

The Rabbi Daniel Lapin Podcast

Episode: *If God Is Good and Powerful Why Does He Allow Evil and Pain?*

Date: 10/08/2021 **Length:** 1:13:34

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

people, god, bible, year period, rabbi, build, hebrew, world, verse, question, eat, rules, happen, commandments, america, society, important, children, flew, secular liberal

SPEAKERS

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TRANSCRIPT

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Daniel Lapin 00:00

Welcome everybody to the Rabbi Daniel Lapin show where I your Rabbi reveal how the world or really works yes really works anybody can explain how the world works, but how the world really works well that's a different task altogether an entirely more complex level of work and, and one superbly suited to your Rabbi on the job here on the Rabbi Daniel Lapin show, the only show that emits absolutely no high carbon emissions contributing absolutely nothing to the worst threat facing civilization, climate change. So you will all be relieved to know that we are only making everything better, in no way making it worse. Welcome happy warriors, each and every one of you. Dedicated to embracing with joy, the challenges of building your families and your finances, and your faith and your friendships and your fitness. Add joyful challenge it is and one that a happy warrior faces with excitement and happiness. Good to be together with you all today. As I think back to an extraordinary 40 year period. In my mind, I like starting with 1903, right 1903, an interesting date, because in December of that year, the Wright brothers flew the first heavier than air machine for flying. The very first airplane flew in December 1903. By the way the flight was 120 feet long. That's That's how far the very first airplane flight was. So 1903 now how about 1943 jumped 40 years ahead 40 years ahead, and we go from a 120 foot first flight on the sand dunes of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. And we go from there. 40 years is all it took. And we get ourselves to the B 29 bomber. The B 29 was a four engine bomber that dropped the atomic bombs that ended world war two in the Pacific. The B 29 was such an advanced machine that it flew operationally all the way into the 1960s for sure, maybe a bit longer than that, but I know for sure into the 60s. So this was a machine that flew in 1943. And so only 40 years after the very first flight. Here we have a four engine bomber with remote controlled machine gun turrets. prayerfully pressurized could fly above the weather. And with retractable undercarriage, it's a remarkable thing. It's truly a remarkable thing. You think about it with all the technological prowess that Nazi Germany had at its disposal. You know, don't forget they were building rocket driven missiles, the V2, for instance, with which to bomb England into submission. And yet, with all their prowess, Nazi Germany was not successful in building a four engine bomber. It's not a simple matter. Even the Russians stole the B29 design in order to build their Tupolev four engine bomber. I mean, it was it was clearly there's no question about it. It's not that it looks similar, it's identical. And because it's such a challenge to have done this in, in 1943. Nonetheless, during that period 4000 of these things were built. Now just to give you an idea of scale here first of all,

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the wingspan from one tip of the wing to the other tip of the wing is like 140 feet. So the first airplane flight of all time, was shorter than the wingspan of the B29 bomber.

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And the B29 bombers were being turned out at the rate of four a day. I mean, you know, you got to think what was Adolphe Hitler thinking when he declared war on America, which he did after Pearl Harbor. It's madness, a country that can create four, four engine bombers every day, day and night until 4000 of them were produced - what a country, literally, it's not surprising that America won World War Two. And this all happened in that 40 year period 1903 to 1943. That's not the only thing that happened. the George Washington Bridge, made the jump over the Hudson River in New York, that bridge was built the Grand Coulee Dam damming up the great Columbia River in the state of Washington and generating unprecedented quantities of electricity. Grand Coulee Dam was in that 40 year period, Hoover Dam, Hoover Dam that made the Nevada desert go green, and made Las Vegas possible that was built in that 40 year period, Henry Ford, Henry Ford started the very first assembly line for motor cars in the history of the world in 1913. So again, in that 40 year period, all of a sudden, in a way that was unprecedented in the history of mankind 1913. He's turning out a car every one and a half hours. Today, we take these things for granted, you know. So in 1913, he Henry, we're still talking about this 40 year period 1913. All of a sudden, a car that used to take a long time to build is being built every hour and a half day and night. By 1940. Right. So within this 40 year period, America is building 535 cars an hour. That's right, nearly 4.7 million cars were built in 1947 in America. And that boils down to 535 cars every hour, Henry Ford created a revolution, right 20 years old 20, 27 years earlier, by turning out a car every one and a half hours. Now by 1940. We're building cars, not one every one and a half hours, but over 500 every hour, day or night. So you can see this a pretty remarkable period of time, the the Empire State Building and other huge buildings constructed during this period. It's pretty amazing. Let's look at the current 40 year period. I'm speaking now I'm recording this program in October 2021. And so 40 years ago was the first year of the Ronald Reagan presidency, 1981. So we've gone from President Reagan to President Biden, in these 40 years, we've gone from negligible debt to \$20 trillion of national debt. And

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the country is already having trouble paying the interest on that debt. Can you imagine what happens if and when interest rates go up? So if you've wondered why interest rates are being kept where they are, it's because the government can't afford to pay any more interest on a \$20 trillion debt really it's an unenviable situation to be in. 1981 was when in the summer of that year, Ronald Reagan broke the strike of PATCO. The the union of air traffic controllers. This was an incredibly audacious move. This was an illegal strike. Every air traffic controller had signed a pledge upon his employment not to strike and they went on strike quite confident that in an area impinging on air traffic safety, they would win that the government would yield in exactly the same way as many, many governments since then would have yielded. President Reagan did not yield. And he promptly fired about 10,000 air traffic controllers. The left promised and warned of tremendous dangers and terrible things that were gonna happen. Didn't happen at all. He pulled it off. And it had a lot to do with the prosperity that followed because it reduced the power of government employee unions. Why shouldn't government unions have the right

