

The Rabbi Daniel Lapin Podcast

Episode: *You Can Make More Money-And You Should-Much More. Start Here*

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SPEAKERS

Daniel Lapin

TRANSCRIPT

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Daniel Lapin 00:20

Welcome to the Rabbi Daniel Lapin Show me your rabbi, reminding you that the more that things change, the more we must depend on those things that never change. And one of the things that never changes, and never will change is our human relationship with something called money. And it's worthwhile making sure that not only do we understand it, but that those for whom we are responsible, those whom we either brought into the world biologically, or those whom we are bringing into the world spiritually, by teaching by educating by acculturating them, by essentially making ourselves responsible for teaching them how the world really works. None of that is possible without an understanding of money. And if there's one reality that we can learn from the past few decades, it is that the public perception of anything really does shape, real life outcomes. And one frightening change during this period has been a war on wealth, conducted in response to a growing public perception that somehow the rich got that way, by stealing from the poor. Now, this perception includes the idea that wealth producing activities are frankly unseemly. And that economic activity causes rather than cures poverty, there is a way to restore the prestige of business success that requires a return to tradition. In order to examine it, we have to analyze the nature of money. As we look around us, we cannot help but fail to notice that there are phrases that are used, which reveal how people really think the most insidious of these is the one you'll always hear commentators using, whenever a well-known philanthropist makes some major gift to a charity. And the phrase is always how wonderful it is to see him giving back to society. Sometimes it is a donor him or herself saying, I just felt it was time for me to give back to society. Well, what's so insidious about that phrase, is that if giving charity is giving back to society, what were you doing to society while you were making the money in the first place, obviously, ripping them off. And that's what's so dangerous about that. The idea that somehow, we have to expiate the sin of making money by giving charity, and nothing could be further from the truth, giving charity. Sure, I think it's a good idea. I think it's worthy on many, many different levels. But it is no more incumbent upon people with a huge amount of money, that it is upon people with a small amount of money. Everybody should be giving away at least 10% of their income that we should all be doing. It's got absolutely nothing to do with your success or lack of it. There are other phrases, one of them is an earned income. You know, what an earned income is, is that if you put the capital, which you've carefully accumulated through years of work at risk, and you sink it into an investment, and against

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odds that pays off. The money you get from that is an earned income. You don't really deserve that you didn't do anything. That is an unbelievably materialistic view of the economy if you weren't digging ditches, you didn't earn that money. And, and so it is it's a you hear politicians often using the phrase was one that the last president was very, very fond of the rich must pay their fair share.

Daniel Lapin 05:20

Okay, again, subtle implication that the rich are getting away with something who are the rich? Well, that doesn't get defined. Matter of fact, all the people are wildly applauding, the politician who says yeah, the rich must give their fair share, will sadly discover all too quickly, that they will be next in line to be fed to the crocodiles under the heading of the rich. Okay, let's let's take a look at the nature of many decades before our computer controlled virtual labs, Albert Einstein created his famous thought experiments, they allowed him to solve problems for which actual laboratory experiments would have proven too expensive, or too dangerous or just impossible to conduct. For instance, rather than measuring gravity in an elevator dropping down a three-mile elevator shaft, the great scientists showed that just as well, we can do a lot more safely even by analyzing the situation from the comfort of our own desks. In the social sciences, also, we can make excellent use of the idea of a thought experiment. Let us conduct a thought experiment to see if we can understand the origins of our own calendar. The protocol proceeds as follows. We deposit a young boy and a young girl on an otherwise deserted tropical island, you can see why this is gonna have to be a thought experiment, right? I mean, you just know that those pesky Child Protective Service agencies are going to interfere with the conduct of this experiment. So confining it to the area of thought. We placed them on the island, we take care that they have enough to eat, and we set up some concealed surveillance equipment, and we observe their development. I think we can safely stipulate that they will discover the secret of sex and reproduction, I think we can count on that. After a century or two, I think we can agree that they will have increased their numbers substantially. By now, we are watching a fully-fledged society. However, they remain utterly oblivious of any other human beings, or of any human history. They're totally isolated. However, they will probably notice a certain periodicity in the heavens, right. eventually they'll develop a calendar. After a few more centuries of experience, they will discover that the solar year contains 365 days. Yeah, I know it's 365 and a quarter roughly. But for the purposes of this thought experiment, let's just go with 365. Okay, in the same way, prolonged scrutiny of the skies will eventually yield them a lunar month, you know, about about 30 days. Yeah, I know. It's actually 29 days, 12 hours, 44 minutes, three and a third seconds, but let's just go with 30 days. However, I'm sure you'll agree that it is highly unlikely in our thought experiment that this isolated society will ever adopt a seven-day week. Not only is there no visible astronomic seven-day cycle, but seven does not divide evenly into either 365 or into 30 which makes it an illogical choice because it messes up the calendar. This is one of the reasons that you have to buy a new calendar every December 31. Whereas if they came up with a different number of days, for the time period we think of as a week, why that would work very well. Indeed. On our thought experiment, this isolated society would most likely establish a five-day week because this would make each calendar year a perfect replica of the preceding one, that'd be really useful.

