

The Rabbi Daniel Lapin Podcast

Episode: *Do You Want The Truth About Ukraine? Do You Really?*

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SPEAKERS

Daniel Lapin

TRANSCRIPT

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Daniel Lapin 00:02

Welcome to each of you happy warriors. Welcome to the Rabbi Daniel Lapin show where your rabbi reveals how the world really works. Yes, each and every one of you happy warriors, you, you and you is a welcome part of our community of happy warriors happy? Well, that's because you are someone who has come to understand that happiness is not a reaction. It is a decision. You don't need outside factors to make you happy. You have decided that your default condition for happiness and success is a reasoned, determined, deliberate decision to be happy. And you're also a worrier. Because you understand that joyful success in life comes from struggling against the natural resistance, that in the nature of the world tends to abstract and resist every step you make in the direction of your self improvement. I call it spiritual gravity. So you try to get airborne, and it tries to keep you earth bound. In every effort you make to improve any one or all of your five F's. It throws up obstacles and temptations. But as a happy warrior, you know that every single victory you win, no matter how small, brings other victories in its wake. And so that's why we are not just warriors, and not just happy go lucky is. But we are happy warriors. And one of the things that happy warriors realize is that our ability to progress, our very success and our happiness depends upon our ability to impose our own limits on our own freedom. That's right, our own limits on our own freedom. Being able to step off the slippery slide, that seductive ride of freedom, and imposing upon ourselves, restraints and restrictions and regulation. That is the direction in which happiness and success lie. Because so many people confuse license with freedom. licentiousness, is doing whatever your feeling drags you towards. Freedom is what you have, when you are capable of imposing limits and restraints upon your feelings and your emotions. And where that is so particularly important is when you are being carried along by an avalanche of emotions. Coming to trust our emotions is a very dangerous thing. And a Happy word realizes that emotions are wonderful. We should all have emotions, and we should all feel wonderful emotions. We should feel emotions like love and appreciation, and gratitude and compassion. We should not indulge in emotions like anger, and jealousy, and pride. Emotions are real. But we don't regulate our lives on the basis of our emotions. We impose limits and restraints and controls and restrictions, rather than just acting on our emotions, and doing whatever we feel. But even more importantly for today's show, is

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learning that as bad a mistake as it is to act on our emotions. It is seven orders of magnitude more dangerous to think according to our emotions. The dreadful peril is thinking one is being rational. When in reality, one's entire line of thinking is being driven by emotions. Please now happy warrior for your own good believe this to be true.

Daniel Lapin 04:18

But if you doubt this, just think about the decisions you yourself have made in your own life, while in the grip of emotions, like anger, love, desire. Remember the time you decided to spend a lot of money on something you now find you've barely ever used. Remember the person with whom you formed an alliance that you later wish you'd never met? Remember the time you let fly in an angry outburst at someone and you said things you wish you'd never said. Look that has happened to all of us who have lived anything more than about two decades. case. And so this particular show, I intend helping you know, when your thinking is being shaped by your heart and not your head, I'm going to help you learn to avoid allowing your emotions to cloud your thinking. Most importantly, I'm going to help you identify when it is happening, because it is so easy for it to happen. It is so easy for emotions of your heart, to overwhelm the rational thoughts of your brain, and for you to be blissfully and often tragically unaware of the peril. As an example, I'm going to use the near universal moral outrage at the Russian invasion of Ukraine. And I am now recording this show in the first week of March in the year 2022. But as usual, it is an evergreen show. Because whether you're listening to it right now, while the Russian invasion of Ukraine is still going on, or whether you're going to be listening to it down the road in the future, once everything is settled down, and all is quiet, and the world's attention has been redirected to the next day's news item, it doesn't matter, because the subject of the show is not really Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Although because I'm going to talk a lot about that. It may seem that way. But the subject of the show is really your rabbi, teaching you how you can employ the principles of ancient Jewish wisdom, to avoid being bamboozled to make sure you do not get conned, to try and stop yourself getting built and duped and deceived, to stop yourself getting gypped and hoodwinked and swindled and ripped off. Because all of these things happen when we become vulnerable to our emotions.

Daniel Lapin 07:01

And so this particular show has homework attached. It may not be practical. What I would like to say is, look, the beauty of a podcast over a terrestrial radio show is that you cannot stop a radio show while you go take care of other things. If you do, you'll miss miss out a lot of material. But with a podcast, it's wonderful. You can tap the pause button, and go and take care of other affairs. Well, if it were possible, here's what I would give you as homework, put the show on pause and go along and watch a movie from 1964. It's called bedtime story. And it was a movie set on the French Riviera. And it starred Marlon Brando and David Niven and Shirley Jones. And it's a story about how David Niven and later on Marlon Brando perpetrated confidence tricks on wealthy tourists to the French Riviera. And that's 1/3 of the homework. The next part of the homework is to watch the movie Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, made in 1988. And that was actually a remake of bedtime story, excepting in this case, instead of David Niven and Marlon Brando. Dirty Rotten Scoundrels starred Michael Caine and Steve Martin in those two lead roles respectively. And then, finally, or maybe even maybe this really should have been the first because this is a classic. This is a 1973 movie called The Sting. And it is it set back in the 1930s. But it

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was a very clever film showing how Paul Newman and Robert Redford are two highly effective confidence tricksters and how they con, a mob boss, a very dangerous and threatening mob boss called Robert Shaw. And you're pretty much kept guessing throughout the movie, and you're kept guessing all the way through to the very end.