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to strike? Well, one of the problems is that when a union strikes against a factory, it's a clear cut conflict between the factory owners and the Union and the The factory can decide what's in its best interest, the union could decide what's in his best interest, the factory has to recognize obviously, that by exceeding two union requests for more money, they are going to have to pay more and therefore charge more for their product. So there is a clear and understood level of conflict that is legitimate. But when a government employee union strikes, they are simply asking for more money from their employers who are the government, who already believe that they can get as much as they want by tightening the screws on the overstressed American taxpayer. And so it makes sense that that should not be possible because you want the people who are going to accede to the union's demands, to feel some pain in exactly the way that a shareholder, or the owner of a company or of a factory that gets striked can say, you know what, I'm sorry, we can't afford to pay it's been a government can never, we'll never say to a union, oh, you, you're going to have to just eat it, because we're not going to pay you more.

Daniel Lapin 11:13

Governments have no trouble. And this is one of the reasons. And I don't know if you all know this, but in general, around the United States of America, government employees are making about 60%, on average more than they could possibly making the private sector. So it's, it's pretty good to be able to get a government job, let alone the job security that comes from that is very nice. So you know, but these things are not without costs. The trouble is that the people handing out of the gifts and the laws, yes, and the razors and the easing up of working conditions are not the people who have to pay the price. And so this 40 year period from 1981 to 2021, a very different time. Talking of unions, this is when the period where we got the TSA, right. Do you know what TSA stands for right? terminal, the

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terminal stages of a failed marriage, just like a terminal stage of a failed marriage, which has too much intimacy and too much hostility. That's a pretty good definition of anyone who's traveled and had to endure the rudeness and intrusiveness of the TSA. So there was something right 50,000 more than 50,000 new unionized employees. What a terrible way to deal with the aftermath of 911. But it's exactly what happened. So essentially, the 40 year period from 1903 to 1943, showed the growth of America showed where America was going and why America was reaching these extraordinary levels of achievement. But the most recent 40 year period 1981 to 2021. a very different story, a story that seems to highlight very serious decline in America, essentially what I call an avalanche of totalitarianism is what's really happening. And so, what is to be done? And is there a way out? Is there a solution here? I think there is, and I do want to explain it.

Daniel Lapin 13:42

But first, I want to give you some very good news for you and very good news for me. And that is you. Some of you will remember that a few months ago, when we launched my verse by verse through the Bible program, it's called scrolling through Scripture. It's an online course. We also introduced the what I called with, with a certain degree of inexcusable grandiosity and obnoxious self promotion. I called it Rabbi Daniel Lapin's recommended Bible but not in a spirit of self promotion, but in a spirit of response

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to one of the questions that I get more frequently than any other, which is what Bible do you recommend? And it's a very, very tough question. And I've explained why it is but but we finally did come up with a Bible that I felt comfortable recommending. The trouble is that it was not that easy to get our hands on it. We did not publish it. And we were dependent on people in Israel and elsewhere. And we ran out very quickly. They just they sold like hotcakes and people came back wanting to get more as gifts and they were all gone. So it took us a while to, we literally had to get them reprinted. And we've done that. And the cool thing about this Bible is, first of all, whilst no translation is 100%, correct, this is as good a translation as you can get. Secondly, the graphical layout of the text. And by the way, one page is Hebrew, the other opposite pages English. And even if you don't read Hebrew, a lot of the times when I'm teaching, I give a reference and I show you the word and I tell you where that word is, and I give you the page of this recommended Bible, and I give the line number and the word number. And then you can actually see, because as you know, when I teach scrolling through Scripture, I teach you how to interpret Hebrew, in terms of almost mathematical like abstract symbols, rather than necessarily the letters as in almost every other language on the planet. And Hebrew allows interpretation on a totally different level. So it's nice to be able to actually see the Hebrew word. Number two, the graphic layout, the the way, the words and the columns and the pages are laid out, is exactly like a real Torah scroll. The paragraphs are really important paragraph breaks while you can see them. Another thing that's interesting is that the names are given in the Hebrew pronunciation, not the English, which is to say that Moses is in Hebrew, more share. And, and so you can actually see in this recommended Bible, he's not written as mo s, e, s, but mo sh, E. And so it is with Jonah, and Jacob and every other biblical name, they are pronounced authentically, which is helpful. And, and so it's, it's just a really nice Bible. I use it for my own private study. And I also use it for teaching. So the good news is, the Bible is back in stock. But we have a limited number. I mean, obviously, you know, we had to figure out how many to order, and we made our best guess, but, but it's not limitless.

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So if you do want to get a couple of these one for you, and somebody else, or whatever, you need to go and do that right away. So head over to RabbiDaniellapin.com. RabbiDaniellapin.com, head over to the store and go to the Rabbi Daniel Lapin recommended Bible. So there it is, you'll love it.

Daniel Lapin 17:40

So what is the solution? Is there a solution? Well, let me explain something that's happening. Yes, we are being overwhelmed by an avalanche of totalitarianism. It is apparently worse in the United States, and in many other countries, right now, it's pretty bad in much of Europe, it's pretty bad in the United Kingdom. But it is going to affect everybody. if for no other reason, then totalitarianism eventually brings down the economy of every country in which it's tried. And in one way or another, with the very tight integration of the world economies at the moment, no matter where you live, and I look at my wonderful map, plugged so heavily with pins representing listeners in so many different countries. And thank you all for writing and telling me where you're listening from, I really do get a kick out of it. And, and so wherever you are, yes, there will be an impact as this deterioration sets in, there is no question. It is happening. At the same time, I also want to tell you that Christianity is growing at an unprecedented rate. So here you've got two competing forces. These are incompatible forces, they can't both win.