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Daniel Lapin 10:06

So why do we have something as confusing and artificial as a seven-day week, when switching it to five would make so much sense? Well, there's only one reason and that's because we retain a primeval collective memory. That long ago, God initiated a seven-day cycle as a kind of divine circadian rhythm. It's hard otherwise to account for the wide acceptance of the seven-day week. And just as the seven days a week is the result of a collective memory of a religious tradition. So to his money. While our clandestine survey of this remote island nation will reveal the islands, islanders bartering with one another, it's a lot, it's a lot less certain that they will make the jump of assigning value to discs of metal. In all probability, that would not happen on our island, as indeed, it failed to happen in many parts of the real world. In fact, virtually all populations that were isolated from Bible-based religious tradition failed to make the leap from barter, to coins, and yes to capital. Where the Bible served as the earliest source of wisdom, people understood the role of gold and silver, they learned how greatly to expand trade, and therefore wealth by employing precious metals as an exchange medium. They understood the role of private property, and the role of law in protecting that property. And naturally, these people enjoyed a gigantic head start over those who had to discover this all by trial and error.

Daniel Lapin 12:07

Now, you know, of course, that when the Boeing airplane company builds an airplane, and when Southwest Airlines comes to take delivery of their new airplane, one thing they do not hear from Boeing is, so this airplane we're selling you, it's going to fly, okay, 98.7% of the time, you're not going to hear that, what you're going to hear is that it'll fly 100% of the time, unless in the event of some tragic pilot error situation, the airplane is designed and built to fly correctly, 100% of the time, if you build a bridge, and there have been a lot of amazing bridges built in Asia, over the last 10 years, you know what every single one of them was built and stands and functions. If a designer does a bridge, he doesn't say, here are the plans. And if you build a following my plans, there's a 99% chance of the bridge standing 100%. And so it is with anything mechanical. But when it comes to starting a business, it's not as if there is a set of instructions. And if you follow it, you've got 100% chance of a successful business just like building a bridge or building an airplane, or building a ship or building a building. It's not like that. Because a business is different from building a bridge, or a building or a boat. There are straightforward technocratic solutions to building a bridge or a boat or a building or an airplane. And you just follow the instructions and the directions and it'll work 100% of the time.

Daniel Lapin 13:59

But a business is different because it is not technocratic. A business has variables that depend on nonphysical phenomena. A business depends on human beings. And human beings are not always logical and rational creatures. We are spiritual creatures. And we have spiritual needs and spiritual desires that are not always well understood. And so for building a successful business, please don't count on a technocratic solution. You know, there isn't any book that's going to tell you how to do it. But what there are, are permanent principles of how the world really works. And for those you need me, your rabbi. And so if you're serious about making today, the first day of the rest of your life, when it comes to finances, if you're thinking that you Seriously ready to commit to increase your revenue creation, then what you want to do is finish listening to this podcast, and then go to the website and

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RabbiDaniLapin.com. And go over to the store and look for the Financial Prosperity Collection. Now, it's not inexpensive, but compared to not getting it, it's very, very inexpensive. You see not getting it is going to cost you a whole lot more than getting a score to Financial Prosperity Collection. And it's 10 video lessons that you can watch at your own speed, you can watch repeatedly, you can take notes, you can put the points into practice before you go on to the next one. It is essentially me walking you through a course of how to increase your revenue. It's called the Financial Prosperity Collection. And you will find it at RabbiDaniLapin.com. Some people remember easily youneedarabbi.com, it doesn't matter both bring you through exactly the same place where you can get your copy. You can download it by the way, that means you can have it to start tonight. That's why I said How serious are you about making today, the first day of the rest of your life when it comes to increasing revenue. And if you are serious, go ahead and download it and get to work right away start on video number one before you go to sleep tonight. That's something you really could do. Alternatively, if you wanted mailed to you in a USB thumb drive, we can do that as well. And it'll reach you and then you'll be able to keep it that way just depends how you like working.