Daniel Lapin 09:46

In all of these movies, you watch how people get calmed. You get to see how people believe what they Want to Believe and the results that that produces? And so, if you are going to make sure that from now onwards as a happy warrior, you are not going to be scammed and you're not going to be ripped off and you're not going to be tricked, swindled, hoodwinked, chipped, or finessed or duped or deceived. None of these things are going to happen to you. And I didn't mean that you're going to fall victim to Michael Caine or David Niven or Robert Redford. But even buying into advertising campaigns, you don't even even that's a part of it. There is a giant personal care product company called Unilever. It's a British based company. I think that they own products like sun soap, shampoo, and Vaseline. But one of their biggest products is the dove line, dove, right soaps and so on. And nine years ago, back in early February or so of 2013, dove released a an advertising campaign that became viral, it became so influential that I cannot even begin to imagine how many women were deceived and duped and hoodwinked and built beguiled and bamboozled into buying dove products. What did they do? It was it was actually, it was very clever. What they did is they hired a very competent portrait artist. And then they selected what I believe to be a group of sort of representative, middle aged women around the United States. And then they asked the artists to draw a picture of each woman. Based on his conversation with her, he would ask her what what her best feature was, he asked her to describe her jaw and her face and her eyes and her hair. And ended he came up with a picture. And it's fascinating to watch, by the way that I mean, this, this was a very, very clever ad campaign. And part of the cleverest part of it is that you barely notice an advertising campaign, which when you come to think of it, if you did my homework of watching those three con movies, you realize that the key thing about a con is that the person who has been conned mustn't realize his being conned. As a matter of fact, ideally, he shouldn't even know till the very end. And at the very end, it would be good if he's able to tell himself that he wasn't conned, because he doesn't want to do anything about it. And these women

Daniel Lapin 13:04

who, who purchase dove products and who love the brand dove because of this campaign, have been most effectively can't. And I want you happy warriors to understand and learn how this all works. So you can become somewhat immune. I want to help you learn the questions you must ask yourself, I want you to learn the techniques of rising beyond the control of your emotions. So it's you controlling your emotions, and not your emotions controlling you. And the artist who then spoke to friends of each woman and asked them to describe the woman. So you see, he ends up with two portraits of each woman. One portrait is based on how the woman sees herself. And the other one is based on how her friends see her. And would you believe that every picture of each woman that was based on descriptions of her friends resulted in a more realistic and and nicer looking woman than the picture based on the woman describing herself. And so the whole thing the whole idea of the campaign is You are more beautiful than you think you are. Which it's it's a it's a great message. It's It's incredible, and

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very seductive, playing on the emotions, and you can actually watch and see how these women talking to the artist for all the world. They look like women in a therapy session. They're talking to a very calm, nice man who who lets them talk about their background and he asked them questions and and the women say I you know one woman speaks about how she didn't get the emotional support from her father when she was little. And then she Oh, and my mother also I didn't get and listen, who doesn't like talking about themselves. Anyway, the whole thing, of course, the whole thing is a con. And, and the pictures came out exactly the way the advertising firm, and the dove company wanted them to come out, in order to convey the message of You are more beautiful than you think you are. And this, this was launched nine years ago, early in 2013. And it took off, and it became the most famous thing. And I haven't even I haven't even thought about it for the last nine years, until I was preparing today's show. And realized that it's an excellent example of how people are really, and that's all of us, by the way, you know, don't think I'm immune. I'm a happy warrior. And, and I've worked on the exercises, and I've worked on the techniques of trying to become less susceptible to the the pressures of the con, whether it's in advertising, or in many other areas as well, where we where we want to believe certain things. But you got to remember, your happiness and your success depend on you being able to apply limits to your own freedom. And, and that is part of what it means to be a happy warrior. In all the five areas you're five F's in, in your faith, in your finances, in your family matters. And in your fitness, and in your friendships. In all of these areas, we are capable of being seduced emotionally.

Daniel Lapin 17:03

And it really is important. In order to become a successful happy warrior, it's important to be able to realize how to work this and and you need to be able to do it in all the five areas. And the reason for that is because if you and some of you may have already gone to my website at Rabbi Daniel Lapin calm, and you might have downloaded the free ebook called The holistic view. And if so, you will be aware of the fact that I like laying these out these five F's on a circle, and connecting them all up with lines. So as everyone understands that your finances, yes, they're impacted by your faith and your friendships and your fitness and your family. And so it is with each one. And in the very middle of the circle. I have the word shalem which is the Hebrew word for wholeness, Completion, totality. And the reason for that is because it is by working on all five F's, that it becomes possible to build an integrated life of completion, and totality. And it's very interesting that, that the concept of shalem, you might though some of you may be aware of the Hebrew word for peace with Shalom. And you might have heard that the consonants there are the same. There's an sh sound, that followed by an L sound, followed by an M, like Mary sound, Shalem, or Shalom. And vowels in Hebrew are much less important for reasons that I've discussed in earlier shows. And, and so why would peace have the same word as completion and totality? And here's the interesting thing, understanding Hebrew words, but there's a reason that people call it the Lord's language. Understanding Hebrew words really can lead you to a deep understanding of how the world really works, and how to most effectively function as a happy warrior. And this word, shalem is a very good example of that. Because if you think about it, peace people very often make peace the be all and end all. We've got to stop the fighting. There must be peace, we've got to have peace. Oh, if only I could have world peace that makes me sound like a Miss Universe, or Miss World or Miss USA contestant doesn't. But you got to remember that piece is a very dangerous word, if you don't tie it in to completion and totality, because if peace becomes your

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overriding value, then that's another way of saying surrender. Because if somebody threatens peace, and it threatens the peace by threatening a fight, and you're not willing to fight, because you believe in peace, well, then you may as well simply walk around with a white flag of surrender.

