81st – Bible Seeds Podcast

(Published 04 -23 -2023)

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 Four Addicted Monkeys

This is not a story from the writings of Darwin, but it does have monkeys. From many cultures have come the story of the four wise monkeys, one from the Chinese, **Analects of Confucius** (from 4th to 2nd century B.C.) that says *"The gentleman makes his eyes not want* to see what is not right, makes his ears not want to hear what is not right, makes his mouth not want to speak what is not right, and makes his heart not want to deliberate over what is not right"

This may be the inspiration that originally came to Japan with a *Tindai-Buddhist legend*, from China in the 8th century through the *Koshin* rite of folk religion with Chinese *Taoism* origins and ancient *Shinto* influence.

The first of the three wise monkeys, named *Mizaru*, who *"sees no evil"* and is covering his eyes with his hands. The second wise monkey is named *Kikazaru*, who *"hears no evil"*, and is covering his

ears with his hands. The third wise monkey is named *Iwazaru*, who "*speaks no evil*", and is covering his mouth with his hands.

Sometimes there is a forth monkey named *Sezaru*, who *"does no evil"*, who may be shown crossing his arms **or** covering its genitals. Another variation has the forth monkey holding it nose to avoid a stench and has been dubbed *"smell no evil"*.

But there is no story how these monkeys handled living in a world where evil is presented 24 hours a day through *Radio, TV, Internet, Movies, Video Games, Restaurants, Bars* and all sorts of activities that older generations never experienced. Even our small children are being subjected to these things!

Tell me, how do you *un-see* the evil that is around you, how you can possibly *un-hear* evil things said by people around you, no matter where you are? How do you *un-forget* evil done to you regardless of your age, by those who are your family or what you thought were your friends? Our memories do not let these things go easily.

And if you are with a group of friends, how can you socialize without slipping into the conversation that they are using and not catch yourself swearing needlessly? How do you take back what you said or *un-swear*?

How do you not be convinced to try an alcoholic drink or a drug that will give you **"a high"** and not lead you to stronger alcohol or drugs and become addicted to those? How do you become **un-addicted**?

How do you play a video game about stealing cars and killing people without it de-sensitizing you? How do you again *re-appreciate* the lives of the people around you and know that **all life is precious!**

How do you not pick up sinful ideas when watching a movie or porn on the internet or suggestive commercials and not fantasize about enjoying this kind of sin in your life? How does your heart and mind *un-forget* or *not deliberate* on these fantasies?

So how can we *un-see*, *un-hear*, *un-speak* and *un-do* all the wrong things that we have done in this life?

It's a lot easier to keep the evil out by not letting it invade in the first place; but the bible says in Romans, Chapter 3: verse 23, 'For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God'.

Billy Graham says God loves us and stands ready to forgive us when we truly turn to Him in repentance and faith.

Now, if I may, I'd like to add a fifth monkey to this story who willfully took part in sinning with all the other evils.

His name is **Repentance** who *"turns away from evil"*, and is shown on his knees, with praying hands, and being forgiven by God through His Son, Jesus.

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**: 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: <u>www.carlvasta.com</u> 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.

New podcasts are released on Sundays at 12:30PM Pacific Coast Time. *God bless you and your loved ones and remember...*