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There is not room in the world for both of them. And only the culture of one will ultimately dominate in any particular society. Since its founding, America has been a Judeo Christian based country where the entire value system has been based on biblical understanding. And, and there are other countries where that is not the case. And these two views are not compatible. So what is going to be happening in the United States? Well, it's certainly heading toward a showdown. But the interesting thing is that the fertility rate among Americans who are Bible believing Americans and that means religious Jews, it means evangelical Christians, that means many Roman Catholics, that means many Latter Day Saints people, this demographic is reproducing at a healthy rate. We people, us, all of us that I'm talking about, I consider myself in that group. We're all having 2.34 children, sometimes more. The reproductive rate among America's secular liberals, the fertility rate is way below the replacement rate of 2.1. As a matter of fact, for America, overall, it's 1.6, well below replacement. And since there are so many people who are doing more than their fair share, you can only assume that the fertility rate for the secular liberal community for the socialist leaning community, my guess, has been a point 0.9 somewhere there honestly.

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And so so that's a real thing. The growth of Christianity in China is a very, very real phenomenon. There are now more Christians in China than they are members of the Chinese Communist Party. And the growth of Christianity and African Africa is reproducing at a high rate. But Christianity is growing at a far higher rate, which means that it's not just natural growth, but it's actually through acceptance, people becoming Christian, very interesting phenomenon. So this is very real. This is happening, not only in the United States, but it's happening worldwide. And I'm not a Christian, I'm a Jew. But I couldn't be more overjoyed by this news. Because whilst there have been times in the world's history, when it has been Jew, and Christian against one another, what we have today is Bible believers. And on the other side, those who would like to destroy the various civilization that the Bible has built. And so when I speak to you happy warriors, and I speak about the five F's, I say, Please focus diligently on your families, on your finances, on your physical fitness, obviously, on your friendships, and on your faith. And some of you say, Well, you know what, Rabbi, I've just not that religious, and I say, that's like somebody saying to me, you know, I'm just not very fit rabbi. You know, I know that physical fitness is one of the five F's but you know, I'm just, I'm, my F is fat, not fit. I mean, I'm just, you know, I say, well, don't be like that. Don't be like that come along, you've got to do something about it. Start small, but you got to start fixing up your body is the only one you got. And in any event, it's not yours. God lends to you for 120 years. It's not yours. And so you have to look about a look after it. Right? You have no right to abuse a rental car. I mean, many people do but they wrong. Morally speaking, you have to look after a car that you rent just as if it's yours. That's the deal. That's the moral deal. So that's what we have to do with our bodies, obviously, right? Somebody says to me, Rabbi, You know, I'm just, you know, use I know, friendship is one of your five years, but I'm a introverted sort of person, I just don't really care to spend time with people. I like being by myself. I say you're sick, pal. Get over it. It's not good to be alone. It isn't. solitary confinement is is not a reward for hard work. It's a torture that you've got to, you're not doing well, if you're alone. You've got to interact with other people. So fix yourself up. And so in a way I say the same thing, you know, and I mean, I've got no dog in this race. So I'm just trying to be helpful here. But I say the same thing about fat Oh, yeah, I'm not I'm not really such a

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religious person. So this one isn't for me, you're making a big mistake because it is tightly integrated with the other four F's, and they all help one another. You're leaving a great and debilitating vacuum in your effort package if the F of faith is completely absent. And I've spoken to a number of people in this Category lightly and and I always say so tell me this, you know why? Why is it? Why is it that you feel awkward about faith? Like, do you feel self conscious trying to talk to God? I mean, give it a shot, you know? Yeah, I think I, in my view, it's always more effective and frankly easier to find a worship community, a great church or a good synagogue that you feel comfortable in. You like the people you like the leadership, and then go there and try and talk to God. Now, how terrible Can this be right? This? I'm not asking you to run a mile in four minutes. 40 seconds. I just just try it, you know, but I asked people, why is it so hard for you, right? Why is it though you would never say to me a rabbi, and I'm just an introverted guy, I'm not gonna be able to talk to people. Now you do you know, you must you do. Or if I, you know, I'm just a fat guy,

Daniel Lapin 26:04

I don't really care much about like sitting on the couch watching television. You wouldn't say that, because you know, this is helpful. So, you know, if I can effectively help you understand that faith is an essential part of the whole package. And why wouldn't you try it? Right? And I finally found the answer. I know why people don't want to try it. I absolutely know. And it was a huge breakthrough. For me, when I finally understood this, when enough people explained it to me, that it penetrated my head that I, I got Okay, now I got it. I said, and it was very helpful for me, and I'm sure it'll be for you as well. And, and that is that there is one particular argument that people say, and I'm not saying in debate, but to themselves inside their own heads, and you may be one of the people who thinks this to yourself, Why can I not talk to God? And one of the things that we say is, how can I believe in a God, who is supposed to be all good and all powerful, and yet allows such painful and sad things to happen in his world? On one level or another? That is what many people hear playing in their heads? Maybe not specifically articulated in this way, but nonetheless, expressed in one way or another? I mean, you know, I don't get it is God all really all good and all powerful? You know, have? Have you never seen a child dying of cancer? You know, have you never been to parts of the world places in India, where people have wretched lives? Have you ever been to parts of Africa, where illness spreads where there have bilharzia parasites in the water? I mean, what sort of God lets that happen, or, you know, have you have you never heard of, of the beautiful, devoted mom of three young children who tragically becomes ill and passes away, or the young father who has an accident of what sort of God lets these things happen. And meanwhile, you look around, and they're these pretty awful people who seem to be having pretty fine lives.

