X, where the saints were selling their belongings and everybody was taking care of everybody and i'm sure none of you are familiar, somewhat familiar with that part of X in the New Testament and it describes Communism communism.

65

00:11:40.470 --> 00:11:45.360

James Williams: And you know of course in this country Communism is like the Second Coming up the devil.

66

00:11:47.670 --> 00:11:54.360

James Williams: And it just burst life I was at a meeting my too long ago with tompkins is sheriff.

67

00:11:55.470 --> 00:11:59.550

James Williams: And he was talking about how we use to win the homeless, is going to take them and put them in this building and.

68

00:12:01.050 --> 00:12:04.830

James Williams: It wasn't like you're really trying to help the homeless, it was it was like a political move.

69

00:12:06.480 --> 00:12:14.640

James Williams: In some some so often in our social structure the lines get blurred I mean it's just amazing to me.

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00:12:17.250 --> 00:12:18.030

James Williams: And that's it.

71

00:12:19.380 --> 00:12:25.080

Carl Racine: yeah I mean, I think the passage in acts that you're talking about.

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00:12:27.450 --> 00:12:28.560

Carl Racine: Clearly.

73

00:12:31.440 --> 00:12:44.820

Carl Racine: Communism is probably too strong a description it's been described that way, but it really what it really says they didn't consider that their possessions, that the wealth that they had whatever wealth they had.

74

00:12:45.960 --> 00:12:57.480

Carl Racine: Was was simply their own and that they shared with those who were in need it doesn't say that they did away with the concept of

private property.

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00:12:59.070 --> 00:13:02.040

Carl Racine: People still own property and we see this.

76

00:13:03.690 --> 00:13:11.340

Carl Racine: In the passage and i'm quoting this from memory so i'm i'm paraphrasing a little bit, but.

77

00:13:12.390 --> 00:13:32.100

Carl Racine: The passage that immediately follows you see two stories you see the story of barnabas who sells one of the pieces of land he owned some land and he sells one of the pieces of land to help out people who are in need, but it doesn't say he sold everything.

78

00:13:33.720 --> 00:13:47.550

Carl Racine: And then you have this horrific story of an essence of fira who lie about what they were doing and the problem there was simply that they were lying they they are perfectly.

79

00:13:48.360 --> 00:14:02.820

Carl Racine: it's perfectly legitimate for them to hold on to private property, but they shouldn't act like they're being more pious than they are, and when they come in life to God and to the church about what.

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00:14:04.920 --> 00:14:14.010

Carl Racine: What they've done in terms of selling their property they they get judged pretty harshly, so I don't think that it's.

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00:14:14.910 --> 00:14:24.690

Carl Racine: I don't think that the idea, there is to do away with with private property, as such, which is, I think, a sort of technical definition of communism.

82

00:14:25.110 --> 00:14:42.510

Carl Racine: What it is, is that you change your attitude towards your possessions you realize that all that you have is a gift from God and and that those gifts are meant to be shared with people who are in need, that whatever blessings you have.

83

00:14:43.800 --> 00:14:47.640

Carl Racine: Are there to be a blessing, not just to you, but to others.

84

00:14:47.940 --> 00:15:05.730

Carl Racine: And so, your attitude towards private property is completely different from the capitalist understanding so it's neither communism in my mind is neither Communism nor capitalism it's a it's a it's a different way of viewing private property does that make sense to people.

85

00:15:07.530 --> 00:15:09.660

Susan Racine: Reverend ariana spoke of the.

86

00:15:11.430 --> 00:15:13.560

Susan Racine: Ownership versus stewardship.

87

00:15:14.340 --> 00:15:14.670

Yes.

88

00:15:17.580 --> 00:15:21.750

Carl Racine: Can you can you elaborate on that a little more because that's that's exactly to the point.

89

00:15:23.790 --> 00:15:31.350

Susan Racine: where she preached on creation here Sunday she preached about Ahab trying to find a bus vineyard and neighbors saying.

90

00:15:32.070 --> 00:15:41.820

Susan Racine: Know Lord forbid me for selling my ancestral inheritance and realizing that this was a gift from God and he was charged with keeping it and passing it on to his descendants.

91

00:15:42.450 --> 00:15:51.360

Susan Racine: And instead of a I can make a quick buck by selling this to the King and get the kings favor, and in addition he'll find me a new venue.

92

00:15:52.500 --> 00:15:55.020

Susan Racine: So she was saying that.

93

00:15:56.190 --> 00:16:06.900

Susan Racine: economy of ownership does not reverence all our positions is God given and and the spiritual.

94

00:16:08.700 --> 00:16:09.690

component of that.

95

00:16:11.490 --> 00:16:20.190

Carole Copeland Thomas: The one thing i'm thinking about i'm listening to sister Susan and i'm listening to the word possession and your land and your property.

96

00:16:21.810 --> 00:16:35.400

Carole Copeland Thomas: I think the the common assumption that we probably need to highlight is if a person thinks that his or her neighbor is equal to him or herself or whatever is in between.

97

00:16:36.150 --> 00:16:50.160

Carole Copeland Thomas: Then, yes, you would expect that person to share their wealth share their generosity throughout, regardless of who that person is, but if you in your heart of heart look.

98

00:16:51.240 --> 00:17:01.410

Carole Copeland Thomas: Like he your value is more than the value of other people, whether they be slaves or or poor people, or whatever, then.

99

00:17:02.580 --> 00:17:23.610

Carole Copeland Thomas: I don't necessarily think that one would think that way if in fact that truly is the way you're looking at your value your version of a hierarchy of people and, if you look at that hierarchy, then you can easily justify why you don't give or don't give to the level that you should.

100

00:17:27.360 --> 00:17:29.160

Marie Doubleday: Can I expand a little bit further.

101

00:17:31.680 --> 00:17:41.130

Marie Doubleday: So, and I Carol I completely scarily completely hear you and accept what you say, but in the expansion it's also.

