

Christ Church By The Sea - Puerto Vallarta

Weekly Bible Study with Father Bob

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The Resurrection 6 – Take Away *Review comparison chart and final discussions* **May 21, 2020**

00:00

00:01

The Lord be with you and also with you have been with you. Pray Lord we give you thanks for those who have recorded their testimony concerning the resurrection.

00:15

We give you thanks for the time that we have had to share in the study of these passages to ask you to open our hearts and minds and souls to your word for us.

00:29

We may be deepened in our relationship with you and with each other. We give you thanks for the resurrection of our Lord Jesus for the new life which is offered in him we offer all this in his holy name.

00:51

Ok So Alex re sent to you the. Parallels for the resurrection text was helpful I haven't read it yet but for me it was really a wonderful tool I think.

01:13

Brings to brings to mind I had started the same sort of comparison when we last year when we 1st studied the resurrection. But I have is looking for it now obviously had thrown it away.

01:30

So this is great really interesting I think it's really interesting I've I haven't looked at it a lot but I looked through it and I think it's really cool.

01:40

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Very helpful. I think of instead of having to flip back and forth. In the. Physical text Ok. I guess. What we've got here is basically a review of.

02:02

What we've covered over the last 5 weeks from Corinthians. The Gospels and the Book of Acts. I don't know that it would be helpful for us to read through it in particular at this point everybody's had a chance to look at it so I guess what I wanted to do is to open open the floor so to speak.

02:32

For us to talk about what we think we've learned what questions we still have. What is this all mean for us. What what kind of impact has has all this had for you.

02:51

So let's just start there what. Is there something that you picked up in in our readings with all this and our discussion. That was new for you.

03:11

I think one thing for me is that the narratives differed more than I was was in my mind before we went to the 2nd exercise of reading them all and comparing them with each other.

03:25

You know I think this for me highlighted all the many differences and some of them seem small on the surface but in talking about them you know some of what has pretty major implications like you know.

03:45

Were the women worried about rolling the stone away or was the stone already rolled away and things like that. And how that might have impacted their reactions who they found at the tomb what that meant there really really there were different.

04:08

Accounts and I find that fascinating and in sort of turning around my head was that mean that I was that mean for my view of what actually happened and Ok I have you know I'm not one that believes that the laws of nature and physics were suspended something big happened that's being told to us and that the whole language but it's got to be rooted in some sort of historical

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occurrence just to speak my interest Yeah Ok so where do you go with that Alex is talking right now this is Bob from the law of Ok.

04:46

Maybe when. When you're. Starting to speak if you could mention your name I will do Ok everybody Ok so what does that mean for you. Well.

05:03

I'm going to do a lot more investigating I think you know way in the end I think I feel sort of like. I feel more confident that something unusual happened there something more miraculous happened but I feel less confident that I know exactly what it was it's probably be a little bit more towards the people who have a miraculous belief to me it sounds like it sounds a little bit like or people relating a real occurrence and having a variance I mean yes there was a theological reason why you know as far as the audience that that the that was being written to in the time in history but it also feels to me like there are there are details in these accounts that wouldn't be there just for a theological purpose that seemed like 153 fish why you know.

05:59

And it's it sounds like 4 different views of something that did happen that are varying both from theological purposes and also just because events are fading and people have different memories and different views of what happened so.

06:17

That I think probably. Go ahead and go ahead finish what I like I say I just think I just think now I may be a little more of a resurrection believer in the more classic sense then you know liberal Christianity sense maybe I'm going to take dory the people who believe that some degree really happened there.

06:43

So what do you think like looking at these. These passages in one Corinthians.

06:56

There are resurrection. Accounts. They don't talk about the specific event they just list the appearances. Which again is is not reflected in the Gospels and the Book of Acts talks about.

07:17

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A resurrection appearance primarily around the ascension happy Ascension Day to everybody by the way. So what what what's your discernment given all this. What can we say really happened I mean this is this is a contemporary issue right we're we're we're we're scientific materialists I mean that's just the culture in which we exist.

07:51

And part of that is a kind of historicism that wants to know exactly what happened and part of the dilemma with that is that even with modern scientific method.

08:08

We get we get different results depending on who's putting the history together. I don't know whether I mentioned this before or not but. When you look at the 2nd World War.

08:24

Baron von Rick told them wrote an account of the 2nd World War from from his perspective as a senior officer. And. And Winston Churchill wrote an account from his perspective and there are significant differences in the 2 Ok So part of well part of our part of our dilemma is how how do we get.