Daniel Lapin 28:39

I'm sorry, you know, this, if that's what God is, then I'm not sure how I want to have any sort of relationship with Him. And so, my friends, I thought that, although I like focusing on all the five F's, I thought that today, it would be good for me to spend a few minutes on this topic on the faith side of it specifically, because unlike the other four, this one is harder to wrap yourself around. People who would never dream of rejecting the importance of finance are comfortable rejecting the importance of faith because they see it in a different light in the way that I've described. You know, if if God is good,

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why is there so much evil in the world must be either this God is not all powerful, and all this evil just happens. Or he is in which case he's not good, but he can't be good and all powerful surely because just look around, you know, how much sadness there is in the world. And so, I would like to address this. This is this is not a Huge Enigma, I have to tell you, it's not a massive problem. It's, I suppose, comparable, you know, to the question that children sometimes ask, which is if the world is turning, and if you happen to live near the equator, it's moving pretty quickly. 24,000 miles an hour? No, I'm sorry, that's not correct. More like 1000 miles an hour, which is still pretty quick. the circumference of the world is 24,000 miles approximately. And it turns around one full revolution in 24 hours, and so does about 1000 miles an hour if you're on the equator. And so the children say, Well, if it's moving that quickly, and I jump up in the air, I should come down in a different place, because the the world the Earth would have moved under me while I was in the air. And the answer is not a complex. This is not, this is not a great question, you know, as you only have to know a little bit about motion and the physics of motion, to be able to, first of all understand why you come down in the same place when you jump in the air. And number two, even to be able to explain it, the Euro to a child of you know, eight 910 11. By that age easily should be able to explain that it's not a huge question. My friends, not meaning to sound supercilious in any way at all, God forbid. But this question is not a very complicated question. And the the number of people who feel tormented by this question, how can God be good and all powerful? Because it's, there's too many bad things happening? So either is not good? Or is not powerful? That question is the equivalent of why do I not land in a different place when I jump in here? In other words, you got to know a little bit of the physics emotion to answer the question. And similarly over here, you just have to know a little bit of the Bible, God's message to mankind in order to understand this question, right? It's just, it's not that big a problem.

Daniel Lapin 32:12

And so let me do my best to explain to you. So in the Bible, which I call God's message to mankind, you'll find that there are many positive commandments and many negative commandments. And so a positive commandment, for instance, would be to give charity, which you know, we find in Deuteronomy chapter 15. And then we've got negative commandments, like, for instance, in the 10 commandments in Exodus chapter 20. You know, we have, you know, don't murder, don't steal, don't commit adultery. Another positive one is the fifth one, you know, Honor your father and your mother. So there are some times that God says you must do these things. And there's other things that he said, No, you mustn't do those things. Now, the first two commandments to humanity from God were positive one. Take a look at them. In chapter one, verse 28. God says, Be fruitful and multiply. Now in my scrolling through scripture course, which I'd like you to read about on the website, and, and you'll see there in that course I explain that the Bible does not use literary flourishes or poetic duplications. And that although the King James translators in the 17th century, selected the words in English be fruitful and multiply, for the Hebrew Pru revenue, I explain in Scrolling through Scripture, that this is actually teaching the dual function of physical intimacy in marriage. Number one, obviously, reproduction is one aspect of it. But the other aspect is the ecstasy that God makes available for a married couple, bringing to one another, the greatest sensual pleasure available to human beings. And so when God may says God makes them male and female, which by the way is precisely why the secular liberal culture is so intent on destroying the distinction between male and female and eroding it away to nothingness is precisely because right

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here in the Bible, It says male and female, God created them. And so their desire is to undo all of the biblical principles underlying Western civilization. Or I should just say civilization period. It's not as if there's any other civilization. If there were, people would be trying to flock to that, but there isn't because they don't. And so the the statement is be fruitful and multiply. That's the English translation of the Hebrew, which, which actually says, become one unify. So as you can have children and that you can bring joy to one another.