Daniel Lapin 16:54

Okay, why don't we continue, shall we thank you for being part of the Rabbi Daniel Lapin show, by which I mean to say thank you, not only for listening, but I thank you also for the enormous help. You've all been in promoting the show and telling other people about it. I avidly watched the download figures on all the various platforms on which the show appears in order to get a sense of our growth. And it's very gratifying. It's exciting. And it makes me throw myself into the show with renewed vigor and renewed enthusiasm. So I very much appreciate that. With your remember we left our new little society or nation on a remote and isolated island. And and we noticed that little by little they understood the role of private property and they understood the role of gold and silver. But the idea is or at least, what I was trying to say I'm sorry, I confused things a little bit. What I was trying to say is that on the remote and isolated island, they never did figure out how to move away from bartering. But it was the Bible that served as the earliest source of wisdom in help people understand the role of gold and silver and how to expand trade and develop wealth, and how to use precious metals as an exchange medium. All of that happened because these people who had connection with the Bible, those nations and societies, with the Judeo-Christian connection, enjoyed a huge head start over those who had to discover it all by trial and error. There was another reason why those Western civilization's based on the Bible flourished economically. You see, the individual character traits that Judeo-Christian Bible-based thought promotes are the very qualities that best prepare people for effective roles in commerce.

Daniel Lapin 19:11

One of the most important of these is the faith habit. Faith, accustomed people to the real world, we're in almost every worthwhile venture requires one to make a major commitment with no assurance of success. For example, people marry without the help of a crystal ball that would predict all the ups and downs of their lives ahead. Farmers plant and await crops that may or may not ripen. And of course, investments of capital always involve risk. People buy a house, they have no idea what's going to happen to that neighborhood down the road, you make your best decision, but essentially we act on faith. Well, we know There are those people who live lives connected with Judeo Christian biblical

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tradition tend to have well developed faith muscles, that puts them in a better position to function in a free market economy. As a matter of fact, you'd probably agree if I say the very act of accepting metal discs or pieces of colored paper, in exchange for a day of backbreaking labor, in itself requires enormous faith. To understand the true dimensions of that faith, just think about how things go in the absence of faith. When investors lose faith in markets, when depositors lose faith in banks, when citizens lose faith in the currency, disaster strikes. However, as long as the faith habit is intact, people will accept payment for their goods and services. They do out of faith that when they require some commodity, some vendor somewhere will in turn accept their little metal discs or scraps of colored paper. As long as the future remains uncertain. People who maintain Bible inspired faith have a huge advantage, whether as spouses or farmers or investors or builders or anything. Judeo Christian thought nurtures another personality trait, which also serves well those who practice capitalism, and that is deferment of gratification. A religious outlook helps to promote saving, rather than impulse spending. It also inculcates in people, the idea that there is merit in doing the right thing for its own sake, rather than for reward. This also is a valuable mindset for the ambitious entrepreneur who has to focus on filling a need rather than on other people's persons. Everybody wants money. But those who pursue it directly, instead of seeking a niche, usually fail. The most conspicuous commercial successes are achieved by those who find a way to serve other people, or to provide them with the things they want.

Daniel Lapin 22:35

I do wish that I could solve the the problem of phone calls. And I'm just thinking to myself that if this was a live show, over a terrestrial radio station, I got to think that right now the lights would be lighting up. And they would be colds with people either questioning or elaborating. Because, you know, I'm sort of really I'm moving quickly, I'm talking about a lot of things. Because I'm, I'm trying to illustrate, you know, what, what, what money really is, but unfortunately, we don't have I don't have the capacity at the moment to be able to record the show in such a way. So as that live calls can come in while people are listening. I'm just not quite sure how to do that. At the same time, I just want to say that people are amazingly responsive.

Daniel Lapin 23:39

Do you remember a little while ago, I mentioned how I keep a rubber band of of three by five index cards with me at night. Because I sometimes wake up in the night with an idea, particularly if I gave myself the job of working subconsciously on a problem. And I happen to mention on the show that a pen with a light in it would be really useful. So I don't have to turn on a light because I don't want to disturb Susan Lapin. And so I I write in the dark. And in the morning, there's been more than one occasion. I can't, I can't even begin to decode what I wrote. Well, I mentioned this on the show. And would you believe it? not one, not two, but three different people from around the country responded helping me solve the problem of pens with lights. Yes, friends. There actually is such a thing. pen with little lights in it, of which I am now the proud owner just wanted to tell you that. So when I say I appreciate your listening, and I appreciate all of you who helped promote the show, and I appreciate those of you who responded as so many Have you have, I really do. So it's a heartfelt thank you.