102

00:17:42.210 --> 00:17:52.560

Marie Doubleday: um how you manage your property, you know now if we're talking about land in and hope just for an example on.

103

00:17:53.580 --> 00:17:54.210

Marie Doubleday: um.

104

00:17:55.560 --> 00:18:13.830

Marie Doubleday: I know down here, particularly in the down island towns, a big issue is nitrogen loading, which has impacted housing and what i'm some people have done is they have put illegal apartments in their basement.

105

00:18:15.150 --> 00:18:20.670

Marie Doubleday: or there's a question of even somebody down the street, where she they.

106

00:18:21.840 --> 00:18:33.930

Marie Doubleday: Connected illegally water, I mean with an illegal apartment appears um but you know if you're doing, for example in an illegal apartment.

107

00:18:34.590 --> 00:18:47.430

Marie Doubleday: One of the things is this is affecting the water system it's, in fact, it could potentially impact the drinking water for the Community, it could impact.

108

00:18:48.090 --> 00:18:57.060

Marie Doubleday: On lagoon pawn in central attacking it could in fact kill both of those bonds and I understand the whole thing about putting.

109

00:18:57.480 --> 00:19:05.760

Marie Doubleday: a roof over someone's head, but you want to be able to if you're going to do that you want to be a as far as the apartment situation you want to be able to put a safe route.

110

00:19:06.990 --> 00:19:11.910

Marie Doubleday: Over somebody's head it's not about trying to make money Okay, thank you.

111

00:19:20.280 --> 00:19:30.330

Peter Barrant: I wanted to comment on something Carol said because I struggle with this is this this idea of equality, which I think is.

112

00:19:32.070 --> 00:19:44.790

Peter Barrant: has multiple levels levels, because if you look back at the Old Testament the Old Testament never says that royalty is awful.

113

00:19:45.360 --> 00:19:58.020

Peter Barrant: And in fact people lived with don different tiers that this person is that King and their princes and the rest of us are something else, and then the other is that they.

114

00:19:59.040 --> 00:20:16.590

Peter Barrant: did have servants, etc, but the Bible really was very strong about being just when you deal with other people, and so the The thing that I keep struggling with this.

115

00:20:17.370 --> 00:20:38.190

Peter Barrant: You know the the the notion of what does, how does the Bible look on the whole concept of equality, it seems like it was fine with any system of governance that existed, but there was a just ness that needed to be part of the society.

116

00:20:44.730 --> 00:20:45.630

Carl Racine: Anyone want to.

117

00:20:46.410 --> 00:20:48.840

Carole Copeland Thomas: i'd love to hear what lauren is thinking.

118

00:20:54.450 --> 00:20:55.920

Lauren Lapat: i'm not sure what to think.

119

00:20:57.600 --> 00:20:59.160

Lauren Lapat: Honestly um.

120

00:21:00.480 --> 00:21:06.540

Lauren Lapat: there's like how I was raised was so much about.

121

00:21:08.490 --> 00:21:23.520

Lauren Lapat: Judaism being about taking care of other people and thinking about other people so even the concept that that was something that was misunderstood like justice is fundamental for me for the Torah.

122

00:21:25.080 --> 00:21:29.580

Lauren Lapat: And and just thinking about it so i'm not sure about a lot of this.

123

00:21:32.760 --> 00:21:38.010

Susan Racine: I want to just point out, Lord I don't know if you're familiar with the story of an is and Sep IRA, but they.

124

00:21:38.430 --> 00:21:39.000

Lauren Lapat: are not.

125

00:21:39.990 --> 00:21:53.580

Susan Racine: But they they presented a gift to the Apostle Peter and said that they had sold all their land, and this was all the proceeds, but they actually kept some of the proceeds for themselves and they were struck dead kind of immediately.

126

00:21:55.980 --> 00:21:56.040

Susan Racine: and

127

00:21:57.060 --> 00:22:02.040

Susan Racine: they're probably sort of put a dent in the capital campaign batch and after that happened.

128

00:22:03.060 --> 00:22:14.940

Susan Racine: But but carl's right that prior than the verse in the earlier in the chapter barnabas said i've sold part of my property and i'm giving this to the Community to us and and he.

129

00:22:15.600 --> 00:22:27.150

Susan Racine: did indeed survive and thrive and went on to be a leader but that that whole business of trying to fake out God was was punished.

130

00:22:28.320 --> 00:22:40.020

Lauren Lapat: I mean, I think the other thing is that, for me, the whole idea of the punishing God isn't you know, the fear of God isn't something that resonates with me either so much.

131

00:22:42.750 --> 00:22:43.080

Oh.

132

00:22:49.290 --> 00:22:51.390

Carl Racine: And yet, on some level we.

133

00:22:52.890 --> 00:23:00.240

Carl Racine: We want we want people who do wrong to to suffer the consequences of their actions.

134

00:23:01.710 --> 00:23:01.950

Oh.

135

00:23:03.210 --> 00:23:13.230

Marie Doubleday: But, but you know it's interesting i'm i'm doing this academy on equity in school systems with those schools down here and.

136

00:23:13.770 --> 00:23:24.360

Marie Doubleday: To black print up in roxbury and one of the things that they're bringing in is how hundreds of years ago, the Europeans used.

137

00:23:25.170 --> 00:23:42.330

Marie Doubleday: facial looks as with other European groups, and you know, one of the things that comes into mind is did they and i'm not I don't know enough about it, but did they manipulate religion to use it as.

138

00:23:43.680 --> 00:23:44.970

Marie Doubleday: A punishing God.

139

00:23:46.170 --> 00:23:50.820

Marie Doubleday: or bringing God, up to a level of.

140

00:23:52.500 --> 00:23:53.220

Marie Doubleday: um.

141

00:23:57.030 --> 00:23:58.800

Marie Doubleday: I don't know if.

142

00:24:00.240 --> 00:24:19.080

Marie Doubleday: That you're going to burn in a really hot how I know you're not into hell up but but but but, but you know if you look at the Irish culture hell's live and quite well you know it goes different in different parts of Europe, the Am I making sense.

