

101st – Bible Seeds Podcast

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Intro Music – “My Father Is So Good To Me”

[written and performed by Carl Vasta]

Hi, my name is Carl Vasta and I would like to welcome you to the Bible Seeds section here, at Understanding God’s Word. This is where I get to comment on biblical readings and stories that brings the bible into what’s happening to us in our daily lives.

I’ll touch on such topics as Family Prayer or Why I Believe There Is A God. I’ll talk about what was predicted that makes these the Terrible Times In The Last Days or how to Have A Daily Meaningful Relationship With God.

Today's topic: **THE GREAT DIVIDE**

Jesus told a story of *a beggar named Lazarus whose body was covered with sores. He laid at the gate of a rich man, and was hoping that he might receive scraps from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores. After a while the beggar died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man died, was buried and from his torment in hell raised his eyes to see Lazarus sitting next to Abraham up in heaven. He cried out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip his finger in water to cool my tongue and stop this burning!"*

*But Abraham said, "Remember, my son, when your life was filled with all good things while Lazarus had a bad life and no one cared. Now Lazarus is being comforted while you are being tormented. **Also, there is a deep pit between us so anyone who would pass from here to you cannot, and no one can cross from where you are to us.***

The rich man said, "Then I beg you father Abraham, send Lazarus to my five brothers at my father's house to warn them so they will not end up here where I am being tormented!"

Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets, let them listen to them."

The rich man answered, "That is not enough of a warning, father Abraham! But if someone were to rise from death and go to them, then they would repent."

But Abraham said, "If they do not take the words of Moses and the prophets seriously, then they will not be convinced even if someone were to rise from death." (New Testament, Book of Luke, Chapter 16, Verses 19-31)

Let me point out that from all the parables Jesus told, this is the only one where he names a person. "**Lazarus**". To me, Jesus is emphasizing the point that there is **no middle ground!** A person cannot sit on the fence half-believing and half not believing in the **Father** or **Jesus, His Son!**

Let me stop here and say *that this is the deep pit*. The division between **believing and not believing!**

In the book of **Luke, Chapter 11: verse 23**, Jesus said, "**Anyone who is not for me is really against me; anyone who does not help me gather [his people for the Kingdom of Heaven] is really scattering.**" [and driving His people away from the Kingdom of Heaven]

And in the book of **Matthew, Chapter 10: verses 32-33**, Jesus said, "**Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.**"

But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.”

When God gave Moses the ***Ten Commandments***, He was deadly serious about His people obeying His commands. Breaking any of them brought severe punishments to those who did. The Old Testament is full of stories where people suffered greatly by not acting on God’s commands!

The Ten Commandments

(Exodus 20:2-17; New King James Version)

1 “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before Me.

2 “You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My Commandments.

3 “You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

4 “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your

gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

5 “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.

6 “You shall not murder.

7 “You shall not commit adultery.

8 “You shall not steal.

9 “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

10 “You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, ***nor anything*** that is your neighbor's.”

People found it difficult to live their whole lives without violating these ten commands at one time or another. And then the Hebrews piled on another 613 commands that everyone had to obey! Many nations and kingdoms have come and gone, and people have mistakenly thought that political leaders or kings of their culture were responsible for establishing the foundations of righteousness. Unfortunately, the ***foundations of righteousness*** do not exist in any ***mortal culture***, but only God’s Kingdom.

At **Psalm 14: verses 1-3**, it says, ***Fools say to themselves, “There is no God!” They are all corrupt, and they have done terrible things; there is no one who has done what is right. The Lord looks down from heaven at mankind to see if there are any who are wise, any who worship him. But they have all gone wrong; they are all equally bad. Not one of them does what is right, not a single one.***

At **Psalm 11:verse 7**, David says, ***“For The Lord is righteous, He loves righteousness, His countenance beholds the upright.”***

When Jesus came to Earth, the laws took on a deeper meaning, people who thought they were basically good and kept the Ten Commandments were suddenly frustrated because Jesus said ***“Even if you lusted after a person’s body in your mind, you were committing adultery in your heart.”***

And people started to realize that everyone ***who had thoughts***, of violating the commandments against someone, were actually sinning and falling short of the glory of God. Now some people understand why ***“all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of GOD!”***

Because all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, all who have lived on this Earth, since the beginning of time, have died. The apostle Paul wrote about it in the **(book of Romans, Chapter 3: verse 23)** ***“The wages for committing sin is death.”*** The proof that statement is true is that **all have died!** But Paul continues in **(Chapter 6, verse 23)** ***“For sin pays its wage – DEATH; but God’s free gift is eternal life in union with Christ Jesus our Lord.”***

God’s free gift of ***living forever*** in His Kingdom is given to us by ***“His Word Made Flesh by the Holy Spirit”, His Son Jesus.*** The Father sent His Son Jesus to the world to take all our sins! ***By His Grace! What does that mean? He who had no sin took the punishments we deserved for all our sins and gave us His sinless covering.*** So anyone in this world who believed He could do that would have no sin and live forever in God’s Kingdom. How could He do that? He could do that because ***He Is God!*** ***Turn away from all of your sins and believe on Jesus who paid for it all and saved you from DEATH!***

Back Ground Music Starts and

I would like you to know how much GOD loves you. He is ready and waiting to help you. You just need to believe that He exists and has created all things and has given ***His Son Jesus, the good shepherd*** to bring you back to him.

This is why I put together these pod casts, starting with **The Storyline Of The Bible**, 19 easy understandable pod casts that take you from Genesis, the first book of the bible- to Revelation, the last book of the bible.

And beyond that, there are **The Stories And Quotes From Jesus**, which will help you to strengthen your faith in God. And now I have just added these **Bible Seeds: Understanding God's Word** my commentary on some of these readings.

You can find all of this and print out the **PDFs** for **Storyline Of The Bible** and **Quotes and Stories from Jesus**. You can download the MP3s, Videos, and my original music from my website: www.carlvasta.com Everything is free and there are no sign ups. Enjoy!

Ending The Program

This is your host Carl Vasta and I thank you for tuning in to Bible Seeds at Understanding God's Word.

God bless you and your loved ones and remember. . .