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Daniel Lapin 25:05

So, so as I was saying, financial success is usually won by people who find a way to give other people the things they need services or goods. Now, religious teachings that emphasize the virtue of charity, thus fit well into business school curricula. Now, they don't really but they should, because charity helps to loosen the tight grip that many of us instinctively have on our money. Let me tell you something, no miser ever turned into a Great Investor doesn't happen that way. a miser never becomes an investor. Religion encourages people to give to open up their hands. It encourages people to raise family, families, I should say, and families are the very best incubators of entrepreneurs. It's true. They really are. When people who grew up in dysfunctional families, when people who grew up without families suffer from poverty, the problem isn't that the government isn't giving them enough money. The problem is they were not raised by a mother and a father dedicated to acculturating them into the real world. It's in a family, that the young future business professional learns the value of labor, and also about specialization, by the way, from wise and responsible parents, children learn virtually all the skills necessary for a great first job. It's true. When somebody comes to you for a first job, really, all you should be asking them in an interview is telling tell you about their family. And as you listen to it, if they grew up in a terrific family with great parents, you probably have yourself a terrific employee.

Daniel Lapin 27:19

And perhaps the last thing I want to say in this segment, is that religions emphasis on family helps an economy because very few great commercial enterprises get built in one generation. It is children that fuel a man's ambition to drive himself beyond the needs of his own lifetime. Does that make sense? I hope so, you see if, if somebody told me that he's going to build a boat, I wouldn't say to him, Well, tell me about your marriage. Do you have children? It's he wrote, I would simply say, who is the designer? And are you building it in wood, or in fiberglass or in aluminum? And I would talk about technical issues. If somebody said, I'm going to build a bridge, or I'm going to build a building. Right? I wouldn't say, you know, tell me about your family. You know, are you? Uh, do you have a great relationship with kids? What, like, what children do you have? How many children Tell me about your relationship with your wife? In other words, I know you're asking me about your your business. But these things are relevant.

Daniel Lapin 28:41

However, if you were going to ask me about a purely physical project, one which which has technocratic solutions, I would not ask you those questions because they're not relevant. But in the matter of building a business, it's not just finances in a vacuum. Yes. There's obviously very important financial parts of it. And we'll go into that and we'll look at your balance sheet and your financial statement. Yeah, we'll we'll look at all that obviously, but at the same time, and this always surprises people newcomers that I'm coaching people who contract with me for coaching discover that it's not just about finances in the business because I cannot adequately redirect your efforts, business wise, finance wise, if I don't know where we stand family wise, and I don't know where we stand friendship wise. And I may even be interested in where you stand health wise your fitness, and faith. That's also a part of it.

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Daniel Lapin 29:49

All of these things are tied together and that's why we give you a quick overview, a blueprint of how the five F's, the fundamental five elements of your life fit together and it's called The Holistic You. It's a great little read and it's an easy download right right after the show go to my website RabbiDanielLapin.com yet or youneedarabbi.com and simply search for for download, you'll see The Holistic You it's free did not tell you that it's absolutely free. Now I myself always distrust free things right? Because there is no such thing as a free lunch many wise people have said. But what's what is the catch here? The catch here is that we will communicate that's that's what it is you will you be bombarded. Of course not. And you can simply disengage if you wish. But the key thing is that we start a conversation. And the conversation revolves around your holistic - The Holistic You. In other words, your five fundamental factors that make up the totality of your life, how smoothly they interact with one another, right? It's not just that they're all there in the any more than it's true that for a car, All that matters is that your engine is there and the transmission is there and the steering is there and the tires are there. No, they have to all play nicely together.

Daniel Lapin 31:26

There must be a proper integration. If the transmission isn't built to match the engine, you got a mess. If the brakes on built to match the weight of the car, you got a mess. If the tires are not correct for the steering characteristics that the designer want, you got a mess. And it's exactly like that as well. It's how your faith interacts with your family, how it all interacts with your friendships and your finances and your physical health. All of these things are tied together and how they interact with one another is the essence of The Holistic You. So add RabbiDanielLapin.com, make sure you or I think most most listeners to the show probably already have it, I would think and certainly based on some of the letters I get from you. And yes, you can write to me at the website. Also, at RabbiDanielLapin.com, you just look around, you'll find a place where it says contact us and yes, I will see your letter. So Alright, let's let's move on, shall we?