143

00:24:21.780 --> 00:24:22.170

Carl Racine: yeah.

144

00:24:22.710 --> 00:24:29.520

Marie Doubleday: yeah you know what has some of this been manipulated by people for their own purposes.

145

00:24:30.870 --> 00:24:31.500

Carl Racine: Oh sure.

146

00:24:33.240 --> 00:24:42.630

Carole Copeland Thomas: yeah I mean that's why I made the point earlier, now that we're moving into this conversation about equality, it depends on your frame of reference in terms of.

147

00:24:43.170 --> 00:24:53.250

Carole Copeland Thomas: Who is equal to you, and if you look at the universe everybody being equal, to you, then this would be more applicable, but if you categorize and have a hierarchy.

148

00:24:54.720 --> 00:25:06.300

Carole Copeland Thomas: And you justify it with your Bible passages your passages from Torah whatever, then you know you can justify giving less to some and.

149

00:25:07.440 --> 00:25:12.240

Carole Copeland Thomas: And, and having you know poverty that you're not responsible for.

150

00:25:15.840 --> 00:25:19.680

Susan Racine: Was it 1984 that had the quote some are more equal than others.

151

00:25:20.940 --> 00:25:21.900

Carl Racine: Animal Farm.

152

00:25:21.990 --> 00:25:23.040

Susan Racine: Animal Farm sorry.

153

00:25:24.780 --> 00:25:26.820

Marie Doubleday: yeah and it's interesting how you define that.

154

00:25:29.790 --> 00:25:33.090

Carl Racine: Well, you back to my point about genesis one.

155

00:25:34.140 --> 00:25:37.920

Carl Racine: And two Peters comment about the king.

156

00:25:40.380 --> 00:25:46.620

Carl Racine: genesis one says that God created humans male and female.

157

00:25:47.730 --> 00:25:49.170

Carl Racine: In god's image.

158

00:25:50.850 --> 00:25:56.460

Carl Racine: Now, when the Bible was written in the surrounding cultures.

159

00:25:59.220 --> 00:26:05.520

Carl Racine: They believed that the King bore god's image.

160

00:26:07.380 --> 00:26:09.660

Carl Racine: But not everybody else.

161

00:26:11.190 --> 00:26:17.550

Carl Racine: So that statement, among other things, is a radically political statement of equality.

162

00:26:18.570 --> 00:26:28.410

Carl Racine: It doesn't discriminate between men and women, it doesn't discriminate between anybody in the whole of the human race.

163

00:26:30.600 --> 00:26:47.940

Carl Racine: And so that gets played out in interesting ways through the scriptures the the the scriptures are very ambivalent about the whole idea of kingship.

164

00:26:49.980 --> 00:27:00.330

Carl Racine: There is as much negative material about kingship as positive material God tell Samuel when the people.

165

00:27:01.560 --> 00:27:20.490

Carl Racine: Come to Samuel and say we want to King and the reason they give his his reasons that should already ring bell so that we can be like the other nations, but as we've seen Israel was called by God, to be different from the other nation.

166

00:27:21.870 --> 00:27:28.500

Carl Racine: So when they say we want to kingdom be like the other nations that's already a problem in God and same as upset and God says.

167

00:27:30.450 --> 00:27:49.890

Carl Racine: they're not rejecting your leadership they're rejecting me but go ahead and let them have their King but tell them, these are all the negative consequences that they are going to have when they have a monarchy and there's a whole long list there I think it's in first Samuel eight.

168

00:27:52.770 --> 00:27:54.870

Carl Racine: Of all the bad things that are going to happen.

169

00:27:56.340 --> 00:27:59.880

Carl Racine: And that sort of played out in the history of Israel.

170

00:28:01.920 --> 00:28:09.720

Carl Racine: The other matter that is the other passage that is crucially important is deuteronomy 17.

171

00:28:11.100 --> 00:28:16.800

Carl Racine: Because in deuteronomy 17 Moses lays out for the people.

172

00:28:18.600 --> 00:28:22.980

Carl Racine: Just what kind of sort of ideal.

173

00:28:24.300 --> 00:28:26.250

Carl Racine: pattern of life.

174

00:28:29.070 --> 00:28:37.290

Carl Racine: Their King should have if they're going to have a king Moses says one day you're going to want to king, this is how the King should be.

175

00:28:39.060 --> 00:28:49.710

Carl Racine: And the most important part of that list of things that has to do he's not supposed to accumulate a lot of wealth he's not supposed to build up his his military strength.

176

00:28:51.060 --> 00:28:59.940

Carl Racine: But the most important part he's supposed to be a Torah scholar he's supposed to actually write out the Torah for himself.

177

00:29:01.680 --> 00:29:04.620

Carl Racine: copy it out by hand I suppose.

178

00:29:05.880 --> 00:29:18.690

Carl Racine: And this is the first mention historically of of what we much later we Europeans would call a constitutional monarchy.

179

00:29:19.800 --> 00:29:38.400

Carl Racine: In other words, the King according to deuteronomy is not above the law, no other culture in ancient times had the King was the one who said what the law was and if the King wanted to change the law than the King change the law.

180

00:29:40.350 --> 00:29:53.670

Carl Racine: deuteronomy says Torah is the law and everyone, including the king is to be subject to that law so that so lauren was saying about the call to justice as as central to Judaism.

181

00:29:54.120 --> 00:30:13.680

Carl Racine: is absolutely true, and that call is as much for the king, as it is for the common person so whatever kinds of hierarchies developed in the society, whatever sorts of social and economic hierarchies ideally there's this other aspect in the scriptures that works against it.

182

00:30:14.790 --> 00:30:16.020

Carl Racine: Does that make some sense.

183

00:30:24.720 --> 00:30:25.470

Carl Racine: Everybody i'm you.

184

00:30:26.130 --> 00:30:39.300

Marie Doubleday: Know i'm just confused about what you began to say, is it maybe I misunderstood you and it's not really related but are you saying that when, God created Adam and Eve, there are already people here.