08:58

Assurance even in contemporary history. That someone isn't adding their own how do how do contemporary historians escape their own biases even when they're dealing with. With technically with.

09:19

What we hope is hard evidence. This is truth I think the fact the Baron was actually in that action whereas Churchill was sitting behind a desk. So there naturally would be a different perspective.

09:40

But as far as the perspective of the gospel writers. Although I think all they just confuse the issue because no one can really there is no.

10:02

The only thing I can come up with is that Jesus rose from the dead that's the deal right there he did the jokes figured that out finally and that's the whole point.

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10:20

Unfortunately. Ok Ok John Dominic Crossan who is the New Testament scholar he what he says is that we can know 3 things for certain there was a movement Jesus was executed then you movement continued and everything else we can we were not sure about.

10:45

Part of that part of the issue for me is that. We need constantly to remember that the people who are writing Scripture were not bound by our concern for historical account all right there there they are writing on the perspective of meaning not just what happened but what did it mean.

11:18

And so when they read when they are writing about these events that have happened they're writing about them from the perspective of. What they're the meaning that they're trying to convey aren't so that for example you know I think one of the one of the big employers for me is the Luke clearly is trying to articulate the growth of the church from Jerusalem words.

11:52

So he doesn't have the Ascension. In Galilee because Galilee isn't the critical piece for him for him it's the church is growing from its its core in Jerusalem and spreading out throughout the world you know all that stuff about the road imagery that the kids are carrying in in the Gospel.

12:20

So so that doesn't that doesn't undermine the. Then it simply says that Luke is less concerned about. Documenting the event then he is about what they meant means.

12:39

Technically technically folks. From the from his if you're if you're being a rigid. Scientific but serialist historian you have to have a witness to the event and we have no witness to the event nobody saw the resurrection happen right but they know that they saw the aftermath they saw the aftermath what we have is testimony to an encounter with the risen one.

13:19

And that so that's good enough for me personally well. It's gotta be good enough for any of us if we're going to believe in the resurrection. Ok.

13:32

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But what I'm trying to point out here is that we can't ask more of them on is that we have from these writers we can't ask more than what they have given us and we know that they are not concerned about.

13:52

The specific events. And I think that their main concern is getting all of this stuff written down because when they figured out that Jesus was not coming back anytime soon they had this very unlikely and get something written down and obviously they did not have a meeting.

14:14

But they didn't they didn't write it in a vacuum. They wrote it they wrote what they wrote in terms of who they were writing to and what their the meaning that they were trying to convey events aren't just remember that in these days there they're still they've still got the strong influence of if something happened it happened because God made it happen.

14:41

All right so what they're what they're dealing with is the is the events in their life and what it means what what is God revealing here and so it was.

14:54

A No if you're familiar with the term redaction criticism I just don't get it Ok.

15:03

Basically if it's. If it's taking taking. I think maybe the more important thing is the whole issue of editorial.

15:21

Input Ok everybody when they write history is having to deal with their own biases or what they understand it to mean and this is absolutely central for the gospel writers it's not just Jews is risen it's what does that mean and so they are are trying to interpret the events that they have an encounter with they've encountered the Risen one it has been life changing it's been transformative So how do they make sense of that what is that all about for someone who hasn't and countered the reason Ok I have a comment on editorial stuff Yep and you may see it here.

16:14

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This Lent I read John Meacham ZF book. In hope of glory which is about. It's the content of different. Sermons he gave having to do with the last phrases of Jesus from the cross you know a Good Friday services and meet him is is a famous well we suspected presidential historian scholar kind of guy.

16:43

And one of the things he says is we have to remember that the gospels are not a p. dispatches you know it's not Jerusalem 40 days after Jesus. 42 days after Jesus died on the cross his followers gathered on the Mount of all of this and watched him go in to have witnesses at the scene said you know this is not an you know a newsflash that that's coming out this is this is a very different animal now contrast and said I think it's very sweet and very lovely with Adam Hamilton who was a United Methodist pastor on the even Jellicoe end of the spectrum who has written some wonderful books.

17:36

Where he wrestled with how to make things literally true but he's willing to share with you legends and archaeology and all sorts of things so he knows for example that the earliest manuscripts of Luke did not have Jesus saying for God Father forgive them for they know not what they do and his answer to that is oh we know of a bishop named Rufus in the in the church and he must be the Rufus from Simon Sirene thought you know same the son and when he read Luke's manuscript he said what you forgot something here and so they put it in.

18:27

Well me Jim when commenting on that says oh Jews and Gentiles were for pointing fingers at each other and saying it was your fault no what was your fault no what was your fault and so by putting that in the Gospel later on they solve that problem Jesus forgave them all.