Daniel Lapin 32:25

I your rabbi, revealing how the world really works. And one of the ways the world really works is that there is not and there has not been any society ever on this planet that has embraced atheism and has also operated a successful free market. Isn't that weird? If you think about it, isn't that odd that no successful economy has ever sprung up from a doctrinal atheistic society hasn't. And that this hasn't happened is not a coincidence. But it's a inevitable consequence of the spiritual nature of money. Let me analyze that a little bit further together with you. All human activities can be located somewhere on a spectrum that is anchored at one end by spirituality and the other by physicality. Now, I just want to emphasize that when I say spiritual or spirituality, please don't for a moment think that that word is synonymous with holy godly, virtuous No, no, no, no. Spiritual simply means something not measurable by any known laboratory instrument. Okay, so imagine the spectrum line, if you will, at one end, you can put a big label spiritual, and the other end you can put a big label physical, and now let's put certain activities in their appropriate place on the line. Great exercise By the way, if you if you got bright, curious children, and you want to do an exercise like this with them, I think you'll be very gratified both by the experience and the results. Okay, let's put pray. How about praying? Okay, that's easy, right?

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We're gonna put that near the spiritual end, obviously, about reading and writing. Yeah, you know what, we're gonna have to put them there as well. composing music making tools. Those are all over on the spiritual side of the spectrum. How's about sex as the source of both great sensual pleasure, obviously, and also the source of all new life. Sex might be somewhere near the mid spectrum maybe. While eating and going to the bathroom. Well, they belong over towards the physical end. Commercial transactions, where do they belong? Well, on the spiritual end, let me explain.

Daniel Lapin 35:25

One way of identifying a spiritual act is by determining whether your pet chimpanzee would understand it. Now, I think everybody should have a pet chimpanzee, regardless of what Peter says, I have one, and you should have one too. And, obviously, this is also part of the thought experiment, because it is really so much more pleasant to keep an imaginary chimpanzee than a real one. Now, why is it that a chimpanzee can help us determine where on the spiritual physical spectrum line a an activity belongs? Well, this is because the good Lord endowed man with his spirit. And so that way he distinguished between a man and a chimpanzee when I return home from work and slump into a comfortable armchair, my chimpanzee undoubtedly sympathizes. As I move to the dinner table and begin eating, he certainly gets it. When I open a newspaper, however, and hold it motionless in front of my face, the chimp becomes quite confused. This test suggests that a business transaction is more spiritual than physical. a chimpanzee would not have the slightest idea of what is transpiring between proprietor and customer at the counter of a store. Economic exchange takes place only after to thinking sentience human beings will it. The process is spiritual. Human beings always slightly uneasy about pursuits that have no spiritual overtones at all. When necessary, we superimpose spirituality precisely to avoid being exclusively physical and thus well, and comfortably animal like we apply ceremony and ritual to our actions that are also animalistic. Only people read a book or listen to music. That's why those activities require no associated spiritual ritual. On the other hand, all living creatures eat, engage in sexual activity, give birth and die. Now, if we people do not confer a uniquely human ritual on those functions, we reduce the distinction between ourselves and animals. And therefore, we people, we celebrate the birth of a child, often by a naming ceremony. No animal does that. Even if our hands are quite clean, we wash them before eating, rather than afterwards like a cat does. We prefer to serve food in dishes on a tablecloth rather than straight out of the can. Although we have to admit that the physical nutritional qualities have not in any way been enhanced by a white tablecloth and nice China, we even say a grace or a benediction. How about after encountering an attractive potential sexual partner? People do not proceed directly to physical intimacy like animals know, an engagement announcement followed by a marriage ceremony serves to a chain accentuate that all important distinction. No animal announces its intention to mate and then defers gratification for three months, while it calmly prepares its wedding and its future homes. Now. You don't find animals doing that at all.

Daniel Lapin 39:37

The more physical activity, the more awkwardness and subconscious embarrassment surrounds it. nudism. nudism is practiced with a certain bravado that is so evident. It's it's almost embarrassing how deliberate new design pretending to be indifferent To the fact that they're naked. Why? Because they're trying to conceal the underlying tension. And there was a famous photographer I think he was British

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called Richard Avedon. He shattered a barrier by capturing images of people as they ate, frozen in the act of chewing. Humans resemble apes rather than angels. Our mothers who of course, were all raised in a Judeo-Christian tradition taught us never to eat in public. Similarly, we express a normal and very healthy reticence about bathroom activities. On the other hand, as purely spiritual occupations, reading an art evoke no discomfort going to the bathroom. Yeah, we camouflage it, we talk about, we don't say where we really are doing we talk about going to the men's room or we go to the powder room. And when you go there you find monogrammed towels and decorated rooms and pieces of soap shaped like seashells. It's as if everything is done to add a spiritual overlay, a kind of a ritual to something that we share with animals so that when we do it, we do it in a very different way. In the same way that reading or praying or, or, or enjoying music, develop no discomfort as we don't feel that those activities need to be surrounded with ritual.