185

00:30:43.860 --> 00:30:44.190

there's.

186

00:30:46.620 --> 00:30:47.070

Carl Racine: No.

187

00:30:47.400 --> 00:30:49.560

Marie Doubleday: Okay, good i'm glad I asked that question.

188

00:30:54.810 --> 00:31:03.630

Marie Doubleday: And the other thing is when you talk about constitutional Montes although Hitler was it a mark, he did what he wanted to do.

189

00:31:06.330 --> 00:31:07.320

Susan Racine: Right dictator.

190

00:31:08.460 --> 00:31:10.710

Marie Doubleday: same thing in some respects.

191

00:31:12.330 --> 00:31:20.130

Carl Racine: Right, but he wasn't he he finally threw out the German constitution and said, my word is law, whatever I want.

192

00:31:22.050 --> 00:31:23.190

Carl Racine: that's what most.

193

00:31:24.810 --> 00:31:32.760

Carl Racine: leaders have wanted that certainly what the recent recently deposed president of United States wanted.

194

00:31:33.960 --> 00:31:41.040

Carl Racine: In his heart of hearts to just have whatever he said, be true and be be the law of the land.

195

00:31:41.310 --> 00:31:45.390

Carole Copeland Thomas: As he continues to make up things with January 6 but.

196

00:31:45.480 --> 00:31:57.810

Carl Racine: Listen, this is tyrants, this is simply how tyrants have operated throughout history, but the scriptures has a very different perspective on how that's supposed to function within Israel.

197

00:32:01.350 --> 00:32:02.490

Susan Racine: I love samuels.

198

00:32:03.780 --> 00:32:04.440

Susan Racine: The lord's.

199

00:32:05.910 --> 00:32:14.610

Susan Racine: description of a king to Samuel you will take your sons and assign them to his chariots and horses and they will run before his chariots you will point from them.

200

00:32:14.910 --> 00:32:20.940

Susan Racine: Is commanders of thousands and hundreds, he will make them do is plowing and harvesting and produces weapons of war and cherry tree.

201

00:32:21.180 --> 00:32:26.820

Susan Racine: He will use your daughters is perfumers cooks and bakers, you will take your best fields vineyards and olive groves.

202

00:32:27.060 --> 00:32:32.460

Susan Racine: and give them to his servants, he will tie your crops and great partners to give to his officials in his servants.

203

00:32:32.820 --> 00:32:42.750

Susan Racine: He will take your male and female slaves, as well as your best oxen and donkeys and use them to do his work, you will also tied your flux and as for you, you will become his slaves.

204

00:32:44.190 --> 00:32:46.560

Susan Racine: i'm surprised it's made it into the King James Bible.

205

00:32:49.500 --> 00:32:58.620

Carl Racine: Well, they couldn't very well leave it out or translated in a in a in a less threatening form but that's why i'm saying there's a whole lot of material.

206

00:32:59.100 --> 00:33:08.700

Carl Racine: And then the profits come and rail against the kings as well, both the the what we think of as the writing prophets like Isaiah Jeremiah.

207

00:33:09.330 --> 00:33:24.270

Carl Racine: And the the other prophets that are in in the books of Samuel and kings profits like Elijah they are constantly criticizing the monarch and the other leadership.

208

00:33:25.410 --> 00:33:33.690

Carl Racine: For not following Torah for not following what essentially was the constitution of the state.

209

00:33:38.820 --> 00:33:48.990

Carole Copeland Thomas: And Peter in the chat said, true, but it does not comment on various features of royalty, for example, it neither condones nor refutes the idea of unix.

210

00:33:55.980 --> 00:34:04.350

Marie Doubleday: I think i'm beginning to translate monarchy, as those who are in power within the government.

211

00:34:05.160 --> 00:34:10.800

Marie Doubleday: And how they go about doing things whether it's for the benefit of them are for the benefit of.

212

00:34:11.310 --> 00:34:30.210

Marie Doubleday: People and i'm also as a Community, however, you define the Community and i'm also going from you know if we're talking about our country i'm going from the federal level, right down to the local level, because on the local level, you know it, you can see misuse of power.

213

00:34:32.490 --> 00:34:40.290

Marie Doubleday: For one's own benefit and i'm not necessarily talking on financial you know, sometimes it's just about power.

214

00:34:45.750 --> 00:35:06.660

Carole Copeland Thomas: Going back to what what pastor had said, some weeks ago, but we forget sometimes to, we need to remember that the Bible, and the Torah and other books other religious books were written in a time when 99% of the governance was done by it was done through a monarchy.

215

00:35:06.690 --> 00:35:08.130

Marie Doubleday: Right right.

216

00:35:09.300 --> 00:35:11.610

Carole Copeland Thomas: About that democracy my.

217

00:35:11.640 --> 00:35:17.430

Marie Doubleday: Knowledge asst right but, but is it is, it is, it does it go.

218

00:35:18.780 --> 00:35:19.530

Marie Doubleday: From.

219

00:35:20.880 --> 00:35:27.630

Marie Doubleday: one region to another, as far as how you define monarchy.

220

00:35:32.340 --> 00:35:42.720

Peter Barrant: Well, I think that you know that that that whole that maximum power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely I think that points to one of the.

221

00:35:43.890 --> 00:35:52.500

Peter Barrant: weaknesses of I mean one of the the potential problems with leadership that in any structure, whether it be the democracy.

222

00:35:54.270 --> 00:36:00.450

Peter Barrant: Or you go to some other form, whether you go to dictatorship or some something else.

223

00:36:01.290 --> 00:36:13.170

Peter Barrant: That the the folks at the top um can easily become corrupted and we see that even in the Bible, where you see the kings of Israel.

224

00:36:14.040 --> 00:36:26.040

Peter Barrant: Going one way or the other, and you know, sometimes they they think that they can do one thing because they're powerful and God says no don't do that, but they may go that way anyway.