Daniel Lapin 20:43

So let me give you an example. That is one of many similar kinds of examples that I give you in a wonderful book that Mrs. Lapin and I created for you called *Buried Treasure: life lessons from the Lord's language*. And we examine more than two dozen critical, important Hebrew words. And neither say this book is for the English speaking person, not the Hebrew speaker. But we can all benefit from the wisdom inherent in the Lord's language. And one of the things I point out is, you know, what happens if you come home and you find somebody camped in your living room, he broke a window, got into your house, and is rolled out his sleeping bag in your living room, he put a fire in the fireplace, and is roasting hot dogs on your fire. You walk in there, and you're shocked. But he holds up his hand and he says peace brother. I know you believe in peace and I believe in peace. There's no reason for us to fight. Meanwhile, you're struggling to try to decide whether you should get your baseball bat, or your 357 Magnum Smith and Wesson Model 686 revolver. And meanwhile, he says hey, listen, we can we can resolve this peacefully. Right? There's no reason for us to fight. Now, if your understanding of peace is just the word peace, do you see what a disadvantage you're you're at here?

Daniel Lapin 22:19

I mean, what are you gonna do? You start up with your baseball bat. I mean, he's, he's sounding reasonable. He just wants peace, know the correct answer. If you're a happy warrior who understands these things, then your response is, hey, I also want peace. But you see, the word peace, I believe in is the Hebrew word shalom, which has within it also the word shalom, which means totality and completion. And that means that you have to first of all, restore the status quo. Before you start it up, you got to get out of this house right now. And then we can talk about peace. Maybe we'll talk about the broken window, they'll this much we can talk about. But first of all, I have to be complete. And what you've done is you've eroded my completion, by taking over half of my living room, now isn't the time to talk peace. Because peace can only be a result of completion and totality, you might be beginning to see why this discussion is going to impact on Russia and Ukraine. But we will still come to that. For now, I just want you to know that there's yet a third meaning to the word shalom, and that is payment. And why is that? Well, again, it's the same thing. When imagine a lady walks into a shoe store and buys a pair of shoes, and she's about to walk out with the shoes. And the storekeeper says, Hold on a second, we don't have completion here. We don't have peace here. We don't have totality. She says why not? I got my shoes. He says yes. But for this transaction be complete. You have to pay me slow. And she says, Oh, alright, fine, you know, and she pulls out a credit card. And now this piece, now this completion. Now there's totality. And, and this is just one out of out of about 30 different words that are examined carefully in our book *buried treasure*. So I want you to go to our website at RabbiDanielLapin.com. Go to the store and take a look at the book *Buried Treasure*, which you can either buy in pay in hard form, in which case it will get mailed to you or it can be downloaded as an e-book right? Now, which is beautiful, and you will be able to wrap yourself around these principles that are so important in becoming a happy and effective, happy warrior. So, don't hesitate.

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RabbiDaniellapin.com, come over to the store and take a look at buried treasure, life lessons for the Lord's language just for you. And while you are at RabbiDaniellapin.com, you might also want to make sure that you bring me joy by becoming part of our community, becoming a member of the Happy Warriors community. And you can do that with a basic membership. And it comes with all kinds of advantages for all of us. A larger community means more encouragement, more strengthening of one another, more helping one another because our goal is to make sure that happy warriors are able to be in touch with one another. Because they see the world the same way. Happy warriors realize that what distinguishes us are not materialistic and physical distinctions such as are part of the Marxist vision of race, gender, and class know, what distinguishes us is whether or not we are happy warriors. And if we are happy warriors, we have happy warriors of every race, and every nationality, we have happy warriors of both genders, male and female, you thought I was gonna save every gender didn't you know have both genders. And we have happy warriors of every possible economic bracket.

Daniel Lapin 27:09

But the secret of happy warrior as well, it's really the secret of completion, totality full integration. And as I said, the the book, the holistic view is available for free on the website, and you can explore becoming a member joining and it is absolutely worthwhile. The modest commitment on your part that it takes to become part of the happy warrior community, I encourage it, and I enthusiastically recommend it. And the part of being a happy warrior that I'm focusing on today is the part that we are doing everything possible to avoid being susceptible to being bamboozled, and gyped. And duped and hoodwinked and built, because we are going to learn how to Well, I'm not going to say be suspicious, because one doesn't want to go through life being a suspicious kind of a person. But being cautious, and being prudent, and knowing what to look out for. And so I can't think of a better map on which to depict the secrets of how to achieve this critical ability of the happy warrior than the current political and military drama taking place in Russia and Ukraine. But more particularly, I want to focus on what you think about it. And I want you to start asking yourself, why do I think that way? Now? I mean, obviously, it goes without saying that there is an emotional element, the thought that there are people on the receiving end of bombs, and on the receiving end of bullets and on the receiving end of fires and invasion forces. Yeah, that that's that's that's horrible. It goes without saying, but whether or not you believe that everything must be done to get Russia out of Ukraine. And if you believe that in a modern civilized world of liberal values, we cannot have nations extending their borders by invasion. And if you believe that it is appropriate that President Biden sends 10 Bill billion dollars of aid to Ukraine.

Daniel Lapin 30:05

And if you believe that it's appropriate for Lindsey Graham, a senator in the United States Senate, to say that this can only end with President Putin being assassinated, essentially, Lindsey Graham, encouraged the assassination of President Putin. And, and if you agree that as as one American lawmaker did, that America must insist on setting a no fly zone over Ukraine. So as that United States, fighters will be sent to shoot down any Russian planes over Ukraine, if you believe all of that, then I'm not going to discuss now, whether you should or you shouldn't. And I'm not going to tell you what you should or shouldn't think or believe over Ukraine, you will probably discover my own thoughts about it. But that's not the point. The point is, I want you to explore in your own heart, whether or not you have