Daniel Lapin 41:40

Similarly, buying and selling should evoke no psychic discomfort in us at all. economic activity is another way in which we satisfyingly distance ourselves from the animal kingdom and justify our humanity. This helps to explain why the most secular elements in American society, commonly lead assaults on the free market, almost invariably inevitable. The assaults that come come from people who are basically on the atheistic end, it's inevitable. Those who have rejected religion are eager to find other outlets for their moral expression. There is no better way than to exhibit a revulsion for democratic capitalism. Today, we hear people referring to the 80s as a period of moral depravity, being an aware of the spiritual nature of money and of wealth creation, those individuals consider the miracle of economic enterprise to be the human equivalent of dogs fighting over a bone. There's a tendency in today's culture, to refer to anything having to do with wealth creation. If the economy's going up, then the culture tends to denigrate the period of economic prosperity as a period of moral depravity. This, by the way, I've gone back and looked all the way back to the late 1960s. And you know, I consider the 60s to be a bridge point. And almost without exception, in those in that period, if you take a look at the times the when things have been positive economically, all the way up to the period of 2017 and 2018.

Daniel Lapin 43:45

Significantly up you will see the culture, the meaning news media, higher education entertainment, the loudest voices in shaping cultural opinion, dismiss always, oh, it's a bad time people are bad call it moral depravity, essentially, in the most recent period, as I say, 2017 and 2018, dismissing the period as trumpism and a period of of greed and hatred and and white supremacy, etc, etc, etc. all all in an effort to undermine the economic good times, or at least economic improvement. Basically, these people look at economic enterprise transactions between free individuals voluntary transactions, they translate that as the human equivalent of dogs fighting over a bone. The great historic clash between socialism. And the more traditional wisdom of the West is really just a reflection of a more fundamental underlying disagreement. This is a disagreement over the origin of mankind. And as I've pointed out before, this is not a question that needs to be debated in churches and Divinity schools. It's a question that needs to be settled in corporate boardrooms, it needs to be settled in business schools. Either God created us, or we evolved from primeval protein sludge passing through a primates like phase on the

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way, no one has yet proposed a realistic third alternative. Those are the only two ways of explaining our presence.

Daniel Lapin 45:59

Now, if we accept the godless alternative, then indeed we do not differ in kind from monkeys or other animals, we only differ in degree, we are less fat style in speed and strength and hearing and sight than some animals that we think and speak a little better than others. You win some you lose. Some animals do not create wealth, they nearly seize the commodities they need. And people obviously do the same. Since we are just a variation of animal. People might employ more sophisticated methods, like bonds, shares, debentures, and other tools of the trade of Finance. But it is nonetheless nothing but seizing. Clearly, morally sensitive people have to decry this activity. Sure enough, American politics and academia, long dominated by those hostile to additional view, echoed this approach. Those that most strongly advanced evolution, as the one and only explanation for our presence on the planet are also those that most aggressively oppose the free market economy. It's unmistakable. But on the other hand, if God did create us and touched us with his abilities, then we are qualitatively different from animals. Our ability to speak and to create is quite unique. Therefore, animals plunder but people profit. The creation of wealth is an expression of our godly origins.

Daniel Lapin 47:46

This view of man's origins. Well, it helps us to subdue the feelings of guilt often brought on by success. Usually people with no religious faith who enjoy sudden success, think of Hollywood celebrities, for instance, they develop an almost irrational dedication to socialist causes. If ideas do have consequences, and they do, the idea that we are descended from angels, rather than ascended from apes, has undoubtedly played a role in one of the most magnificent consequences of history. American democratic capitalism, revealing his own brand of genius in a fantastic poem, it's more of an epic, called Paradise Lost. The English poet John Milton, by the way, who who exercised considerable influence on the pilgrims and and that group of people who played such a role in the history of the 17th century.