225

00:36:28.740 --> 00:36:29.430

interesting.

226

00:36:31.200 --> 00:36:35.880

Susan Racine: And unfortunately, I think the whole system that we find ourselves in.

227

00:36:37.200 --> 00:36:39.450

Susan Racine: is one that oppresses the poor.

228

00:36:40.560 --> 00:36:49.380

Susan Racine: i'm thinking about environmental justice i'm thinking about the you know, the lack of a living wage I think about.

229

00:36:51.960 --> 00:36:58.980

Susan Racine: The lack of representation people and the gerrymandering

districts.

230

00:37:00.870 --> 00:37:04.950

Susan Racine: and agree and the trouble with accessing healthcare.

231

00:37:06.090 --> 00:37:06.660

Peter Barrant: Right.

232

00:37:06.720 --> 00:37:08.100

Susan Racine: agree oh my gosh.

233

00:37:08.670 --> 00:37:34.050

Peter Barrant: And in that context, what is our responsibility in such a society, I mean that is sort of the question that i'm always asking myself, I mean it is clear that as that God is asking us to be just but how does that practice How does that come to fruition in our lives.

234

00:37:35.640 --> 00:37:35.880

Peter Barrant: well.

235

00:37:36.240 --> 00:37:40.950

Marie Doubleday: Dr threat, I hope, i'm pronouncing your last name correctly.

236

00:37:41.460 --> 00:37:42.270

Peter Barrant: just say Peter.

237

00:37:42.600 --> 00:37:43.620

Marie Doubleday: Okay here.

238

00:37:44.100 --> 00:37:52.800

Marie Doubleday: um you know, one of the things I have been thinking about during this whole thing is Robert Kennedy and and you know he.

239

00:37:54.090 --> 00:38:00.960

Marie Doubleday: was born into privilege, what would be considered privileged in our country um but.

240

00:38:02.070 --> 00:38:07.080

Marie Doubleday: before his death for a couple of years before his death he.

241

00:38:08.400 --> 00:38:11.100

Marie Doubleday: went down South and.

242

00:38:13.380 --> 00:38:28.800

Marie Doubleday: In the best way he could, given his own experience, I think he was able to have empathy for poverty and empathy for the segregation that was existing at that point in time.

243

00:38:29.850 --> 00:38:30.450

Marie Doubleday: and

244

00:38:32.640 --> 00:38:36.150

Marie Doubleday: In it to me that's.

245

00:38:38.370 --> 00:38:47.220

Marie Doubleday: A form of individual justice or individual growth in your your theory of justice, perhaps.

246

00:38:52.260 --> 00:38:56.610

Carole Copeland Thomas: Well that's that's the the the Kennedy platform.

247

00:38:58.830 --> 00:39:01.320

Carole Copeland Thomas: With the exception of the father.

248

00:39:01.890 --> 00:39:03.000

Carole Copeland Thomas: that's another story.

249

00:39:03.270 --> 00:39:28.950

Carole Copeland Thomas: Altogether disagree, but when you look at what I look at their their their family legacy of social justice and paying attention to social justice and moving in that circle, then yeah they have an enormous wealth continue to have enormous wealth long after he's been gone.

250

00:39:29.970 --> 00:39:38.340

Carole Copeland Thomas: But that is more of a family philosophy that has carried through with their their commitment to public service.

251

00:39:39.000 --> 00:39:45.540

Marie Doubleday: I, I think that there was an encounter we can agree to disagree, I think she was there was.

252

00:39:46.380 --> 00:40:04.530

Marie Doubleday: Growth within that family I think when when Robert Kenny first was Attorney General Yes, he was kind of probably leaning towards that, but when he at the unfortunate end of his life, I think he was in a somewhat different place oh.

253

00:40:05.250 --> 00:40:06.360

Marie Doubleday: Agreed yeah.

254

00:40:06.420 --> 00:40:16.710

Carole Copeland Thomas: I think the same thing with John Kennedy, certainly when when he came into office he had no idea, he would face an onslaught of civil rights issues.

255

00:40:17.100 --> 00:40:27.780

Carole Copeland Thomas: So he had it's almost like you grow into that power right row into that leadership role, but my point is, I think you'd probably agree the fundamentals.

256

00:40:29.820 --> 00:40:32.460

Carole Copeland Thomas: Perhaps instill by the mother.

257

00:40:33.870 --> 00:40:48.210

Carole Copeland Thomas: More so than the father was this sense of social justice and public service and taking care of those who were less than less fortunate than you were in terms of your resources.

258

00:40:50.340 --> 00:40:50.700

Marie Doubleday: yeah.

259

00:40:51.420 --> 00:40:51.870

Lauren Lapat: Go ahead.

260

00:40:52.410 --> 00:40:53.610

Marie Doubleday: I could.

261

00:40:54.840 --> 00:40:57.060

Marie Doubleday: lean on your where you're coming from.

262

00:40:58.980 --> 00:41:09.270

Susan Racine: So and answer to peter's question I guess it's it's a matter of generosity and to charitable.

263

00:41:10.470 --> 00:41:15.870

Susan Racine: causes that help the poor or to poor families directly and.

264

00:41:17.520 --> 00:41:20.760

Susan Racine: and public action to support.

265

00:41:21.840 --> 00:41:22.890

Susan Racine: Laws and.

266

00:41:23.940 --> 00:41:25.140

Susan Racine: candidates that.

267

00:41:26.640 --> 00:41:27.060

Susan Racine: Are.

268

00:41:28.110 --> 00:41:29.160

Susan Racine: working on.

269

00:41:31.200 --> 00:41:33.480

Susan Racine: Reducing that wealth inequality.

270

00:41:35.010 --> 00:41:38.430

Susan Racine: And no one's going to eliminate it here in the United States, but it is obscene.

271

00:41:39.720 --> 00:41:41.910

Susan Racine: needs to be reduced significantly.

272

00:41:41.910 --> 00:41:51.330

Lauren Lapat: Oh, one of the one of the things i've been thinking about a lot and and part of this is just so at temple Israel, we have sort of three tenants of our mission.