Daniel Lapin 35:42

Then the second positive commandment comes in chapter two, verse 16, where God says, okay, puts Adam in the Garden of Eden, lots and lots of wonderful trees. And the Hebrew words are a whole tough hell, you must have all the trees in the garden, accepting the special tree in the middle of all the trees in the garden. And again, let me give you the King James translation, you shall surely eat. Once again, the Lord's language does not engage in literary flourishes or poetic license and duplication. This is talking about two different kinds of eating. And again, I explained this in the Scrolling through Scripture program Unit number one. And, and I explained that there's two kinds of eating is eating physically and eating spiritually. And if you eat only physically, you are going to overeat and become obese, because you are seeking a satisfaction that can only be attained through a parallel spiritual satiation. I explained that at greater length there, but for now, the the part I want you to be able to grasp and to fully relate to is that so far, in our getting to know the Creator, he's only had positive commandments. Okay? Be fruitful and multiply, and you know that that's not the real meaning, and eat you shall surely eat. And you know that that's not the real meaning. But one has to do with the appetite for food one has to do with the appetite for sex, and they are being treated in in a very positive kind of way. What is the very first negative that we find what's the very first time we see God saying, No, this is so important that if you are among the fortunate people using the Rabbi Daniel Lapin Recommended Bible, turn to page six and seven, Page Six is the Hebrew page seven as the English we're looking at chapter two, verse 18. Now if you count down lines from the top of the Hebrew page, go down 15 lines. And then if you look at words, remember Hebrew goes from right to left, counters, look at the second, third, fourth and fifth words, [Hebrew spoken]. It's not good for man to be alone. This is the first negative we encounter. And what's going on here? Well, again, unless one has access to the ancient Jewish wisdom, one can easily fall into the trap of assuming that here God is talking specifically about Adam being single. But if that was so that the very next verse would be, oh, and God put Adam under anesthesia made him go to sleep and God Earth and they came Eve now it's not there's another verse all together. So this verse, not good for man to be alone. PAGE 615 line in the Hebrew, not good. It's very important is the first negative commandment that God gives to humanity. And he's saying, It's not good for people to be disconnected from one another. Now, here is an important juxtaposition. In the same way that there are specific incentives as it were, that God gives on the positive side, there are also disincentives that he gives on the negative side. On the positive side, you remember he said,

Daniel Lapin 39:37

I, you know, I want you to eat and eat, eat in both physical and spiritual ways. And he gave an incentive, the incentive is that eating is fun. That's all there is to it is just pleasurable, and particularly if you are not at the gross overheating stage, but you actually You're pretty hungry. If you haven't eaten

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for six or seven hours, sitting down to a steak and fries. Well, alright, I, that's my own personal taste. But whatever yours is, all right, whatever yours is a salad if you're whatever, but whatever it is eating is fun. And God didn't have to do that, right? could have just said that, hey, you know, here are these little tablets, they completely tasteless. Watch out, you better take two of those a day, otherwise you will die. That's all there is to it. And I didn't do that. He said I look at this. Look at this food. You have beautiful a ripe peach looks, right? I mean, if you just think take a look at a lovely yellow ripe banana packaged in like a finest packaging that any packaging specialist could devise. What a brilliant thing is the banana peel is a delightful food altogether. And so it is you know what ever is your food choice. It not only tastes good, it even looks good. You're going to be enjoying a bang that commandment. Now, you've got to learn about how to eat spiritually says you don't overeat. But we cover that elsewhere. Now how about when we get to be fruitful and multiply? Okay, well be fruitful and multiply that ever there actually came first. Be fruitful and multiply. Again, the Hebrew is [Hebrew spoken]. And guess what? God doesn't say, hey, here is the mechanical process I need you to go through. Because if you don't to the mean, the the end of the species and you don't want that to happen, do you? I mean, after all, you would like another generation, because think about it for just a moment. If we were purely biological creatures, and a genie popped out of the bottle and said, by the way, sorry to tell you this, but you and everyone else alive at the moment are the last generation that will live on Earth. Nobody else is going to be born, this is it. And when the last person currently on earth today dies, that's it no more human beings.

Daniel Lapin 42:18

If you and I were just biological entities, that information we just got from the genie wouldn't really matter that much. I mean, how would it matter to you that, that they're going to be no more people? Why, why? Why is that a problem to you as long as you are able to live your life. But because we're spiritual creatures, we actually have a need to know that they're, that we are part of an ongoing story. This is one of the reasons by the way that totalitarian governments, whether they're Cuban, or whether they're Russian, or whether they are 21st century American, always try and arrange for the destruction of statues. Destroy the statue, so as you can disconnect the people from their past, and you will then deal with the future. But if you can isolate people, you can control them more easily. And this is one of the reasons that we work so hard to keep our children connected to their parents and to their grandparents, and that there's a family tradition and his family stories and family history. Because it's really important for us much more important than we're taught at any gig. No government indoctrination center ever teachers children's is by the way, one day, you're gonna realize how important it is for you to have your own children. And for you to know that the story goes on. And for you to know what the values are of the country into which you were born, right? schools don't do that public schools don't do that anymore. But God might have said, Hey, listen, you better go through this mechanical process every few years with your spouse in order to make sure that you're not the last generation because you weren't like that. God didn't do that. He turned it into an irresistible delight, an almost irresistible delight.

Daniel Lapin 44:17

I mean, obviously, people need to exert control, right? We expect that, but you get the point. And so, in, in both these cases, God wants there to be reproduction and he wants there to be connection between

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a husband and a wife. And so he makes it pleasurable. God wants us to eat and to be able to be sustained and nourished. He makes it pleasurable, he incentivizes us. Similarly, when God gives a negative commandment, he disincentivizes as well. And he says not good for you to be alone. And if you don't listen to me if you remain insulated and isolated, Why you're gonna have a pretty rough life. And I wonder if any of you already see where this little journey is taking us. You see, God wants us to connect. And in the same way he incentivized us to eat any incentivized us to engage in intimacy. Similarly, he does incentivizes us to stay alone and isolated. How does he do that? Well, you're going to be shocked. But I'm going to tell it to you anyways. You see this, Genesis, chapter two, verse 18, it's the very first time that God wags his finger at us, as it were saying, I do not want you human beings to do this. What is the this he doesn't want us to do? remain alone and isolated?