Daniel Lapin 48:59

John Milton, his poem by the way, Paradise Lost worth taking a look at. He etched the Bible centrality in our literary consciousness. He really did he reflected everyone subconscious awareness, that the opening chapters of the Bible focus on the eternal tug of war for man sold between angels and apes. There's this titanic struggle between the, between the divine aspirations of a person's nobility, along with our basest indulgences, right and there's not a person among us, that doesn't feel that internal tension, tension, one as one part of it pulling us upwards, and another part of it holding us down. Who would Adam obey? God, or the serpent personification of the animal kingdom? Well, of the 1000s of years of human history, the lingering memory of that struggle still resonates in our souls. All heirs to the Judeo-Christian tradition, feel the need to distinguish ourselves from animals and to unequivocally demonstrate who it was who won that primeval conflict. Seizing another's property by force is animalistic, and a victory for the serpent. But purchasing it voluntarily for the price set by the seller finds favor in God's eyes. A store or a market is one of the few places in which strangers interact voluntarily

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leaving each party happier than he was before. No wonder then that God smiles upon the marketplace. Freedom from tyranny is a necessary precondition for both worship and trade. It's therefore, it's not surprising is it? That economics used to be a field of study that belonged with religion and theology. Adam Smith, as well as many other 18th century economists were religious philosophers before they were economists. Adam Smith, for instance, wrote a book called Theory of Moral Sentiments before he ever wrote Wealth of Nations that was published, same time as our nation formed 1776 when the great universities moved the study of economics, from their religious departments where they used to be to their science departments, they were actually driving a wedge between capitalism and the moral arguments and spiritual dimensions that underpin its very validity. After all, whether a man dissipates his money frivolous frivolously, or he invests it wisely, and whether or not he will bend rules to earn it depend mostly on his character, and on his moral makeup.

Daniel Lapin 52:06

No wonder that the science that seeks to predict these things, namely economics, is known as the...that's right, the "dismal science." Money is spiritual, and how men and women relate to it depends mostly on the state of their soul. Faith is the fuel that drives both commerce and religion. Establishing that a close relationship exists between God and the marketplace, helps us in three crucial areas. Firstly, it helps you explain why atheism and business are not natural allies. Wouldn't you suppose that a philosophy of secular fundamentalism, recognizing no authority, no morality sanctioning all behavior would be naturally drawn to the world of money and power. One would have expected the political left to excuse what it calls the greed of capitalism, and to recognize it as nothing other than Darwinian law applied to the life of modern people. But this is not possible. Something as truly spiritual as business and commercial interaction simply cannot coexist with socialism. The atheist himself recognizes that to be true to his credo, he must first reject the free market because of its godliness.

Daniel Lapin 53:38

The second thing that a close relationship between God and the marketplace helps us with is that it helps us integrate our careers into our lives, instead of regarding those daily eight or 10 hours at which we work as distasteful an isolated part of life. Business is business cannot serve as a convenient explanation for moral departures in the marketplace. Because business is really tied to life by overall spiritual awareness, immorality and business should be as repugnant as immorality in marriage.

Daniel Lapin 54:17

Finally, the third area in which understanding this link between God and the marketplace. The third area that helps us is that when we recognize this, what I call the congruence between work and spiritual reality, the business professional man or woman is all the better able to sell him or herself and their product. The work is creative, and therefore a legitimate way of emulating God and His infinite creativity. Anyone with a sneaking conviction that socialism has a point and that man and his abilities are limited, as is the economic pie. And then he brings that pie to market and slices and for customers is exploiting both the baker and the public. Well, that person is forever handicapped as a businessman, never gonna make much money. Nobody ever throws himself wholeheartedly into an endeavor that secretly in his heart he considers to be demeaning and unworthy. The difference between the animal

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instinct of a squirrel gathering nuts and the inherent nobility of a human being earning a living? Well, that becomes clear. When you take a look at economic enterprise in its correct position at the spiritual end of that spectrum I was telling you about failure to grasp the interdependency between a people's morality and the health of their economy. Well, that comes with a high cost. People often lose sight of how a socialistic government and its confiscatory tax policies will force increasingly desperate citizens to become petty felons, as they struggle in futility to preserve the fruits of their labors. As people inevitably begin to cut corners, they lose some of their moral self-esteem, thereby lowering the trigger threshold of the internal moral alarm. This has a corrosive effect that ripples out to every corner of the population. I think Americans are just beginning to sense that many of the social pathologies that have made life more dangerous and expensive and squalid since the 19, early 1960s have their roots in the uprooting of religion from public life. We should also realize that the furious fever of secularization that has wreaked havoc on our public schools, our universities and our families, has not left our economic economy immune. Right, it doesn't require a very elaborate thought experiment.