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been subjected to a an advertising campaign, a propaganda campaign, to encourage you through the power of emotion, to believe one way rather than another. That's the task that lies ahead of us for the remainder of this program. And thereafter, for you to apply in your own evaluation not only of this, but of all other things. Whether you're thinking of buying a house, or a car, or whether you're thinking of proposing marriage to a young lady, if you're a man, or if you are a woman who is contemplating a matrimonial Alliance, you need to be able to analyze it without being subjected to the con, without being victimized, and vulnerable to the brilliantly designed pressures that can be applied to you. And you have to know that you and I do not stand a chance when an expert gets to work on us. Whether that expert is a highly skilled sales professional, whether that expert is an advertising specialist, or whether that expert is a con man, you got to know that anybody who has really honed and polished his craft is better at those things than you are and I am. And that makes it even all the more important that the topic of today's Rabbi Daniel Lapin show is something you absorbed into yourself, and make a part of your arsenal, as you work to enlarge, expand and grow your five F's, your faith, and your family and your friendships and your finances and your fitness. I hope, I hope that

Daniel Lapin 33:22

you will see in that spirit, why it is and what it is I'm going to be telling you now about Ukraine. The first thing I'm going to say is that you always need to try and understand what are the motivations of the other side. Now, if the person on the other side is a car dealership trying to sell you a car, well, then it's pretty straightforward and pretty obvious, right? They're looking to sell part of their inventory. And so you get that and and it's important to keep that in mind as well while you're involved in the negotiations. But I'm going to focus on Ukraine, because in the last little while in the last few months, shall I say? I don't think there is a better example, of mass indoctrination of an entire people. The most the next most recent case I'd have to look at is COVID. Now you'll remember that way back in the spring of 20. To 2020 21 Wasn't you will remember, no 2022 Remember that. I told you then already that deaths from COVID were being dramatically exaggerated. Well, it's now becoming accepted. It's now known and understood that when you incentivize hospitals by giving them more money, if they list deaths as COVID Then you're going to get more of that people havior This is fairly standard in every area. If you incentivize a group of people financially to act in a certain way they will. And so the way Americans were conned into believing that masks wearing masks is important. The way Americans still believe many Americans still believe that getting on an airplane, you must wear a mask? Well, you have to because the federal government requires it and airlines, a jubilantly embrace it. But believing that that actually helps with the transmission of COVID. That was the last case of mass hypnosis in a way of mass indoctrination, where millions of people were made to believe something. But I didn't want to talk about COVID. Again, because it's kind of we've been talking about that a lot over the last two years. And so I thought I'd pick on Ukraine, particularly since it's like almost across the board, whatever newspaper you open, whatever television program, you turn on wherever you go on the internet, or wait a moment, that's exactly what indoctrination means. And that's exactly what the media have been part of. But wait, we've got to ask ourselves, who gains? What? Why is there a benefit in conveying the picture to Americans, that the entire Ukraine in broglio is a picture of brave, valueless valorous defiant democracy loving Ukrainian Patriot heroes? defying the evil Slavic hordes of the Russian Empire? And that we love democracy, and that we must help support democracy in Europe. This has been really

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effectively communicated. And so who benefits from this? In other words, if all right, maybe it's all true, but I'm saying let's examine it. Let's ask ourselves, in a way, I want you to get used to as a happy warrior, asking yourself questions on almost every decision, where you don't just slide down the roller coaster of your emotions up the hill down the hill, up and down. Yes, no, no, you learn to impose restrictions, restraints, regulations, and limits on the freedoms we have of allowing our emotions to run a mock. And there is a very strong tendency to be impacted by the crowd.

Daniel Lapin 37:49

And I have spoken in in an earlier show, I've spoken about some of the wonderfully clever mid 20th century psychology experiments conducted by Solomon Asch, the psychologist showing how people are enormously influenced by what other people do a great deal of advertising functions like that. And people are very shaped by what their friends and associates and what they perceive as other people to be doing. We're all influenced by that. And so everybody huge parts of the American population buying into this notion that, yes, we have to fight for democracy and \$10 billion, really \$10 billion in a country that is struggling with a dreadful debt load in a country that is beset by crippling levels of inflation, and \$10 billion to Ukraine. Why? Why not too many other countries that have also been invaded lately, countries in Africa. What about them? Why is Ukraine a special case? Well, does anybody remember the name of a leading American politician who in the Biden, excuse me in the Obama administration, between 2008 and 2016, was not only put in charge of Ukrainian policy, but whose family was being paid millions 10s of millions of dollars from Ukraine. You might remember the son of this politician his name was Hunter is Hunter, who with no particular abilities, or skills, or knowledge or experience, was being paid a million dollars a month, all from Ukraine, that politicians name was Biden. And he is now President. That's been very interesting indeed. And okay, but Well, what what's going on? Well, I don't know what's going on. I'm just a ordinary happy warrior just like you. But I am asking questions that need to be asked before I throw myself emotionally head over heels into this fan tastic and, and, and overwhelming emotional snow cascade into throwing my emotional lot in with Ukraine. So one thing I look at is, is the money. The second thing I look at are some of the other people who are involved then, during the Obama period to 2008 and 2016. People like Victoria Nuland, yes, she is the daughter of Ukrainian immigrants to the United States. She served in the Obama administration, and she is now involved in the Biden ministraton. Susan Rice is another name and several other people. So that makes me a little bit suspicious, particularly since I think back and I say Wait a moment. In 2014, there was a regime change in the Ukraine. Ukraine was a pro Russian government, and conditions were peaceful and calm and tranquil between Russia and Ukraine. In 2014, Victoria Nuland, in accompanied with some of her European Union colleagues and other people in the American State Department engineered a coup. That's right. They engineered a coup to change the government in Ukraine, from the pro Russian government that had existed there to a anti Russian government. So, by the way, what I'm telling you now leaked, and there was a 2014, late January 2014,

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there was a conversation between Victoria Nuland, who was President Barack Obama's Chief Officer overseeing the change of government that America wanted to take place in Ukraine, from a from the pro Russian government to an anti Russian government. And this was uploaded to YouTube on the