18:52

But I like even though I suspect Meacham is right I love Hamilton's 6 that idea of someone reading the manuscript and saying I wasn't alive witness this is what really happened it's a sweet sweet story.

19:13

Part of the dilemma with with all of that is when we have. The methodology that scholars use is probably the best that we can manage and so what you're what you're doing is looking at tracking backward.

19:36

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The. The the texts that we have and where they came from and. And what. Sometimes we have texts that are early. That are missing something that other texts have and they have the most testimony to that because there's more more text but then there's another text that doesn't have a lot of testimony a lot of follow up it doesn't have a big trail but it's it's there you know and so I've always I've always felt like we have to sift lightly.

20:19

To some of that because. There's this there's this whole house just reading an article the other day a boat. With what is that the Green family that owns.

20:34

Craft shop you know what I'm talking about the very conservative folks there anyway they've been spending millions and millions of dollars b.p. the Hobby Lobby people a lot of the Hobby Lobby folks that's right and they've been spending millions of dollars to develop a Bible.

21:01

Museum which is based on texts and other things that they have been able to buy and they've hired you know eminent scholars to study these things and so on so forth and they're clear they're clear desire is to validate.

21:24

The biblical events as we have them today Ok so you know it's that old thing again. Depot people have a particular attitude or approach and they look for the evidence that supports that.

21:45

And and you have this dilemma of. Faithful who for a variety of reasons shift in their in their understanding of think you know if you understand what I'm getting at it's this whole thing.

22:03

We have to constantly be vigilant and examining what it is people are saying. In order to be sure that that they're not simply trying to. Push their point of view.

22:22

You mention John Dominic Crossan real. And I think you know I mean he's got some wonderful matters to raise but you know I think my sense is that he begins from this can't be true.

22:42

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You know and then he pulls together his material for that for that purpose the same as people who say this must be true and therefore pull together their material.

22:59

To to validate their position for me. The crunch is always simply to keep in mind.

23:12

You know all of these things you know. That we have to consider what the author's. Intention is what it is that the meaning that they're trying to convey we have to keep in mind the culture of the time and the attitude to history and they bent.

23:34

We have to keep in mind all the textual criticism they textual tracking that scholars try to do but ultimately for my money folks here it is. Ultimately ultimately we're dealing with mystery we're dealing with events that can all be compliant like God like God These things cannot be compliant with in.

24:09

Any particular understood system of understanding that we have because we are part of we are part of the context we are part of creation we are creatures rather than Creator and we constantly it seems to me I'm happy to be challenged on this but it seems to me that what we're dealing with here is people who want to be able to have an absolute answer to something for which there is no absolute answer.

24:49

I think they're right that we've learned that this is real in that there are certain things which we cling are absolutes you know that. You know that Jesus was crucified and was buried and rose and ascended and you know we we proclaimed that.

25:13

And that's not something we're willing to we might say is it may not be exactly as it is written in the scriptures at all but that's the place kind of where we stand then I've been thinking a lot about this it is fallen to me.

25:31

To teach several Bible studies. And I have you know been was was thinking about Ascension what should we think about ascension and you know there's a way in which I can look at

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Ascension and say what Luke is writing here is absolute rubbish you know personally I know I can think that this is rubbish I mean it's not like he was standing there and all of a sudden he you know got lifted up and pushed out into the ether somewhere you know I mean I guess if you go that way you get into all sorts of problems like you know did he stop breathing with he stopped breathing was he a lot I mean you know you just kind of it gets crazy so but I'm teaching this it's like so what's the point of Ascension is really what I am what I defaulted to.

26:26

Why do we care. What's the point what's. What is it what's the truth that they're trying to come back. And so you don't.

26:43

Know what what I ended up with the going back and looking at the Alive show a lie just story and talking about the double portion to me became useful but you get a double portion of the spirit and I said to people then Pentecost comes and so we're part of that so then ascension becomes part of us being able to do what we do.

27:09

Right. Before this is by.

27:16

Walking before we let cross and get to the rearview mirror I think there's a lot that we can take that's concrete just to just from what real said he concludes that the you know there was a movement and it continued for the movement to have continued the way it did for the early church to form the lead for Paul to do all these I mean to me something huge had to have happened if we don't know exactly if we don't know exactly what it was it had to be something life changing and kind of almost kind of unique in human history.

27:54

To start a movement like that and so I mean at a certain point we can't know nobody can know and I think our Western culture doesn't like not knowing and so we're always going to have this we're always going to have these efforts to try and get certainty and we're never going to so it's always going to be an article of faith for people but you know of all.