Daniel Lapin 45:56

Okay. How does he disincentivize? Us? How does he make it painful for us? To remain disconnected? It's easy. Number one, he makes us suffer from poverty. Yes, wealth, abundant financial wealth is a huge blessing. And poverty is very painful. And it's not a case of saying, Well, how can a good and loving God let so many people be poor. And the reason is, because they're not following the pattern. And here is a fairly important thing that I have to tell you. Maybe I should have even told you this before. But please hang on every word over here for just a moment. And that is that in the Lord's language in Hebrew, you can very easily tell whether a speaker is addressing one person or a crowd. Because the words are different in Hebrew, when you address one person, or when you address a crowd, but in English, it isn't exactly the same. In English, if I might say, Please do not do that. And you have no idea if I'm speaking to one person, or 10 people, but in Hebrew, you would know instantly. And so it is that there are many, many rules throughout the Bible. Which if you read the English translation sound as if they're being addressed to an individual. Yes, you, John, and you, Jennifer, this is what you must do. But No, it isn't. It's, it's towards a group, a society of people. That's how it's being addressed. And it's really important to understand that very clearly. Yeah, for instance, let's look at, let's look at Leviticus - Book of Leviticus chapter 26, verse three: "If you follow my laws faithfully, and observe my commandments", who's God speaking to here? you and me? or our entire community, our entire society? you can't tell in English. "If you follow my laws and faithfully observe my commandments. I will grant you your rains in their season. So the earth shall yield its produce in the trees of the field bear fruit." Who's the you? "I will grant your rains in the seat" is that you personally? No! Everything I'm reading here is to the plurality. It's to everybody is to a big crowd, it's to your entire society.

Daniel Lapin 48:51

This is very important to understand. Because what it means is that no matter how virtuous I may be, if I choose, or even if I'm forced to live in a society of bad folks, I will suffer the same consequences as them. That is a reality. And it's a really important is an underlying principle in ancient Jewish wisdom. This is as clear as could be, and that is that you sink or swim with your neighbors. There isn't such a thing as being alone because God said not good for man to be alone. That's not an option. So here we got chapter 26, verse 3,4,5, all of these things. Where God's saying, if you follow the pattern of living if you build a civilization, on the values found in this book, you going to have a successful economy, which the Bible describes as rain at the right time. Not that it floods anything but it comes correctly, to

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nurture the earth and the earth gonna yield its produce and the trees of the future. bear fruit, and what's more, your, your wheat and your wine and everything, it's you're gonna have plenty bread, you're gonna eat your bread to abundance. That's verse five. And what's more, because you will be a strong economic society, you will be able to defend yourselves, I will grant peace in the land, and you will go down, you will go to bed at night untroubled by anybody, you will have no worries. But it's all in the plural. When you all lie down at night to go to sleep, it'll be without worries. That's the really important thing. And if we don't understand that, then then we miss everything.

Daniel Lapin 50:42

I know it's rough, right? You might say, Well, God should treat each one of us as individuals. But that's not what he says. And he made the rules. And so, you know, this is like me as a new immigrant to the United States learning to or somebody who said they were trying to teach me to play baseball. Well, I mean, I knew cricket, I certainly didn't know baseball. And I was. And I finally realized that there was no point in me shaking a defiant Fist of the umpire. I had two choices, learn the rules of the game and play with them, or don't play, and go somewhere else. And it's likely that in life as well, here are the rules. You know, you can play or not, you want to shake a defiant fist at the Deity, you know, go for it, break a leg, but it's not going to get you anywhere. It's much better to know the rules of the game, and then play along well, one of the rules of the game is that we are not isolated individuals. And that when we connect with good like minded people, we do well when we don't, we don't.

Daniel Lapin 51:46

And sure enough, verse 14, in Leviticus 26, by the way, you love this in the new Bible, I mean, you first of all, you like the translation. And secondly, you will be able to really see how this is laid out because there's a very clear paragraph break between verse 13 and verse 14. And you'll see why right away. And again, this this is not shown in most Bibles. If you look at verse 14, okay, and if you do not obey me, well, who's the you if you do not obey me, who's the you? You Harry, you Henrietta. Right? You, Ebony? You Tom? Now, it's all you together, it's your society, it's your group. And if you do not listen to me, and you do not observe these commandments, you know, both the yes ones and the no ones. And if you reject my laws, all you I'm talking to not just one of you, all you together. And this is not clear from the English because the English says, If you reject my laws, and spurn my rules, so that you do not observe all my commandments, and you break my covenant, you might think it's just talking to you as an individual, but it's not. It's the plural. Do you see what I'm saying? So I'm sure you do. It's, it's a really, really important point. Why is it so important? Because God is saying, I don't want you to live alone. I want you to become connected with one another. And if you do that, right, well, then you're going to be rewarded with all the good things, but guess what, if you don't, things are going to be bad? Well, what am I What do I mean let me explain. In let's say it was December 2003.

Daniel Lapin 53:38

In December 2003, and it was on December the 22nd, there was an earthquake in Central California was called the Paso Robles earthquake. And it was in the San Simeon area. And there was a severity an earthquake rating of 6.6 on the Richter scale. And it killed two people. They there was one building where some masonry fell off the roof and it fell I think, on two ladies. Funnily enough, not funny, but four

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days later, in Iran, in a town called bam, ba. I'm sure it's spelled differently in Arabic, or in Persian. In a town called bam, there was a big earthquake. Do you know what its Richter size was? 6.6. In other words, my friend, the serves us will have very good measure of two societies that could hardly be more different from one another. struck with exactly the same level of meteorological calamity. And what happens? Well, 34,000 people died in bam, what was the the earthquake said They're 6.6, just like the one in in San Simeon, California, both 6.62 people died in California 34,000 died in bam, and another 200,000 injured was a huge disaster. What's the difference? The difference is that in the Qur'an, there is very much an acceptance of things as the will of Allah.