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fourth of February 2014. And that is available, anyone can hear it, and you will see how America my own country was deeply involved in the overthrowing of Ukraine's President Viktor Yanukovich, you might remember him and he was replaced with Yatsenyuk, who was basically appointed by the Obama administration. There was a February a Light Fair month later, there was a February phone call also, between the foreign minister of the European Union and people in the Ukraine, connected with the United States State Department. And these phone calls were leaked. I mean, it's really not hard to discover that America was deeply involved in the replacing of a pro Russian government in Ukraine with a an anti Russian government. Well, what's that got to do with anything? Well, let me explain because we're not done yet. What would you say is the the biggest problem facing President Joe Biden's hopes to be reelected in 2022? Excuse me in 2024. What is the biggest problem facing Democratic lawmakers who come up for election in November of 2022. Their biggest concern right now are the dreadfully low ratings that President Biden enjoys lowest in history. It is also the fact that America has a very serious inflation problem is that America has an out of control southern border into which aliens are streaming and by the million. And finally, the mushrooming crime statistics around the United States of America.

Daniel Lapin 44:57

And so, if you're a prisoner by and you are Democratic lawmakers who hope to be reelected to their comfy positions in November 2022, then you are really unhappy about inflation figures, particularly since there's no sign that they're going to be getting much better. You are really unhappy about the so called supply chain problems, which result in great difficulty in people being able to buy anything. The inability to obtain chips and and cause as a result of that you are really bothered by the growing crime. You are really bothered by the immigration mess. And so you need to do whatever you can to you want to see local political news driven off the front page, would you not? Now there's an old tradition for this, there's a 1998 movie called Wag the Dog, Dustin Hoffman and Robert De Niro. And the movie was about a president who in order to drive the information about his sexual scandal off the front page, he engineers a a war with Albania or some other obscure Balkan country. And it worked beautifully. Now, the funny thing is that by the sheerest, just good fortune, that movie came out around about the same time that devastating information on President Clinton and the intern, the young female intern, Monica Lewinsky emerged, and President Clinton organized a bombing raid on what he claimed to be a terrorist facility in the Sudan, but which turned out to be a pharmaceutical factory. And, and for days and days, the information about Monica Lewinsky and a certain dress was pushed off the front page by all the news of this military adventure in faraway Africa. And then, only a little while later, a few months later, the President Clinton was impeached, and there was an impeachment hearing and the trial was going on. And this was very uncomfortable for the President. And again, it was a midterm election for Congress. And the Congress were very those who were up for election, were very bothered by this, this was was going to be very bad for the Democrats. And so President Clinton launched a war in Serbia, bombing Belgrade. And the idea was once again, which worked beautifully, exactly what the movie and the wag the dog was all about. And so who has to gain from provoking a war and having a war between Russia and Ukraine, why democratic elected representatives and the the Biden White House, they have a great deal to gain because, you know, if you're the president or you're a, an eager, democratically representative, opening your newspaper, the last few months has not been fun. The

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news has all been negative things have not been looking good. And to now open your newspaper and discover we in America are standing up for democracy. And we are helping the Dugard determined brave Ukrainian patriots against the great evil Russia. The other thing that's good about this is that you don't have to be doing anything about China, because it's quite clear that not only national professional sports, but also entertainment and politics are very much in the pay of China. Right? The the details haven't yet come out fully. But there is enough information to know that through the university system through sports and entertainment, China is buying an enormous amount of influence. And so the Biden ministraton. A, by the way, who are the people who are purchasing his son Hunter Biden's artworks? I don't even have to talk about Yes, that's right. Chinese bought mysterious Chinese buyers. And so to make Russia the evil guy, instead of focusing on the real threat to the United States of America, which of course is the people People's Republic of China. This is very convenient.

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So, lesson one, then is take a look and see who gains from this, you know, what are the benefits? And then once you see that, hey, wait a second, there are really some pretty good reasons that may have nothing whatsoever to do with the truth. But there are some pretty good reasons as to why people are doing what they're doing. And I'm using today, the Ukrainian situation as a good example of this process that I want every happy warrior to learn to apply to decision making. And so, you know, using this example, if you got to decide whether you are for the Ukrainians, and you don't mind what it costs, we have to defend Ukraine, and Russia is the wrong evil bad guys. And if that's the approach you want to take, then you need to exercise restraint and limit and ask yourself, number one, who gains number two, let's take a more careful examination of some of the facts before we make clear decisions. All right, well, one of the facts is that there is a border in the world, between the two most populous nations that are in disagreement with one another on almost everything, not only political philosophy, but issues having to do with Tibet, and issues having to do with trade and issues having to do with all kinds of things. The two nations are China and India. Now, I wonder if you have noticed that there have been negligible incidents on the Chinese Indian border. No major incursions, no invasions? No, nothing. Any idea why that might be? China and India don't like each other. Chinese and Indians are not keen on each other? How come there's not been constant fighting on those borders? I'll give you a clue. The clue starts with the letter H. Got it? The Himalaya Mountains. That's right. The border between China and India runs basically along the ridge of the Himalayan Mountains. And for those of you who are not familiar with the topology of the Himalayas, let me just put it this way. Nobody is driving tanks over the Himalayan Mountains anytime soon. Nobody is walking over the mountains. Nobody is driving trucks over those not happening. Right. Now, I want to tell you about another border. This border is the western border of Russia. And here, I need you to put the show on pause while you go and look at a map of this part of Europe. And what you'll discover is that the vastness of Russia, and the vastness of Europe join through a narrow neck, there's a narrow neck of flat land between Russia and Germany and other European countries. And this narrow neck is bordered by the Baltic Sea in the north, and by the Black Sea in the south. And if you look at a topological map, you'll discover that this flat, narrow piece of land between Russia and Europe is very flat. It's one of the reasons Oh, and the the I should tell you the two nations that occupy this Flatland. That's right, Poland, and Ukraine.