28:23

The Bible studies Bibles they've been great and I've learned a lot but I'll tell you the biggest thing I'm going to take away from the father Bob is your testimony about your vision that you had when you saw.

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28:36

A vision in church right and I absolutely believe that I don't doubt you. Believe I absolutely believe that that's the sort of thing that could have happened in human history even a bigger scale right.

28:54

Now let me let me clarify that. Let me just clarify there I didn't have a vision Ok I would have had a vision if I'd open my eyes open your.

29:08

Heart. But vision.

29:15

I mean it was it you know I understand entirely when Scripture in Scripture when angels appear and people fall on their face. Hunter God you know they fall on their.

29:30

That overwhelming. Terror Joy you know is just so over well anyway that that I just wanted to correct that. And that's when you're exactly right. Isn't the Biblical accounts similar in tone to what you just said.

29:52

Just so remarkably similar. And the way that in the in the post-resurrection accounts the way that you're sort of suddenly among them come through locked doors and things like that.

30:07

That's where I kind of. Fall Yeah. Exactly I think you know that. Whole thing. Was what Bob was mentioning. That this was an absolutely transformative experience for these people that whatever you know like like religious pointing out the movement continued it continued in the face of opposition from their come from their own culture Ok these were Jewish people who were being.

30:51

Really roundly condemned by their own people 1st of all they were the movement continued in the face of Roman oppression. Ok. I mean this was not something that was just a whim this was.

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31:15

This was something that you were putting your life on the line that Ok you could be stoned by your own people or crucified by the oppressor at a moments and some work I mean you know the 1st martyrs were very early and and so this was this was not something that anybody took lightly this was something that absolutely transformed people and I think that is what these accounts are trying to convey that the 1st witnesses you know.

31:54

They were terrified they were astounded they were appalled they were fearful. They fell on their face. They bow down to the ground you know. And they.

32:10

And they you know the earliest. Encounters in the last room and on the road.

32:21

They were they were they were Audix variances they weren't what people would normally expect and all of a sudden they encounter something that absolutely transforms them and for me this is real for me what this study that we have done has opened up for me is just struggling with the fact that you know when I read and they were amazed I took it is while golly that's great.

32:51

That come to grips with the fact is that no they were confused that word means they were be bewildered they were confused you know being less translations or stun \$100.00 like they didn't know what the heck was going on.

33:08

They didn't know how to process it as it was happening and so that they had to reflect upon it and then you know the most the clearest example is one Cleopus unfriendly go to the hearts bird now wow and then they run back it's like they have to think you read and so that gives me hope that in our lives there was stuff we don't get the 1st time we don't even get it the 2nd time maybe the 3rd time and all of a sudden wow now I get it.

33:48

And Thomas bless his heart I mean. Ok. I'm not going to believe I'm Ok. And there's Judas. Yeah.

34:12

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Ok. Well. You know what I'm interested in I was up there there was no a period of time there was no Internet. People on these. Places Here's a news someone who's out there to preach.

34:38

Or we were just before the show some more of it so some of that disseminated I think. If you want to preach the way people. I mean the technologies how did that happen.

34:57

Yes exactly I mean with the possible with the possible exception of Mark. Ok all of all of Paul and Peter and all the others who went around proclaiming the good news that all took place before any of the gospels were written.

35:17

And so that it was word of mouth and later by personal letter. This is I teach a little bit of classics including cities and I've learned in teaching it.

35:39

Including what Bibi to cities you know the ancient Greek read write book Peloponnesian War Ok. So what I've found in my students actually found this out because they had the same question as Alex how to get around.

36:01

Like. Couriers postal services where we.

36:07

Work could travel actually pretty fast along the main roads where somebody would be assigned to run to ride a horse these 2 miles with the news and catch up with the next writer touch up with the next writer and word travels pretty fast they also went really primitive billboards that set in stone on the roads where that would have liked like little pieces of news so there was ways to get around oh yeah.

36:35

And part of you know part of the thing that we need to keep in mind as well is that all of this took place during the so-called Pax Romana.

36:46

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Ok so that travel was someone was pointing out one of my profs whom I can't remember which one but one of them pointed out that during that time travel was safer and faster than any other time in history up until the late Victorian age.

37:09

Ok I've heard that. Because it was all within the Roman Empire and even up to even up to. The Victorian age if you were travelling through other countries you were English and you were travelling through other countries that there was some risk and and order was not as well placed and you were at risk from robbery as well as.