Daniel Lapin 57:18

To demonstrate how much our economy would be boosted by restoring a traditional view of money. We need only contemplate why so many people glorify art and music, and why they treat galleries and concert halls with an almost religious fervor. They do so out of a deep human need to devote at least part of their existence to activities which they feel uplift them. art and music, elevate because they are God given and therefore unique to human beings. America's wealth producing institutions, namely, businesses, or to arouse the same feelings of respect and all for precisely the same reasons. Do you see what I'm saying? art and music, and everybody loves supporting the arts. But you should be just as enthusiastic about supporting business. Because when we join the frantic rush to abandon every vestige of our religious tradition, then any free-market enthusiast has unwittingly contributed to the sabotaging of our own prosperity.

Daniel Lapin 58:37

A little thought experiment shows that once our business infrastructure would enjoy similar social esteem to that of the artist establishment, which, by the way at very generously underwrites, there will be at least one very valuable outcome. Politicians will tremble in fear before venturing and assault on the fountainhead of prosperity that for so long has been American business. It was in 1925 that Calvin Coolidge said the following, its it often gets misquoted and taken out of context. But what he said was, after all, the Chief Business and the American people his business, they are profoundly concerned with producing, buying, selling, investing and prospering in the world. I am strongly of the opinion that the great majority of people will always find these the moving impulses of our life. That is quite right. And I've often said, I would much rather a person is trying to improve his own financial situation than that he engages in politics, because he engages in politics. His hands are going straight into my wallet, and he is doing everything he can to increase his power over my life. When we speak about the business of the American people being Business, Business really just means the private sector, it means each and every one of us finding ways to effectively serve our fellow citizens and our fellow human beings. And the money that flows is one of the great Secrets of the spirituality of money.

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There's so much more to talk about on this. But we really are out of time. And so I asked you to visit the website, RabbiDanielLapin.com. Take a look at some of the columns you may have missed that are there, be in touch with us, maybe you've got a question to submit, maybe you're not yet subscribed to thought tools or to Susan's Musings, and take a look at the store in the hope of finding something that can practically enhance your life, in particular, the Financial Prosperity Collection. This, as I've mentioned, is a 10 part video program, which you can download now right away. And you can actually start this program before you hit the sack tonight. And that means that you are deciding that today is the day that you are going to turn around the direction of your life when it comes to your financial destiny. And that is doable by starting to work seriously on the financial prosperity program. So that's at the website at RabbiDanielLapin.com. Go and read about it. And take a look at it. See, if you feel that that's an investment that you are ready to make in your life at the present time.

Daniel Lapin 1:01:44

You also will want to go ahead and get your free copy of an E book you can download right away if you haven't already done it. It's called The Holistic You. And this emphasizes the fact that in exactly the same way that we're beginning to understand holistic medicine. Now, little by little, we're beginning to understand that yes, there's a reason that placebos do work a high percentage of the time. That's because you cannot separate mind and body, you cannot separate physical and spiritual. And you cannot separate your kidneys, from your lungs or your toes from your heart. Every part of our bodies is interconnected to every other part of our bodies. And in exactly the same way, our lives are made up of five organs if you like, right, we could list the organs of the body inside. It's a big long list, but the separate elements of your life, the separate organs of your life, five easy to do, right? It's your family, your finances, your friendships and your faith, and your fitness, your health. Those five F's are crucial, and integrating them understanding how working on one can help the other is as absolutely central to turning your life around and making yourself embark on a new direction. And the way to start that journey is absolutely free. You download your copy of The Holistic You at the website, you just go to RabbiDanielLapin.com. Or youneedarabbi.com. And look for The Holistic You download. And you'll get it also right away.

Daniel Lapin 1:03:40

So there really are very simple ways to start making serious changes. And look, we're human beings that means not a single one of us, not you, me and not our friends, nobody is totally 100% content with their lives, and we shouldn't be we should constantly be happy warriors we should be engaged in the battle to improve ourselves, how everyway family wise, expanding our circle of friendships, building our faith as a very important point, even though we may have been very turned off faith by things that have happened in our lives, our finances and our physical fitness. So that's all part of the holistic view and that's all that you will find in the book The Holistic You so you definitely should please stop at the website RabbiDanielLapin.com and take care of all that business. So until next week, when will God willing be together again, I want to wish you a week of good times and good connections with your family, with your friends, with your faith with your finances, and your fitness. I'm Rabbi Daniel Lapin. God bless