Daniel Lapin 55:28

Whereas in Judeo Christian principles in a biblical worldview, there is very much a case of God expecting us to work with him and improving the world work with him in order to make the world safer, and more secure, and easier and healthier and better. And so housing rules, the way we build, and the life saving techniques, and all these are part of American culture. It came from the Bible, a culture that was rooted in the Quran, like the one in Bonn, they didn't have those principles. And so people were crushed, people died. People were left homeless people were injured people died from hunger and thirst afterwards, different culture. And so the in the Bible, God is saying, hey, if you connect with one another, properly caringly the way I lay it out in this book, guess what? earthquakes are not going to be that big a problem for you. But if you don't if you follow another patent, well, don't blame me. How's about dealing with disease? Well, it costs a lot of money to do the research necessary in order to find a cure for a disease. It's not easy. Where is that more likely to happen in societies that follow the biblical rules of connectivity and cooperation, and collaboration and creation? Or in other communities? Obviously, in civilization built on the Bible. For hundreds of years already, there's been very serious medical research. How come no medical research to speak of in the Arabic world? Why is it that to this day, you can drive through villages, and the Islamic rule, and you'll see the flies crawling over the faces of little children. Why? Because it's a different culture. And God says, Hey, you can do it your way, in which case, don't blame me. If flies bring disease to little kids who die. It's sad. I really wish you wouldn't do that. And I've given you every principle and every rule, and every instruction of how to avoid it. But I'm also going to disinfect incentivize you from doing the wrong thing, by the way, like any good parent does. we incentivize our children to a bias. And we also teach them consequences. Right? Many people in child raising prefer the word consequence to punishment. Right? I told you not to do this. Now, here's the consequence. You did it. That's God's approach, hey, there are consequences here.

Daniel Lapin 58:24

To build a functioning economy, which is a good thing. It's a huge blessing. God says it comes about through connection. And it's not an accident, that the greatest engine of financial prosperity in the history of the world, namely the United States of America, they did this. Right. In the 19th century, they built railroads across the country. In 1844, the electric telegraph was invented by Samuel Morse. Do you know that in a few short years, the entire country was criss crossed with telegraph wires. We are a baying, God's Word to make connection. And I'm not saying that every engineer who worked on the internet was paying attention to Genesis chapter two, verse 18, but I am saying he was born and raised within a culture that saw value in connectivity. And so sure enough, and the President Eisenhower the

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interstate system, television, radio, telephone, a lot of investment into building connection. Other countries didn't do this. Didn't happen in December, a 2004. a dreadful tsunami struck in many parts of Asia, wiping out hundreds of 1000s of people. You know, there were several hours of warning. In other words, they knew this was coming, because it hit earlier in other places. So why didn't they ring the warning sirens telling everybody why weren't there Civil Defense exercises, telling people when the sirens ring all make for higher ground, or at the very least, folks, when you see your dogs and cats and cows and elephants running for higher ground, follow them, animals seem to know when something's happening. No, nothing like that at all. I'm told that in many of the places that were hit so devastatingly, by the the tsunami in 2000, end of 2004, they still haven't installed sirens. And so when bad storms come to that part of the world, many, many people die. storms have exactly the same ferocity come to the east coast of the United States of America. And virtually nobody dies. It's a very simple thing. It's sad, but it's simple. Do you care about human life? If you're part of a Judeo Christian Bible based culture, you do? And if you're not, its allies, will you just it's just how it is? It's a different way of looking at things. Right? No, Judeo Christian biblical devotee would say, Oh, well, it's too bad about all these these kids dying, it's God's will obviously they never do that. People would stop and do whatever they can to help people go nuts to drum up. It's good, it's wonderful. But this isn't like that everywhere.

Daniel Lapin 1:01:47

So in order to build a economy where there's money, and that people have the facilities of life, such as medical research, and such as ambulances and hospitals, and where there are event facilities available, so people don't have to go hungry, right? How do you do that? Well, you have to have a vibrant, effective economy. And in order to do that, you need these things. Number one, you need a lot of people, you got to have a population and a growing population. And, and this is sort of pretty basic, right? You don't need an advanced degree in economics to understand that. It's one of the reasons that money is more made in cities than in isolated remote and rural areas. Many people is rule number one. Now, Angela Merkel of Germany, understood this also. And since Germany's fertility rate was dropping dramatically, one of the solutions she came up with was, why don't we import a few 100,000 Muslim men from the Middle East and from North Africa? Well, I'm afraid that brings us to the second thing you need, you need people who are all part of a similar moral system. Because otherwise, you don't have the third thing needed, which is connection. So you need technical connection. But you also need spiritual connection that they should be trust. Just the fact that I can speak to somebody on a phone doesn't mean I trust him. But if I speak to somebody on the phone, and he and I have the same friends, and his reputation precedes him that he has the same values as I do. I'm really happy to do business with him. Because I see that there's a similar value system. So in order for a viable economy, to be able to produce abundance for everybody, you got to have lots of people, you got to have the basics of connectivity, roads, telephones, internet, railways, airplane connections. Number three, you've got to have a mutual system of trust, because otherwise even money doesn't work. The next thing you need is you have to have a agreed upon philosophy of being able to conquer the earth. When I say conquer, you shouldn't think you heard me say destroy or plunder. I said conquer in exactly the same way that Germany conquered Czechoslovakia. They didn't destroy Czechoslovakia. They didn't destroy all the many industrial factories that Czechoslovakia had developed in the 1920s and 1930s. they conquered Czechoslovakia, but they re directed the output to Nazi Germany. You know if and where I shouldn't

