

A Biblical Response to Dr. Todd Phillips Part 2

Teaching Overview

Part 2 responds to four difficult biblical questions raised by Dr. Todd Phillips: Lot offering his daughters in Genesis 19; the consequences of David's sin for his household and child; the treatment of Midianite captives in Numbers 31; and the command concerning Amalek in 1 Samuel 15. The speaker argues that biblical narration is not necessarily divine endorsement, distinguishes personal guilt from consequences experienced by others, and urges careful reading of the actual wording and wider Scriptural context. He also offers a Nephilim-related explanation for the Amalek account as his own interpretation, and emphasizes Yahovah's authority as judge. A separate future Teaching on slavery is proposed; the closing community discussion addresses related questions and Paul's letters.

Learning Objectives

Distinguish description from approval; distinguish guilt from consequences; trace the key passages; separate explicit text from interpretation.

Key Scriptures - With Teaching Comments

Genesis 19:1-29 - Lot offers his daughters to the mob, yet the account does not present his offer as a command or approval from Yahovah.

Genesis 19:29 - The speaker points to Yahovah remembering Abraham when explaining Lot's rescue.

2 Peter 2:6-8 - Peter calls Lot righteous while describing his distress over the lawless conduct around him.

Psalms 103:8-12 - Mercy and the removal of transgressions frame the discussion of flawed but faithful biblical figures.

Deuteronomy 24:16 - The Teaching uses individual accountability as an anchor when considering David's household.

Malachi 3:6 - The speaker uses Yahovah's unchanging character as an interpretive baseline.

2 Samuel 11:26-27 - The account explicitly describes David's conduct as evil in Yahovah's sight.

2 Samuel 12:7-14 - Nathan confronts David and announces consequences, including the death of the child.

2 Samuel 13:1-39 - The violence within David's household illustrates consequences that extend beyond the original sin.

2 Samuel 15:1-12 - Absalom's rebellion forms part of the Teaching's discussion of continuing household adversity.

Lamentations 5:7 - The speaker distinguishes inherited consequences from personal guilt.

Deuteronomy 28:1-18 - Blessings and curses are discussed as part of the consequences of obedience and disobedience.

Deuteronomy 17:18-20 - The king's duty to read and obey Torah underscores David's greater responsibility.

Psalms 127:3 - Children as a heritage from Yahovah enter the discussion of David's child.

Romans 5:12 - Adam's sin is used to illustrate consequences that reach beyond the original sinner.

Numbers 31:17-19 - The Teaching examines the difficult command concerning Midianite captives.

Numbers 31:25-27 - Distribution of the captives and other plunder is discussed against the claim of individual sexual allocation.

Deuteronomy 21:10-14 - The speaker cites laws regulating treatment and release of a captive woman who becomes a wife.

1 Samuel 15:1-3 - The command against Amalek, including infants, is treated as a morally difficult text.

Exodus 17:8-16 - The earlier conflict with Amalek and the announced judgment provide historical context.

Deuteronomy 25:17-19 - The command to remember Amalek's attack and blot out its memory is connected to the later judgment.

Genesis 3:15 - The speaker connects the promised seed to his proposed Nephilim explanation; this is his interpretation.

Genesis 6:1-4 - The Nephilim discussion is presented as the speaker's interpretive framework, not an established identification of Amalekites.

Psalms 96:10-13 - Yahovah's role as righteous judge is emphasized in the final response.

Key Takeaways

Inspired narration of an action does not automatically mean Yahovah approves that action.

Lot's rescue and Peter's description of him as righteous are considered alongside Lot's serious wrongdoing.

The speaker distinguishes personal guilt from consequences of sin that may affect family and later generations.

Deuteronomy 24:16 is used as a baseline for individual accountability.

The account of David and his child is acknowledged as difficult rather than minimized.

Numbers 31 is read with attention to what it states and what readers may infer about the captives.

Deuteronomy 21:10-14 is presented as a related regulation concerning captive women.

The speaker reads 1 Samuel 15 alongside Exodus 17 and Deuteronomy 25.

The proposed Nephilim connection to Amalek is the speaker's interpretation, not something explicitly stated in 1 Samuel 15.

The Teaching calls for humility and consistency when discussing justice and difficult Scripture passages.

Structured Study Outline

1. Lot and hermeneutics: Genesis 19; 2 Peter 2.
2. David, Bathsheba, and consequences: 2 Samuel 11-12; Deuteronomy 24:16.
3. Midianite captives: Numbers 31; Deuteronomy 21:10-14.
4. Amalek: 1 Samuel 15; Exodus 17; Deuteronomy 25.
5. Closing appeal and community Q&A.

Discussion Questions

Does the Bible's description of Lot offering his daughters mean Yahovah approved of it?

Why was Lot rescued from Sodom despite his actions?

What does righteous mean when a biblical person has sinned?

What principle does Deuteronomy 24:16 teach about guilt?

How does the Teaching distinguish inherited guilt from inherited consequences?

How does Nathan confront David about Bathsheba and Uriah?

Why does the Teaching consider the death of David's child difficult?

What responsibilities did Torah place on Israel's king?

What does Numbers 31 actually say about the Midianite girls?

How does Deuteronomy 21 address a captive woman who becomes a wife?

What is the command concerning Amalek in 1 Samuel 15?

How do Exodus 17 and Deuteronomy 25 relate to 1 Samuel 15?

Personal Application

Distinguish textual claims from interpretation; approach hard passages with care and humility.

Closing Prayer Reflection

Ask Yahovah for wisdom, humility, and compassion when studying difficult passages.