273

00:41:51.780 --> 00:41:58.890

Lauren Lapat: One is discovery that's part of why i'm here with you guys today is sort of i'm engaging in my own discovery process of.

274

00:41:59.700 --> 00:42:06.060

Lauren Lapat: of what it means you know it's interesting to talk about Jewish roots through a non Jewish perspective right for me to.

275

00:42:06.480 --> 00:42:20.370

Lauren Lapat: Think about that and actually one of my rabbis came up to me, the other day I don't know if she heard that I was doing this, but said, do you want to come study with me and, and so I was feeling a little guilty that I was studying with you guys when I wasn't studying with her, so I made.

276

00:42:21.870 --> 00:42:32.280

Lauren Lapat: So, then the other one is spirituality right and and what that means, and then the third one is righteous impact, and so you know what i've been struggling with a little bit is.

277

00:42:32.730 --> 00:42:40.890

Lauren Lapat: Is the fact that all of those pathways for people within our Jewish communities, sometimes people engage in all three.

278

00:42:41.340 --> 00:42:51.180

Lauren Lapat: But sometimes people really only see themselves living a Jewish life through righteous impact which is definitely where more of I can't more of me came from.

279

00:42:51.990 --> 00:43:06.120

Lauren Lapat: growing up and it's been interesting because i've been seeing this firsthand so we have an Afghan family that we are relocating that we that we are going to support.

280

00:43:06.390 --> 00:43:07.140

Lauren Lapat: good for you.

281

00:43:07.500 --> 00:43:21.870

Lauren Lapat: And so they actually moved into their apartment yesterday awesome we've been we found out about 10 days ago that they were coming, we had already engaged, knowing that I guess our 650 of the families coming to Massachusetts.

282

00:43:22.380 --> 00:43:35.700

Lauren Lapat: Catholic charities and Jewish community relations Council are organizing the effort for Massachusetts and we knew we were getting a family, so we moved into action and we started a core team.

283

00:43:36.240 --> 00:43:48.750

Lauren Lapat: And we had over I don't know 150 people who volunteered to be part of this now what's so interesting as someone who's been organizing and kind of leading the efforts at temple Israel around righteous impact for.

284

00:43:49.050 --> 00:44:02.160

Lauren Lapat: Years and involved in this, since my kids are in the preschool is that of these hundred and 5200 people who belong to temple Israel, many of them have never crossed my path.

285

00:44:02.550 --> 00:44:08.850

Lauren Lapat: hmm the religious school through services that I go on Friday night through anything right.

286

00:44:09.360 --> 00:44:18.270

Lauren Lapat: And, and so it's been fascinating to be relational with these people and have them so passionate about living their Jewish life.

287

00:44:18.870 --> 00:44:30.090

Lauren Lapat: Through righteous impact and this particular family but not through discovery or spirituality and so i'm always you know i'm always trying to look for the connections.

288

00:44:30.930 --> 00:44:40.710

Lauren Lapat: In multiple directions, so they kind of know that this is something they want to do, but they're not going back and looking at the things that you guys are looking at today.

289

00:44:41.640 --> 00:44:55.440

Lauren Lapat: So that's something that that kind of you know how do you how do you start to understand where the roots of where you came from have sort of led you to kind of live a life with this with this goal.

290

00:44:56.670 --> 00:45:05.490

Carole Copeland Thomas: lauren i'd love to have you to keep in touch with us and let us know how the family is doing i'm be fascinated to learn of their.

291

00:45:06.690 --> 00:45:20.610

Carole Copeland Thomas: responsiveness as they see both Catholicism and Judaism supporting their lifestyle, now that that's that's quite amazing and i'll put in the chat room a wonderful podcast it's a 10.

292

00:45:21.150 --> 00:45:32.370

Carole Copeland Thomas: series 10 episode podcast by journalist called least do set she's with BBC and she has all aspects because she has been in and out of.

293

00:45:32.970 --> 00:45:49.110

Carole Copeland Thomas: Afghanistan for 30 years and so she interviews various people in the country as they're going through this turmoil, with the Taliban taking over so it may be helpful to your your your congregation as you continue to support this family.

294

00:45:49.470 --> 00:46:04.800

Lauren Lapat: what's really interesting is so the landlord who's renting us this House, you know it's a three bedroom it's a three floor home, so there are three apartments is that a different congregation is relocating and Afghan family to each floor.

295

00:46:04.950 --> 00:46:06.960

Lauren Lapat: wow so they will all be together.

296

00:46:07.140 --> 00:46:14.250

Lauren Lapat: wow and the Syrian family that we we helped two years ago came over to help us help this family.

297

00:46:14.310 --> 00:46:15.390
Carole Copeland Thomas: wow that was.

298
00:46:16.110 --> 00:46:16.680
Lauren Lapat: Pretty cool.

299
00:46:16.860 --> 00:46:17.880
Carole Copeland Thomas: that's great.

300
00:46:20.430 --> 00:46:24.930
Carole Copeland Thomas: I mean that that that brother Carl that's what you're talking about I mean here we have.

301
00:46:25.050 --> 00:46:28.710
Carole Copeland Thomas: a living example of what we're talking about in this class.

302
00:46:29.580 --> 00:46:32.820
Carl Racine: yeah and I want to just clarify one.

303
00:46:34.050 --> 00:46:39.930
Carl Racine: One point here that that I think always has to be clarified when we get in these kinds of discussions.

304
00:46:41.490 --> 00:46:46.740
Carl Racine: And I don't want this to be taken the wrong way and the Bible.

305
00:46:48.450 --> 00:46:51.120
Carl Racine: Primarily, is concerned.

306
00:46:52.140 --> 00:47:02.700
Carl Racine: about the health and well being of the community of faith, whether it is Israel or the Church.

307
00:47:04.080 --> 00:47:06.450
Carl Racine: And only secondarily.