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say If when China conquers Taiwan, I don't believe there'll be any destruction, it will be a conquering. So that China that Taiwan's many resources will be redirected to China. That's what conquering means. And so when in the sixth day of creation, I think I'm not going to spend a lot of time on this particular point, because I do cover it very fully in the scrolling through scripture course, on our website, but where God says, Be fruitful and multiply, and it says, conquer, conquer the land, what does that mean? It means being willing to turn marshes, into villages. And to build factories and skyscrapers, and to turn swamps into cities, you got to be willing to do that. Because if you reject this biblical pattern, then I know what you're going to be doing. You are going to start glorifying nature. That's what's going to happen. And you're going to become a nature worshipping society. And a nature worshipping society won't believe that you're able to eat meat, they won't believe that you should save the lives of little children by doing medical research on rabbits or monkeys. If necessary, if it's not necessary, it's not necessary, obviously. But if necessary, they won't believe that it is necessary and desirable to build dams so that everybody can have clean water. That's what God is talking about here.

Daniel Lapin 1:06:43

And so I am not going to go very much further into this. But I would recommend that if necessary, please listen to it another time, so that you can give your mind a chance to wrap itself around these concepts and these principles. If God is good, and all powerful, why is there evil in the world? Surely, if there's evil, and he allows it to happen, he can't be good. And if it's evil, and he doesn't allow it to happen, but is evil anyway, how can it be powerful? You see now why I said that this is not a an earth shattering theological conundrum, or this is not a profound philosophical question. It's very simple. God says, I don't want you to be alone, I want you to be connected with one another, I want you to connect to one another, within a unified and common accepted moral system. It has to address financial, moral conformity, and it has to address sexual moral conformity, right, the Old Testament is very strong on both those factors, which is, again, what we've been talking about. And so God says, look, you can all have a wonderful life, but you're gonna have to work together along the lines, I lay out in this instruction manual. And if you don't, I'm sorry, but little kids are going to die of diseases. And if you don't, there are going to be people who perish from poverty. And if you don't, there, again, there's going to be a limited amount of medical research. And if you don't, there are going to be people who die when buildings collapse. All of these things can be avoided and averted. If you all work together. If you all communicate, and connect, and collaborate and create within a commonly accepted moral framework of financial and sexual principles and values, you're going to have a great society, it will be terrific. But I warn you if you don't, you won't. Of course, God is good. What parent who educates the child carefully and diligently isn't good. And of course, God is all powerful, and just look around you. But he's a God who lays this all out very clearly. He is a God who keeps his word, which is what parents should do as well. Please remember that. If you tell your child if you disobey me on this, here is what the consequences will be. Please, for your own sanity, and for your child's future, don't break your word. Even if it means you are not able to have fun as you planned. And that's what God does. He keeps his word.

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He could not be more clear that bad things happen if you don't follow the system. Just look at chapter 26 of the Book of Leviticus. It's as clear as could be a bunch of bad things, but it's Have you individually, it's you as a group. So even if you as an individual are the most pious and virtuous person imaginable, but you're in a society where there is decrepid, immorality, then sad to say, you are part of it as well. And that, my friends is exactly how it works. We're at the end of what is a reasonable amount of time for the show. And so, I hope that this is helpful to you. I I think it is, I have explained this to many, many, many different groups of people. And, and they've all found it to be a eye opening, really a blinding beacon of incandescence. And on this, this dark question, oh, if God is good and powerful, how can they be evil in the world, it's really not a big problem. God explains very clearly. I don't want people to live alone and isolated, you got to all be together. And if you live together according to these rules that are laid out, you're gonna have a great society, it's going to be terrific. But if you don't, it won't, and you can trust me, he says, to keep my word. That's how it works.

Daniel Lapin 1:11:22

My friends, the website I want you to look at is RabbiDaniellLapin.com. For your new Rabbi Daniel Lapin Bible that's back in stock. And you might be interested in looking at the scrolling through scripture program where I go into these questions, literally, verse by verse, word by word. I mean, I take 10 hours to get just through the first 34 verses of Genesis. That's right, 10 hours. That is 600 minutes of teaching, adjust for the first 34 verses, the speed picks up a little after that, but it's just that so many of the foundational principles of faith and understanding God and being able to talk to him, all of that laid down in the first unit of Scrolling through Scripture. So all of that is at RabbiDaniellLapin.com.

Daniel Lapin 1:12:18

And in order to be able to communicate with us and connect with everyone else on the wehappywarriors.com website, head over there, and you might want to try a free trial on to become a Happy Warrior member. And that's the website wehappywarriors.com looking forward to hearing from you. I love hearing from you all I really, really do and many of you have discovered that. Even if it takes me a little while to get to it, I try and answer as many of you as I possibly can. And so with a great deal of appreciation to you all for listening, and for helping to promote the show which you've been doing such a fabulous job on, much appreciated with love and humility. I wish you a fantastic week. Connecting with God. Yes, that's right with your faith, with your families, with your finances, with your friendships, and sometimes hardest of all with your fitness. But learning to eat both physically and spiritually will go a long way on that. Have a great week. I'm Rabbi Daniel Lapin. God bless