37:36

Opposition from people whose countries you were passing through so so part of I think you know part of what we have here is that whole thing. Like the Pony Express saying.

37:51

That it was like exactly no and I mean what you're talking about was was the. Helen Hellenistic packs Ok the that degree of order that. Greece imposed on its on its empire so that so that word could travel quickly and safely so yeah I mean we need we need not be.

38:22

You know ethnocentric about this that that other people had ways of getting word around. As well but if you're right you know given what we have today it was.

38:37

Quite different but words passed quickly that's where the marathon came from wasn't it the runners who could run long distances without getting tired to carry messages so I was right.

38:53

The point I think I read somewhere is if there were people it was their job they were paid you could hire someone to take a message from here to there and that you know they could do that and that's how they measured the distances that there were people who could accurately pace it out and so if you wanted to send it 10 miles you know would cost this much and if you want to send it 20 miles and they could tell you how long it would take was it was very organized and they were.

39:28

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They were called the jewels to the u.s. attorney to see. The Los. Yeah exactly. Yeah and you know I think you're right real. Heard that as well that there were these professional message carriers someone like when when Paul sent a letter.

39:52

He was sending it by these kind of messengers people who would carry these these letters. And letters were not that common. And a lot of the I think Paul would probably be the only one.

40:08

The letter writers who was able to write himself and even he had people write letters for him. So when when he writes something in the letter he says see what Marjorie you know I'm not a good writer you know to a large group of letters This will indicate I'm reading with my own am kind of thing and so these people would carry these messages and these these 2 letters were precious they would they weren't they weren't things that were written casually.

40:39

Until I forget where it is but one of them says I think it's one of John's maybe. I forget but anyway that he says make sure that this letter gets read to the other churches nearby very sure it's one of John's letters.

40:56

Because when Paul because I think he actually lists where he wants to be read yeah you're right. But you know the. Mess we're just around the word gets around that was looking at its x. \$81.00 if someone wants to look it up later.

41:19

In the talks about after Stephen is stoned how the church is scattered and you know the implication is that's how the message gets out it's when people move around very persecutions actually had the opposite effect right and they were intended.

41:39

Exactly. Exactly right and they carried the message they they they were Proclaimers of the gospel. You know the the other day a couple weeks ago I was in a conversation and we were talking about you know the fact it was during when the whole state was down and you know how could we you know people were frustrated how could we spread the message that so much how can we be evangelists but you know we're all kind of stuck and what is the church to do.

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42:14

And I said you know this may sound like heresy and finally hit me this may sound I said. But it's not Jesus is not our model for this.

42:25

Radical Party you know it's not watching what Jesus did it's watch what Paul did I said what do these letters I wish I could be there. You know the letter is a poor substitute but it's the best I've got right now.

42:44

Personal testimony. You know here we're going to take today's zoom is zoom is the best I can do for free conference talk the best I can do right.

43:10

Ok What else did anybody. Sort of hit people that something you learned that was. That you hadn't hadn't dawned on you before. How important the women were.

43:34

That's one. That had dawned on me a long time ago. Well. I sort of knew about it but during that whole you know hearing it all 4 contests really drives home.

43:50

So Central they were and had to have been so unusual back in that time by the way that had to be sold. I don't think it was a very feminist time in history so that kind of shows you kind of how radical the welcome was and how how different that ministry was for its time.

44:13

I would I've read something and I'm trying to Judith I'm trying to remember what it was but I believe it was some sort of. Old historical fiction type novel Mary Magdalen and if I recall correctly in there the author who I can recall suggested that the women were actually funding this movement.

44:42

They had the money the men didn't have any money the women had it because of their very fortunate marriages which is an answers interesting concept I don't know if it's true or not but.

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44:54

It's you know that they were a lot more important than the patriarchy has given them credit. When I look in this Israel Luke in the beginning of chapter 8 talks about the women providing for them out of their own resources Well there you go.

45:17

Kolaches 416 says after this letter has been read to you see that it is also read in the Church of the lot Laodiceans and that you in turn read the letter from Laodicea we have lost the letter from the Laodiceans God.

45:50

That the writer of the character the girl scream. The chair thing. The thing that I also got that I hadn't ever really thought too hard about but.

46:09

Bob when you said. That the road to a major story might might have been one that was written in whole and then dropped in you know if. It hadn't ever really occurred to me that a lot of these stories could have been kind of separate pieces that eventually got sound together and that maybe in their own context it wasn't so and then and then and then and then it was in this place and then a while later in that place and then some place else some time later that we are reading in one chapter you know 6 events.

