

92nd – Bible Seeds Podcast

(Published 10 -01-2023)

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: **LIVING BETWEEN LIGHTNING AND THUNDER**

Satan didn’t see it as a victory for Christ dying on the cross. He thought he killed Jesus. But three days later, he was angry that Jesus Christ had risen from death. He certainly saw that He had been put to death on the cross and was buried in a tomb. It seemed so easy and worked so well. Even over the objections of the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate. People tried to kill Jesus four other times but He just walked through the crowd, but this time was like a lightning strike. No way out!

Jesus knew what He was doing. He knew Satan had deceived Adam and Eve. The very world that God gave them was now given over to Satan and death became the payment for their sins and all mankind’s sin. I almost couldn’t believe that this world was Satan’s and he was going to rule it! But then I read this in the **book of Matthew, Chapter 4: verses 8-11**

Then the Devil took Jesus to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the of the world in all their greatness. “All this I will give you”, the Devil said, “if you kneel down and worship me!” And Jesus answered, “Go away Satan! The scripture says “Worship the Lord your God and serve only him!” Then the Devil left Jesus and the angels came and helped Him. This was the third temptation of Jesus by the Devil in the desert after He was baptized.

So what was Jesus’ victory on the cross? Jesus tells the crowd in the temple area who didn’t believe! ***“Now is the time for this world to be judged; now the ruler of this world will be overthrown. When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to me.”***

(the book of John, Chapter 12: verse 31)

So I still hear people ask, “Well, if Jesus was victorious over death and defeated Satan, why is their still evil in this world and why is there still death for everyone?”

Throughout the bible, we read the things are done in God’s timing and we seem to have little patience waiting for God to act on our part. It is written that God has always existed, He exists now and will exist forever!

So in human time what does a clock or a calendar mean to your God who has and will exist forever? Your life is like a puff of smoke that is here one minute and gone the next!

When God destroyed the world with a great flood, Noah and his family were on the ship, or the Ark, for over a year; about 376 days! I imagine they were happy to get off the Ark with all those animals.

(Found in the book of Genesis, Chapters 6 through 9)

In another example, Abram was 90 years old and his wife Sari was 80. They were told by God that they would bare a son in their old age and have many children. Sari got impatient and suggested to Abram he take her Egyptian servant Hagar and have a baby with her that they would adopt him as their son and that might satisfy God's prediction. **Ishmael** was born, but ten years later, it happened as the Lord said and Sarah (name changed from Sari) and Abraham (name changed from Abram) gave birth to a son named **Issac**. Sarah told Abraham to get rid of Hagar and her son because he was mocking Issac. Abraham sent Hagar and Ishmael away, but the LORD comforted her and took care of them.

(Hagar & Ismael - Genesis, Chapter 16 / Sarah told - Chapters 18: verses 9-15 / Issac born – Chapters 21: verses 1-7 / Hagar & Ismael sent away 21: 9-21)

The consequences of not taking seriously what the LORD told them caused a generational life-long opposition to the Hebrews who became known as the Jews, and after Jesus had come and fulfilled His mission on the Earth, many became Christians. Hagar's son became the king of the Arabs who evolved into practicing the Muslim religion that has persecuted the Hebrews and are still persecuting the Jews and the Christians to this day.

Another example of God's timing is represented in the life of King David! God became dissatisfied with King Saul who was the first king of the Hebrews in the promise land. God told his priest Samuel to go and anoint a replacement for Saul, who would not obey the LORD'S commands! Samuel anointed in secret, God's chosen replacement which was David, a shepherd and the eighth and youngest son, of

Jesse of Bethlehem. No one seems to know what the exact age of David was when he was anointed, but probably around 18 years old!

Samuel told Saul earlier that the ***“Lord will rip away his kingdom like Saul ripped Samuel’s robe”***, when he was told of the Lord’s decision.

David first met Saul when his army was being threatened and embarrassed by the giant Philistine, Goliath. After David killed Goliath, Saul brought him to live with him at the palace in Jerusalem. The music David played on the harp soothed Saul’s spirit after the LORD withdrew from him.

After a while, Saul became jealous of David because of his courage with Goliath and he had a feeling that David was going to replace him as King! Saul tried to kill David four times and soon he fled from Saul.

Even though David was anointed as King by Samuel who later died, he never took over until Saul was killed in battle. David finally became the King of all Israel when he was thirty years old and he ruled Israel for forty years! But Saul held control for at least ten years until God settled it! **(Found in 1 Samuel, Chapters 16 through 2 Samuel, Chapter 5: verses 1-4)**

Many people have experienced rain, lightning, and thunder. And we have often counted the seconds between the lightning flash and sound of the thunder, although they are not always the same amount of time, but thunder consistently follows the flash of lightning.

So Jesus Christ’s ***lightning victory***, was real over death! Satan lost control of this world because many of the ***Christians became “the great opposition”*** to those who did the deeds of the Devil. ***“The good news of the gospel”*** was presented and ***“salvation offered”*** to those

who would believe in **God the Father, Jesus, His Son and the Holy Spirit!**

Why is their still evil in this world? Because Satan knows his end is near and he is holding on just like King Saul did until his death!

We are now living in the **seconds** between **Jesus' lightning victory** and **God's Thunder**; the time Jesus will return with his saints to take possession of world from Satan and throw him into the great abyss for a thousand years and destroy all his works!

Why is there still death for everyone? This question is only half right. Death does not exist for everyone. The Ten Commandments given to Moses were moral laws God expected His creation to take seriously. He attached punishments to people who took His word lightly! All of the commandments were considered sins and anyone who violated them earned the payment of death. That's why it says in the bible,

'The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is life through Christ Jesus our Lord'

(found in the book of Romans, Chapter 6: verse 23)

Jesus brings this to our attention when He went to raise Lazarus from the dead after he was in the tomb for four days. His sister Martha said to Him, ***"If you had been here Lord, my brother would not have died. But I know, even now God will give you whatever you ask Him for."***

"Your brother will rise to life," Jesus told her.

"I know," she replied. "That he will rise to life on the last day."

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live even though he dies, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."

Jesus called to Lazarus and he came out of the tomb and He told them to take off the grave clothes and let him go.

(John, Chapter 11: verses 1-44)

This is why I said, 'Death does not exist for everyone'! We bring this situation up into today's timeline and Jesus comes to you,
and you say to Jesus,

"Lord, why did you let my love one die? If you had been here, they would have not died."

And Jesus might say to you, ***"I have been here for you and your loved one all your life. Where have you been?"***

Whoever believes in me will live even though they die and whoever lives and believes in me will never die"

Now when you're in a rain storm and you see the flash of lightning, and you're waiting for the thunder. Remember where you are living and remember ***that because you believe what the Lord Jesus did for you on the cross; to take all your sins upon Himself, you will never die!***

You will close your eyes for a second and when you open them, you will see the face of our Lord, Jesus Christ and live forever.

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: 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.

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