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Now, there is a reason that Poland since the year 900, Poland has had hundreds of major battles fought on its landscape. Hundreds. Why? Well, I mean, for heaven's sake, even Sweden, launched an attack over Poland, because it's flat. And if Russia wants to move to Europe, they got to go through Poland, Ukraine. And if Germany wants to invade Russia, they got to go through Poland and Ukraine, just as they did in on June the 21st 1941, June 22 1941. And when Napoleon wanted to move from France, into Russia in the year 1812. Well, he had to go through Poland and Ukraine. And so there is a very interesting thing that's going on here. Remember that Poland and Ukraine used to be part of the USSR, the Soviet Republic, and as the Soviet Republic began to come to an end In 89, and 90 and 91, one of the questions was what was going to happen? was Germany going to reunite? And was Russia going to go along with that, and what was going to happen to the many countries like Lithuania and Latvia, and Estonia, who used to be part of the USSR. So there were lots and lots of negotiations there. And President Clinton at the time, he remember President Clinton was president from 1991, in 92, until the 2000s, when George Bush won the election with the help of the United States Supreme Court. And from that period, 92 to 2000, was the period that the Soviet Union was unraveling Secretary of State at the time was Warren Christopher. And they were trying to get the American ideal vision of a post Soviet Europe into place. And that requires required for Germany to be united, which was a huge thing at the time. I mean, East Germany had been part of the Soviet empire. And America and the European Union were very keen on Germany being reunited. And one of the essential features of this whole discussion was what would happen to Poland and Ukraine. And there were other concerns as well, Hungary, for instance. But the main concern is Poland and Ukraine from Russia's point of view, because those are the nations that are right on the Russian border. And that are the Thruway for any attack on the so on, on on Russia.

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And so, what then happened was that America, essentially, and I say essentially, because there was some skullduggery involved, basically, America, look, I'm not happy telling you all this stuff. But America has not been well governance for a long time now. And one of the things that happened was that America tried to have it both ways. They tried to make a commitment to Gorbachev and later to Yeltsin, head of Russia, that NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the military defense treaty of Western Europe, would not move closer to Russia. In other words, the dissolution of the Soviet Union would not mean that NATO would move closer to Russia's borders. And there is no question whatsoever that America in 94, issued a memorandum which clearly gave Russia the understanding that NATO would never include Ukraine and Poland. Now, that's really, really important. Because if NATO steps into Ukraine and Poland, then NATO has the right to install missiles, air bases and military bases, right on the border of Russia. And so for, for a very, very long time, Russia has always seen that narrow stretch of flat land between the Baltic and the Black Seas, the land now occupied by Poland and Ukraine as a very necessary buffer. And that's why Russia has always been comfortable, as long as the governments of Ukraine and Poland do not become anti Russian. And so, what did America do? Sadly, and tragically, I wish it weren't so America, first of all, engineered a the Obama administration engineered a coup in in Ukraine to to get rid of the pro Russian government. And to replace it with a an American head of government by the name of Yatsenyuk, you might remember, and this was a coup

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that was engineered, and all of a sudden, an anti Russian government is on you in Ukraine on Russia's borders. Now. Let me read to you from President Putin's speech, if I can add this was a speech he made on the declaration of war and says President Putin This was his speech on February the 24th 2022. And citizens of Russia from ends. I consider it necessary today to speak again about the tragic events in Donbass and the key aspects of ensuring the security of Russia. I will begin with what I said in my address in February 2001. I spoke about our biggest concerns and worries and about the fundamental threats which irresponsible Western politicians created for Russia consistently rudely and unceremoniously from year to year, I'm referring to the eastward expansion of NATO, which is moving its military infrastructure ever closer to the Russian border. It is a fact that over the past 30 years, we've been patiently trying to come to an agreement with the leading NATO countries regarding the principles of equal and indivisible security in Europe. So it's important to understand this, but I will also tell you that people like Henry Kissinger, and even more important than Henry Kissinger, a very amazing American diplomat, a man by the name of George Kennan George frost cannon, who for many, many years was one of the most important diplomats with anything having to do with Russia. And listen to some of the things he said over many, many years already. And I've been fascinated by this American diplomat George Kennan, because he really had a good ability to see things that hadn't yet come to pass. I'm not using the word prophecy, because it's not a case of prophecy. It's wisdom, and so in,

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in New York in October 1996, when all this drama is going on, remember, Poland joins NATO in 99, which a huge problem 96. They're talking about Ukraine becoming part of NATO. So George Kennan publicly says in October 96, at an event held at Columbia University, he says, the efforts to expand NATO to the east towards Russia is a strategic blunder of potentially epic proportions. He did an article in The New York Times February the fifth 1997, it's a fascinating piece. And he says, I'm writing this piece to caution American politicians, that expanding NATO to the east would be the most faithful era of American policy in the entire post cold war era. And, and cannon said that Russia's obvious reaction to the wave of NATO expansion has to be a problem. After Poland and Hungary and the Czech Republic, you know, became part of of NATO. Then they started talking about Romania and Slovakia, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and this from the Russian point of view, is, is violating an agreement from 94 as they see it, and what's more, is a an existential threat to their existence. And that's not crazy, by the way. That's not crazy. Because if you think about how America reacted to the Russians putting missiles in Cuba, right, and you can be quite sure newspapers, they said President Kennedy is threatening the peace of the world nuclear war could result. And yet President Kennedy didn't blink, we cannot sit still, while you put missiles in easy range of our country. You can't We can't do it. And so perhaps it is possible to look at the situation now and say, You know what, Russia also can't sit quiet. While NATO expands country to initial agreements into Ukraine into Poland and Ukraine. And George Kennan wrote a published a book called The cannon diaries came out about six or seven years ago. And in it, he wrote, the Russians will not react wisely and moderately to the decision of NATO to extend its boundaries to the Russian frontier. He said, The NATO expansion to the east is the greatest mistake of the entire post Cold War period. It is senseless and a colossal blunder. These are really important things. Now, remember, I told you that in 2014, America engineered a coup to take away Ukraine's pro