308
00:47:08.760 --> 00:47:15.420

Carl Racine: talks about how that relates to the world outside that community of faith.

309

00:47:18.360 --> 00:47:18.930

Carl Racine: and

310

00:47:21.180 --> 00:47:21.630

Carl Racine: So.

311

00:47:23.940 --> 00:47:41.790

Carl Racine: When we we sort of are blurring those boundaries, a little bit when we're talking about what American politicians or or politicians and other countries should be doing or what what things they should be supporting.

312

00:47:43.800 --> 00:47:52.800

Carl Racine: We have a primary responsibility to make the Community of faith strong.

313

00:47:53.850 --> 00:48:16.710

Carl Racine: and part of the way that happens is by making sure that everyone's needs within that Community are taken care of, so there are some people who are essentially tasked or called with the responsibility, primarily of of of taking care of the Community.

314

00:48:17.940 --> 00:48:38.370

Carl Racine: And then there are other people within that Community working from the the foundation of strength that they have from that community of them reaching out to the world beyond that community to at least show that world what.

315

00:48:39.750 --> 00:48:41.430

Carl Racine: God wants of it.

316

00:48:42.900 --> 00:48:49.050

Carl Racine: So, if someone is focused on one aspect of it that doesn't mean.

317

00:48:50.220 --> 00:49:04.500

Carl Racine: they're and not let's say if people are focused on the Community and not as much on the on the creative faith and not as much

on the outside Community that doesn't necessarily mean they're not doing what God wants them to do.

318

00:49:05.730 --> 00:49:17.310

Carl Racine: You only have so much energy and so much time in your life and focusing your strength your resources your mind your heart.

319

00:49:18.270 --> 00:49:33.720

Carl Racine: on a limited number of things, I think, is more useful than trying to do a kind of shotgun approach, so you may say, you know i'm really called to strengthen the Jewish community to strengthen the Christian community.

320

00:49:35.400 --> 00:49:40.620

Carl Racine: And someone else they say i'm more called to to working outside that to working.

321

00:49:40.620 --> 00:49:47.370

Carl Racine: With gv 0 to working with our politicians to working with local representatives whatever.

322

00:49:49.410 --> 00:49:57.390

Carl Racine: But I think we have to keep those two kinds of things clear in our mind that there's somewhat separate things is that makes some sense.

323

00:49:57.720 --> 00:50:07.440

Lauren Lapat: I totally agree with you, I always feel like that's why i'm part of a congregation I feel like someone within my group has a proxy to do the things that i'm not doing.

324

00:50:07.740 --> 00:50:15.000

Lauren Lapat: And that it's the collective it's the collective So if you if you don't belong to a church or a synagogue or mosque.

325

00:50:15.300 --> 00:50:26.670

Lauren Lapat: you're you're living your life alone in your own whatever God means to you right you're doing that alone and it's overwhelming to think how do I act in the world.

326

00:50:27.030 --> 00:50:39.480

Lauren Lapat: But when you're part of a community, you know that there are people who are studying you know, there are people who are engaging so I always feel like someone has my proxy and that's why I love being part of the Community.

327

00:50:41.340 --> 00:50:54.150

Janet Humdy Morrison: I want to change the direction just slightly, and when we talk about Community um and I just been captivated by proverbs 1431.

328

00:50:54.540 --> 00:51:04.200

Janet Humdy Morrison: When we're talking about if you oppress poor people you insult the god made them and the stuff that's happening at the borders, regardless of which border, it is.

329

00:51:04.590 --> 00:51:20.460

Janet Humdy Morrison: Many of those people are from a community of faith and we have our own communities that are totally oppressing them and probably have never taken proverbs 1431 the heart that says that.

330

00:51:21.930 --> 00:51:34.710

Janet Humdy Morrison: But if you're doing this, then you are offending God that you're not worshiping God that you're oppressing god's people and it what really bothers me is how many Christians.

331

00:51:35.730 --> 00:51:46.320

Janet Humdy Morrison: are up in arms and don't get up in arms about how people at the bodies have been treated and think that there's still worshiping God.

332

00:51:48.570 --> 00:52:07.620

Carole Copeland Thomas: To me Janet that supports my earlier comment about who you think is on an equal level with you that if you look at people from south of the border as being foreigners keep them away.

333

00:52:09.150 --> 00:52:21.360

Carole Copeland Thomas: and whatever else from a negative point of view that you want to say about them, then you will use your religion or in your religion could be politics and could be freedom.

334

00:52:22.440 --> 00:52:38.070

Carole Copeland Thomas: That word i'm skeptical anytime I see a

freedom T shirt now I mean that that justifies your rationale for having a wall and keeping them quote unquote out.

335

00:52:39.300 --> 00:52:47.910

Carole Copeland Thomas: Because you don't look at them on the same level as you look at yourself i'm talking about the people who feel that way not you i'm just using that that pronoun in that way.

336

00:52:50.010 --> 00:52:52.830

Janet Humdy Morrison: But I applaud what temple Israel is doing.

337

00:52:54.450 --> 00:53:03.780

Janet Humdy Morrison: And I applaud the different acts that different people are doing, but just merely stopping to oppress people might be a good first step.

338

00:53:09.240 --> 00:53:10.050

Absolutely.

339

00:53:11.850 --> 00:53:16.740

Carl Racine: And it is, I mean, I agree with sister Janet the.

340

00:53:18.150 --> 00:53:28.950

Carl Racine: One of the most disheartening facets of our life in America to me right now is not the behavior of our government.

341

00:53:30.210 --> 00:53:38.430

Carl Racine: Or the behavior of our politicians and our elected leaders, but it's a behavior of people who call themselves Christians.

342

00:53:40.680 --> 00:53:45.000

Carl Racine: And it's hard for me to point fingers at.

343

00:53:46.170 --> 00:53:59.010

Carl Racine: Outsiders when the people who theoretically are part of my community are are just so off the rails and I frankly don't know what to do about that.

344

00:54:01.860 --> 00:54:04.710

Carl Racine: But it's a it's a very discouraging.