46:59

That are being strung together in one chapter and so there's almost a mark in breathlessness a bubble reading Luke you know like this happened in the morning on Easter and then this happened and then in the afternoon this other thing happened that night this happened and then put that the idea that maybe in reality these occurrences these thinking these a vent were for more spread out and for good literary narrative reasons they were on put together in this one day.

47:36

Yeah yeah that's it I think that's an entire post a story I've. Lost you there for a minute so I'm not sure where that came from real but.

47:47

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But I mean it reminds me too of that. The story in Luke where Jesus calling the disciples and He is beside the sea and you know go out and cast your nets on the 1st for another catch and then the resurrection appearance and drawn where it clearly is a parallel story.

48:12

Of the same event and they get put together. In in whatever way is going to best present the meaning of the person who's writing it. And I don't think that should trouble us because in our own histories we often change things to the person we're talking on if we want to benefit from the story.

48:45

Or we leave things out to not confuse them. That's really true.

48:59

They weren't producing a historical record of what. It was that ring was sent right. We're trying to interpret them. Where we are stuck for better or for ill we are stuck in our scientific materialism mindset and we we cannot we cannot really get into.

49:28

Their reference system we just have to simply understand that it was different from ours and so we can't hold them accountable to the standards that we would impose on a current historian just camping.

49:48

History is not the only way of knowing things. I think we can know things in our heart.

50:00

I agree and that's the only place I know things because I am far far from scientific. I don't have that kind of mindset I don't think. But but you also function from a perspective of understanding that if you do something and you get a particular result you expect that when you do that things you're going to keep getting that result.

50:29

Right you know what I've never really thought much about it. But you do that oh well then it's unconscious. It's that that's exactly the point where no one even we are we live with the end of our culture without even being conscious of it we simply take certain things for granted until someone says Why do you do it that way.

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50:58

And you go well because. Because that's old well because that's how I was taught. Albeit pride this is real this is real this is the classic story of the roast and the pain and.

51:16

You know someone gets women gets a roast and she cuts off the ends and she puts them in her pain and finally someone has to why do you have to do that and I said This way my mother always prepared the well most and then they go back to the mother and they say why did you do that and she said because Mom I only have a small pan.

51:37

It has nothing to do with the well just. Had to do with a man. Exactly. So part of part of part of what we're faced with here is receiving what we've been given.

51:56

And trying to understand the nature of the gift rather than trying to make the guest fit into our reference system. And I mean it's you know as as Bob mentioned.

52:17

My experience my spiritual experience. Parallels if you like for want of a better term.

52:30

What was what I read some of these people going through Ok. It was amazing to me when. When I encountered when I had this spiritual encounter where my mind was was transformed that all of a sudden the prayers in our prayer book as an Anglican the prayer book was our was our go to.

52:58

And I would go to church from time to time and I would. Reed these prayers or hear these prayers and they just made no sense to me whatsoever.

53:10

I would hear scripture readings and I would think. It simply made no sense to me I mean the words were just words I mean intellectually there was a sense but but they didn't touch me at all but after I had this experience then all of a sudden you know there's this whole new.

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53:36

And encounter that happened for me in the prayer book and in the Bible and I'm going holy moly Why didn't I ever see that before why didn't I understand because it simply wasn't part of my reference system Ok so I think that's one of the reasons that I had that I constantly say to people ask for the Spirit to give you the encounter which will.

54:06

Open the door to the inner meaning of these things that. Don't quite fit with our culture that make any sense. You know you know what it's like this is Bob you know that's like it's kind of like how love songs don't make any sense to you until you fall in love for the 1st time and there you go.

54:29

It's like Oh we did you really are my everything. What that song you walk around it's a kind of a difference between knowing something intellectually and in countering it you know.

54:44

On a more personal level. Exactly good good example. Any other comments observations.

55:15

This was a very worthwhile experience for me. A good what made it well you know definitely well. You know the resurrection is the most important part of the Bible for a Christian and I can't believe I've never actually sat down and done all the resurrection accounts to next to each other compared.

55:36

Seems like it should be everybody's 1st Bible study. No I don't think so because I think that this took this took.

55:48

Us all really pulling our pulling our way to to. To get into this and I really appreciated the whole conversation about raised up is to because to draw my attention to it and I think as a beginning Bible study that would have really sing and oh you know so getting into the weeds I think what I would like it when we get into the would be.

56:18

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You know some people would find it tedious. Ok. I think it has to do again with you know that that's part of the spiritual reality of part of the part of the spirit that that you know.