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Russian government with which Putin was very comfortable and to replace it with a an anti Russian government and You know, and again, so I, I'm,

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I'm saying, hey, wait a moment before I jumped to the conclusion that these are heroic democracy loving Ukrainians minding their own business when all of a sudden they were attacked by the Slavic bear. I'm not sure. I'm not I'm not ready to jump on that emotional bandwagon yet. Because it seems that that's not the whole picture. And so what is what else happens? Well, the pro Russian government in Ukraine gets replaced by an anti Russian government in Ukraine. And one of the thing and then of course, Russia to secure its interests, locks down its access to its only warm water port in Sebastopol in the Crimea, south of Ukraine, all other Russian ports freeze over in the winter. And, and don't forget, you know, for hundreds and hundreds of years, that was a Russian port. And so, Putin makes sure that they continue to have access to the Crimea and to Sebastopol. The new anti Russian government in Ukraine, then shuts down the water supply to the Crimea, and to the hundreds of 1000s of people in Sebastopol. What's the story here? Again, I don't know if you know about this. But if you're hacking and make decisions, don't go with just the emotions, you got to look at the facts, even if they can sometimes be uncomfortable. You see, back in the 1950s, Stalin built a huge canal to bring vast volumes of water from the Dnieper River south into the southern parts of the Ukraine and all the way through the Crimea to Sebastopol. And so the naval port in Sebastopol, the city of Sebastopol, and all the people in that part of of the world would have access to water because otherwise that water was a problem. Well, guess what the new you, pro American anti Russian Ukrainian government did in 2014. They built a huge concrete dam across the canal and turned off the water to the Crimea and Sebastopol. Did you know that I didn't. But before I decided before I was ready to throw my emotional self into the side of Ukraine against the evil Russians. I looked at it and this comes out. And so I'm giving you this as an example, right? I'm not interested in happy warriors are not necessarily about the politics. Although our lives are impacted by politics, we need to know what's going on. But it's about making the right decisions in every aspect of your life. And that means looking at facts that are not being shared. The media is not telling the story, but it's not hard to find out what I've just been telling you. And so the the water supply for a number of years to Russians living in that part of the Crimea, turned off plain and simple turned off the the invasion takes place. And what happens there? Well, 24th of February, the invasion begins. And the very first thing on the very first day, what happens the first day of the Russian invasion, rapid Russian troops established control over this canal. It's called the North Crimean canal. And within a day or two, they had blown up the concrete dam. And the message went that the supply of water from the nipper river has been restored, and water is flowing again the way it always used. Now, this is an important thing. And so coupled coupled with the fact that the expansion of NATO, which meant missiles, Western missiles on the Russian border, plus the water thing, well, that's already beginning to change the perspective a little bit for me.

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Let's remember, there's a very solid reason why President Putin wants to make sure that he doesn't have hostile forces in Poland and Ukraine, because in just the last 500 years, Russia has been invaded quite a few times from the west. The Poles came across this plane, this flat area of land I told you about

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they came in 1605 I told you the Swedes came in 1707, the French and the Napoleon in 1812. The Germans twice in both world wars in 1914 and 1941. So, and we're talking about a narrow plane, by the way, we're talking about 300 miles. That's all. And it's it. This is a really, really important place. And it's it's much more threatening to Russia than Cuba is to the United States in terms of distance. So, you know, America is very happy that Zelinsky Vladimir's Volodymyr Zelensky is pro Western pro American. But why what have we got to gain? And so I also say what vital national interests of America are protected by being connected with Ukraine, there is no treaty requiring America to defend Ukraine. And so we have to ask ourselves, why is the Biden administration along with their willing dupes in the media, so willing to rile up America for more to the point where somebody who's supposed to be a sane statesman, a United States Senator, like Lindsey Graham, can make an unbelievably stupid and asinine comment that suggesting that Putin needs to be assassinated? I mean, how, how on earth? Would he have reacted? If, if Russia would have said, you know, that an American president needs to be assassinated, to be dismissed as outrageous and irresponsible. But what on earth is going on here? I suggest the possibility that we are all being indoctrinated. And then we're not being told that back in 1990, at the very beginning of 1990, February, as a matter of fact, the United States made the Soviets an offer. And you can look to the state, you can look at transcripts of meetings that took place in Moscow in the February of that year. The Secretary of State then was James Baker, your remember. And he said that, in exchange for unification of Germany and Russia's agreement on that the United States would make iron clad guarantees that I'm quoting the exact words from the agreement that NATO would not expand one inch eastward. Less than a week later, Gorbachev agreed to begin reunification talks with Germany and Gorbachev has written us on the basis of the not one inch eastwards, NATO will not expand one inch eastwards. We told them that friends, and it's it's kind of nice to keep your word. So it's perfectly obvious that you don't have to work hard to discover that Gorbachev acceded to Germany becoming part of the West, provided the US would limit NATO's expansion to the east. And that's that's exactly what happened. That's how it went. And so not only do I ask myself, who has most to gain from this driving of the fever of the American people goading us into supporting Ukraine in their war against Russia? I am not only aware of exactly who benefits, by the way this war has seems like, wouldn't you agree, since the Russian invasion of Ukraine COVID has been cured? Inflation is gone. Immigration, illegal immigration in the United States, not an issue, crime all solved. Because you're certainly not seeing any news about that stuff on the pages. And I totally get that.