345

00:54:06.960 --> 00:54:10.020

Carl Racine: aspect of contemporary life for me.

346

00:54:12.540 --> 00:54:17.760

Susan Racine: My friend calls him white evangelicals and she refuses to call them white evangelical Christians.

347

00:54:26.010 --> 00:54:36.540

Carl Racine: yeah anyway um we we've come to the end of our time and we're we're in the middle of a discussion that we will.

348

00:54:37.950 --> 00:54:40.230

Carl Racine: continue next week, as we think about.

349

00:54:42.300 --> 00:54:43.710

Carl Racine: How worship.

350

00:54:45.750 --> 00:54:55.140

Carl Racine: Which is such a big word in the church today how worship is connected to obedience is connected to oppressing the poor is connected to.

351

00:54:55.950 --> 00:55:11.670

Carl Racine: The sort of search for justice and and there's one other passage in Torah the appoint you to, especially since Jesus sometimes gets misquoted and misunderstood when he quotes this it's out of deuteronomy 15.

352

00:55:13.350 --> 00:55:25.830

Carl Racine: Whatever Moses basically says look god's ideal is that there's not supposed to be they're not supposed to be poor people in your midst i've provided you with the resources in this land.

353

00:55:28.500 --> 00:55:31.320

Carl Racine: So that there shouldn't be poor people.

354

00:55:33.600 --> 00:55:34.080

Carl Racine: But.

355

00:55:37.230 --> 00:55:42.840

Carl Racine: Moses says that there there's going to always be some poor people.

356

00:55:43.980 --> 00:55:59.460

Carl Racine: The way the world works it sort of true equality doesn't doesn't happen, the way we would like it to, and precisely because there's always going to be some poor people.

357

00:56:00.540 --> 00:56:04.320

Carl Racine: You need to open your hands and your hearts and be generous to them.

358

00:56:06.480 --> 00:56:22.200

Carl Racine: Jesus quotes that at one point, the poor, you have with you always and i've heard Jesus being quoted as saying that, as if Jesus is throwing up his hands and saying.

359

00:56:22.740 --> 00:56:35.850

Carl Racine: Well, you can't do anything about the poor they're just always going to be there that's the way things are, and that's exactly what the opposite of what Jesus is doing Jesus is quoting deuteronomy 15 there and Jesus is saying.

360

00:56:37.890 --> 00:56:46.800

Carl Racine: You need to look at the context here and see the poor people, ultimately, are a kind of sign from God that you have work to do.

361

00:56:50.010 --> 00:56:58.200

Carl Racine: So the church needs to hear that the synagogue needs to hear that and the world needs to hear that ultimately.

362

00:57:00.870 --> 00:57:03.840

Carole Copeland Thomas: And the evangelicals want the wall.

363

00:57:05.220 --> 00:57:05.580

Carl Racine: Right.

364

00:57:07.680 --> 00:57:16.110

Carl Racine: So with that i'll ask if someone would it's 12 o'clock time to close it asked if someone would like to close in prayer please.

365

00:57:18.180 --> 00:57:20.250

Carole Copeland Thomas: First, I want to welcome.

366

00:57:21.720 --> 00:57:30.240

Carole Copeland Thomas: sister lauren, thank you for being here with us, she said in the chat that she won't see us in a few weeks, but please come back, please bring others.

367

00:57:30.870 --> 00:57:50.820

Carole Copeland Thomas: It enriches our dialogue and helps us and grounds us in terms of what our thoughts are and how they're shared with others and God bless you and your congregation with the Afghan family that you are taking care of I put least two sets information in the chat right amen.

368

00:57:54.660 --> 00:57:57.390

Carole Copeland Thomas: It would be great lauren would you close us out in prayer.

369

00:58:02.010 --> 00:58:03.210

Lauren Lapat: that's a lot of pressure.

370

00:58:03.300 --> 00:58:05.190

Lauren Lapat: Here oh i'm not sure i'm ready for.

371

00:58:05.190 --> 00:58:07.710

Lauren Lapat: That, let me wait, let me wait a.

372

00:58:07.710 --> 00:58:11.310

Lauren Lapat: Few more like let me be here for at least four times first.

373

00:58:13.320 --> 00:58:13.740

Lauren Lapat: one.

374

00:58:15.390 --> 00:58:15.810

Carole Copeland Thomas: Okay.

375

00:58:15.960 --> 00:58:16.470

Susan Racine: let's do.

376

00:58:18.060 --> 00:58:21.030

Susan Racine: It I have a volunteer just so I could give an announcement.

377

00:58:21.960 --> 00:58:29.220

Susan Racine: I got a button today in church for a former Bethel congregate Chris Jones is running for Governor of Arkansas.

378

00:58:29.460 --> 00:58:41.130

Susan Racine: Oh, keep him in his in his wife Jacqueline she's an emergency room physician they had some daughters that are lovely Jordan, I remember teaching Jordan in Sunday school anyway wonderful way cool.

379

00:58:41.400 --> 00:58:41.880

Susan Racine: All right.

380

00:58:42.390 --> 00:58:42.990

Susan Racine: i'll please.

381

00:58:45.450 --> 00:59:03.420

Susan Racine: Dear God, we thank you for your Torah We thank you for your word we thank you for curls hard work in distilling it and remembering all the different verses and where they are and bringing it to us on Sunday morning, we thank you for the rich discussion, we thank you for your.

382

00:59:04.560 --> 00:59:11.820

Susan Racine: messages to us, which are always contemporary, even though they were written thousands and thousands of years ago, the Lord.

383

00:59:12.900 --> 00:59:23.250

Susan Racine: Please help us all to fear you love you and to follow your commands and and walk in your way in the name of our Lord Jesus amen.

384

00:59:23.850 --> 00:59:29.460

Carole Copeland Thomas: amen amen amen Thank you all so much God bless
see everybody next week.

385

00:59:30.750 --> 00:59:31.320

Carole Copeland Thomas: bye bye.