56:37

That whole notion I think it is mostly. The Buddhist saying that when the student is ready the teacher will come you know that one when we are ready to hear.

56:50

The Word of God then then we're open to it and it will become evident to us and so maybe. Maybe it's important that we we come you know for some people coming to the resurrection narratives are would be something that would be powerful at the very beginning and for other people maybe you need to go through a journey of some sort 1st before you get to that I don't know.

57:19

I remember I remember well I will I will share with you I remember well in my 1st year of seminary. Going to my opening lecture on New Testament studies and coming out being absolutely convinced that the prof was was a heretic and should be deep rock driven from the.

57:46

You know I have a story I have a story like that goes along that way this is real one of my seminary professors said he was teaching New Testament and did the same sort of lecture and one of the students went to the head of the the department and so he took away my jeans and a partner said to the student now maybe you can find the real one.

58:19

Yeah. Go ahead Alex. This is Bob. Ok I'm taking my 1st record I'm just starting a number and the professor. Mark in scholar pretty well known he said he almost completely lost his faith his 1st couple weeks in seminary.

58:43

Counting the historical critical method for the 1st time. Eventually rebuilt a much more meaningful. But it was tough tough transition Yeah it is it is indeed. And that's why you know part of you know when I'm preaching.

59:02

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I don't I don't preach scientific. Historic. Historic criticism or the redaction criticism or I don't preach that but I throw in references to that kind the kind of issues that it raises because if people don't have a critical component to their face they're vulnerable and they can be torn apart with no with alacrity you know I mean I think those of us who are called to share the gospel need not to just be intellectual and academic because I don't think that's enough by a long shot but to not shy away from those things Yeah exactly but not to shy away from those things you know to to raise up you know some of these issues in in the course of preaching scripture.

1:00:06

My class there are it's a mix of theological students and seminarians This is St John's University of Minnesota. It's online and there's already discussion on how we bring what we're learning this is a class missive not the cusp of coincidental.

1:00:25

How do you bring this scholarship to the people in the pews that it's difficult to do. People the people the church although they might want different things out of out of a Bible study some want more of the what was the original Greek and more of the history other people that maybe just want to talk about what a particular story means and spiritually you know it's hard to it's hard to do it the right way for everyone exactly these said St John's seminary seemed John University Graduate School of Theology in seminary in College Hill Minnesota open.

1:01:07

The Roman Catholic addicting. A lovely place.

1:01:14

Been there for a couple of retreats and so on and. I love going there it was very special to my late husband and I It's halfway between where I'm from and where he's from North Dakota and he was an architect was in love with the church there and so I really.

1:01:31

We also had a friend who was a monk there and he's he came out and dropped out of the monastery but he's you know it's very still very close to his heart and he arranged a retreat for me there after my husband passed away so really the place for me.

1:01:48

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And they put all their classes online because of cold and I'm like you know what I'm going to take one so I did. Good good yes. I wish I had been able to talk to your husband does not I'm not a big fan of the church there.

1:02:08

It seems somewhat brutalist in form in that window but that window make huge difference doesn't that honeycomb window is amazing. How my husband was a big fan of me spandrel who was the teacher of Marcel Brewer who you know that was that school brutalism and I was fascinated by the way you could make a concrete space spiritual and you just love that or loved.

1:02:39

Something a lot I like about it but there are some some things that really. Turned me right off anyway. Apologies to those of you who haven't been there if you ever get a chance make sure to go.

1:02:55

Pictures Oh. Lovely lovely thank you I'd appreciate that yes if we ever travel again. For the day will come we will be able to travel again.

1:03:17

Ok Anything else. That quick and they are sold in the process of looking at these narratives. Also 30 years ago when we were dating I would go for the Catholic Church just to be nice I was not a true religion and the priest was making.

1:03:45

A read on. The social last year when I 1st got a Bible. Sequentially trying to. We. Saw many different direct I remember from 30 years ago.

1:04:08

Reading John and I didn't realize there were 6. Stories. So we really know what is going to get or. It's good.

1:04:31

What are we doing next well that's a good question what what what are people interested in. Pop into my mind was Paul.

1:04:49

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Ok. That real well that's. Ok. Paul this is. Your life.

1:05:05

We've done Paul quite quite frequently. No I'm good I'm good if you do something else you know I'm good with Paul too I've got to you know I've always thought that his letters are some of the most beautiful parts of the New Testament and the way he wrote them but you know all of a sudden he turned out to be really an arrogant s.o.b you know.

1:05:34

Turned back onto him. I think that would be a good marketing slogan for the bible study in your parish Paul. You could call. It is only my opinion does anyone agree with me.