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And it's really interesting that one of the phrases that I keep hearing is Oh, in this new modern times, countries should not be able to expand their borders by by invasion. We got to stop this. That's why we got to teach Russia a lesson. But the funny thing is, though, that, you know, the whole manifest destiny in America was expanding our territory through conquest. Even Hawaii became part of America relatively recently. And in more modern times, I mean, even since the Vietnam War, where America was projecting its power across half the world. In the 1950s, America backed NASA and the overthrowing of the British backed Iraqi Government in 1958. The 1967 war with Israel, the 1950s, America helped depose the government of, of Iran on behalf of the Shah of Iran, which, who then became a pro American leader in 2003, the invasion of Iraq. Alright, now, we undoubtedly left there

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leaving the country worse than when we'd started. I won't even talk about Afghanistan, in 2011. We went into Libya, and drove Qaddafi from power. Since that time, the country's fallen apart. 25,000 people died in a civil war, their slave markets were introduced to the region for the first time. And, and so it's very, very focused nodes, our outrage at Russia acting militarily in its own interests, seems to be very much, well, let's just say we haven't got a history of applying the same rule to America, as we're applying right now to Russia. And so I'm just thinking that maybe we're not being told the whole truth here. And maybe our smart move in terms of America's national interests are to stay out of this. It's nothing to do with America. And it serves only one group of people for this war song to be played on the trumpets in order to get Americans all riled up to such an extent, by the way that I've heard recently, that there are a number of young Americans going over to Europe to volunteer to fight in the Ukraine. What what is this? It's like an insanity. It's literally a mass hysteria, like COVID that has taken over the country. And, again, happy warriors need to think about things like this. And let me make it clear if any individuals want to go to Ukraine, or any individuals want to send their charity money to God bless you. I mean, you know, there there, there, there are people suffering there, and they can do with it. I have no problem with that. I have a problem with the United States government, using our tax money confiscated from us, and sending \$10 billion, I have trouble with America, sending military hardware, which we can ill afford, given how much we left behind in Afghanistan. I have trouble with all of those things. And I'm not even discussing whether President Putin is a moral paragon of virtue, or whether Gaddafi who was certainly no gentlemen, I'm not talking about whether these are nice guys or not nice guys, a country has to act in its own national interest. And when you hear your governments starting to talk about, we have to act morally, and we have to defend the democracy, these are really, really dangerous terms that are being thrown around. And no good whatsoever can come from them.

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It's also I've spoken about this in the past, and that is there's a great deal of silliness going on here as well. Because if if you really are serious about Russia being the bad person than the bad player who needs to be controlled, then don't you think that you would have paid attention already, to the whole issue of energy? And you wouldn't have let Germany and other parts of Europe become 100% dependent on Russian energy? Don't you think that maybe if this is really true, and that this is not Ness, not just an arbitrary and capricious decision on the part of the Biden administration, in order to drive bad news off the front page, it's sort of a wag the dog story, then don't you think this should have been part of a consistent multi year strategy? And part of that means that you don't let the West and NATO countries be dependent on Russian oil? Surely. And I think it's probably helpful for you to to, to be aware of the numbers because this is very, very serious stuff. In other words, as a happy warrior learn to look at numbers, learn to look at numerical facts. And that sometimes helps you triumph over the emotional pool that you're experiencing. So listen, in 2016, right. 2016 30% of the natural gas consumed by the European Union came from Russia. By 2021. It was nearly 50%. It went from 30%. In other words, natural Gas Energy very, very important. From 2016 to 2021. It went from 30% to 50%. That's how dependent they are on Russia. It's incredibly important. Remember that Germany has turned off all its nuclear power stations, the last three went off. England's been shutting down nuclear power stations. Meanwhile, you got to know again, just take a pen and paper and just write down that Europe produces three and a half million barrels of oil a day. They consume 15 million barrels of oil a

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day you got that? They they produce three and a half million barrels, they use 15 million barrels a day. Where do you think the balance comes from? Your produces 230 billion cubic meters of natural gas. They consume nearly 600 More than twice that amount. Where does the balance come from? Comes from Russia. That's exactly right. Because Russia produces 11 million barrels of oil a day, but only uses 3 million. And Russia produces 700 billion cubic meters of gas a year, but only use this 400 billion. They sell the rest to Europe. If Russia is really this enormous threat to world peace, and if Russia is frightening children with the threat of nuclear annihilation, then don't you think we should have done something up till now if this is true, then don't you think that maybe something should have been done to make sure that Russia was not able to build up such a huge cash surplus by selling that amount of energy to the rest of Europe every year? No. Russia was never a problem. Russia is now like Hitler, Russia is gonna not stop till they've eaten up the whole of, you know, this sort of hysteria. I've been really

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I'm not a prophet. I don't know what's going to happen down the road. But it makes perfect sense to me that under the circumstances, Putin has to do something about Ukraine, I get that. It's no different from what America has done. And would do. If Russia. Imagine Russia or metric China, were to set up an anti American pro Chinese government in Mexico. And then China was going to start building military bases in Mexico. What do you think America would do? That's really the analogy. So, my dear friends, you happy warriors. The website is Rabbi Daniel lapin.com. Go along and download or buy yourself a copy of buried treasure life lessons from the Lord's language, and expand your arsenal of tools. For improving your five F's, make sure you become part of the community of happy warriors. I watch the numbers of our community grow with a very warm feeling in my tummy. I enjoy watching those numbers expand and you are part of that. And so our growing community of happy warriors become a member again at the website RabbiDanielLapin.com. And that way, you will be able to join us. Thank you very much for being part of today's show. And remember that the show is not really about Ukraine and Russia. The show is really about learning to immunize yourself against emotional avalanches that are launched at you by various players who may not necessarily have your interests at heart. Building your defenses makes it easier for you to become an ever more successful and an ever happier, happy warrior. Thank you for being part of the show. Thanks for helping tell people about the show and promote the show. It's wonderful. You're doing a great job and I appreciate that. And I wish you until we're together again next week, a week of excitement and passion and growth in your families and in your faith, in your finances, in your fitness and in your friendships. I'm Rabbi Daniel Lapin. God bless.