1:05:56

He would agree with you wholeheartedly Judith like guy was again yeah. It was probably a sexist I'm the one who called him a sexist a father Bob got stuck up for him if you remember oh yeah Ok.

1:06:17

Yeah I did. Job I can certainly understand where people understand him to be a sexist and arrogant but I think. I think there's rationale for that the other thing is remember that Paul's letters cover something like 20 years and.

1:06:41

And he grows considerably in that time so. We need to maybe cut him a little bit of slack I will and I'm going to say that he made an important contribution to the church over those 20 years.

1:06:59

Because the whole thing could have just fallen by the wayside at the not kept our thing on them but you know so he had some personal problems. I did and they had I don't know if I had if I was if I had been walking along a pathway and all of sudden Jesus stopped in front of me and said hey girl I get pretty you're going to.

1:07:26

Look. To appear to me. Yes So now internet or. I think that's where his attitude comes from really. Somehow and I don't know. He was chosen.

1:07:50

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The other thing to always to keep in mind is that Paul. Paul's ministry was from the very start Paul's ministry was called into question. He was challenged he was he was undermined he was.

1:08:12

Criticised people didn't trust him they you know on and on and on so I mean he if he didn't stick up for him self no one else was going to so you know there's there's that whole perspective as well to keep in mind.

1:08:34

That when he is defending himself I think he does sometimes come across as being arrogant but also he also has a profound message that he is Gribben to share with the world and then he cannot let people.

1:08:57

Dismiss it because he was chosen. I firmly believe that. So if we want to pick up on Paul. We can go with his we can do some comparison between his earliest letters and his later letters or we can just go maybe with Romans.

1:09:21

Let's try Romans you want to go on Romans one of the rest of it I would probably I would this Israel I'd probably lean more to earlier and later but if Tunis is up to tackling Romans I'll go with that but that's a hard hard but right now you're with it at all.

1:09:40

And you know I'm not a scholar by any stretch of the imagination. Actually anything so. I don't necessarily always grasp it right at the very beginning but if we just keep an eye on it maybe I'll get it before it curled up.

1:09:58

And the other guy will also I will also just play here that. I am. I'm not a Poland scholar Well I'm not a scholar of anything actually I'm a I'm a generalist.

1:10:16

But. I I am not there's sections there's pieces of Romans that I've looked at in some detail but not a lot of it so. You need to you need to be prepared that if we're going to do Romans just going to be a few steps ahead of you if I'm ahead of you at all.

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1:10:41

Perfect Well that'll be nice you can join the group there you go. If we're doing Romans we have the advantage of moving away from the sex assault with a homophobic call all quarter battle be upon won it.

1:11:01

Oh boy I'm up for moments I do it Ok Ok all right they want to start several. Or have both but also this is well there are several books that are on my bookshelf that I've been wanting to read so I can send an email to you folks listing what they are.

1:11:24

And they may have nothing to do with romance but if you come across them they might be John Dominic Crossan has written a book with someone else and it could have been Marcus Ford calls in search of Paul and somebody else has written a book called Paul wasn't a Christian.

1:11:46

Which is looking at his Jewish roots and why he's writing from a Jewish perspective. Oh he's always Yeah that's absolutely true for sure I mean there's there's not many there's not much in the.

1:12:04

Christian Bible that isn't written from a Jewish perspective. I mean one of the one of the books I would love to work on sometime is Hebrews which has nothing to do is not a Paul line that's all I don't think but anyway where is everybody up for for Romans or is there something else that niggling at your consciousness that you'd like to take a crack at Romans this time would be Ok do you want to start right on next week or do you want to give it a one week rest.

1:12:44

Oh I say we keep plowing on you want to keep going there live here and if you're able to keep going Father Bob you know if you feel that you would be prepared Ok all right I will I will try to get a note out today if not.

1:13:05

Tomorrow if not today let's put it that way about what we're going to be doing and I'll try to give it some kind of shake before we get into it.

1:13:16

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Again I'd like to do a 6 week period so that nobody has to feel like they're locked in for the rest of their life if if they join us for this for the study and also ended up anything else anyone wanted to raise it's all right there's nothing else that people want to flag then.

1:13:41

The Lord be with you and all. Of us pray. Go before us oh Lord in all our doings with your most gracious favor further us with your continual help in all our works begun continued and then didn't you we may glorify your holy name and finally by your mercy obtain everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen Amen Amen All right blessings all look forward to talk to you talking to you next week sure sounds like you'd be well.