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Coming from the city of the weird exploring topics from the esoteric and unexplored, two dimensions are known. Shining a light of truth on the darkest corners of our reality. Welcome to the curious realm



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Well, hello everybody how you doing tonight Chris Jordan here. Coming to you live tonight from North Austin. It is it has been incredible the last couple of weeks. It has been an amazing December for the show and amazing December I had the distinct pleasure of this last week being called in from the sidelines to help guest on Clyde Lewis that was that was epically awesome. Thank you so much to Ron Patton. And to you know, the whole team over there at Ground Zero It was an amazing episode. Get ready, folks, because coming up next week, we will we will actually be airing an interview that we did with Clyde after that episode, talking about means of control talking about control of the media, control of dialogue control the politics, country control of technology, how they all tie together and are you awake? Are your friends awake or your family awake do do they realize the illusion in which they are possibly living? So we will be getting into that with Clyde Lewis in a great episode. Also next week. In our live segment, we will have the amazing Dr. Irina Scott. She is the co author of the book beyond a reasonable doubt. We will be talking with her about the Pascagoula alien abduction of 1973. We got to talk with her a little bit about that at MUFON. We're gonna go more in depth. We're gonna get into evidence, all kinds of things. She has a long, long history of just scientific letters behind her name and things that she has done in the world of science. So to have her involved in such an investigation is really amazing and remarkable. So we will be talking with her about the Pascagoula abduction. The following week, we will have Brad Olson and Graham Phillips on talking about Brad Olson will be on talking about secret Antarctica, Graham Phillips will be coming on talking about his new book, The Mystery of doggerland the Atlantis of the North Sea so we'll be getting into that. And then our final Live episode for the coming into the new year is with Barry and Brad clinger talking about the upcoming Lone Star Paragon and our good friend Chester Moore will be talking about wildlife conservation, something that is near and dear to my heart. I was brought up hunting, shooting, fishing, all kinds of things. There is a big misunderstanding that just because you do that doesn't mean that you're into conservation. So we'll be getting into conservation, how you can pass that on through the generations and what the importance of that is, especially in a unique climate and habitat like right here in Texas. Following that, folks, we're gonna have three weeks of pre recorded material I will be in

Las Vegas, Nevada for the CES show coming up for my for my beloved talking sound podcast. We always cover that so we'll we'll be out there doing that you'll get a pre recorded episode that week, as well as the two weeks following Well, I am there for personal work. But yeah, don't don't forget though just because it's a pre record doesn't mean it's not new content. We always bring you new content on the show. That is a point of pride. We have never ever had a replay we've never had repeat episodes, anything like that. But we have had repeat guests. Our guest tonight is the founder of the vortex. He's an amazing, amazing researcher. He is out there researching right now. About the Aurora crash from 1897. Welcome back to the show. Daniel Alan Jones. How you doing, buddy?

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Hey, Chris, great to be back. Always have a great time on the show. I know it's a little while but I'm excited to be back. Glad that I could be here. So thanks. Yeah, it's been a

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longtime man. And I actually I think the last time may have been at a live conference. So how did Texas Bigfoot go? I ended up missing that this year because I was in Colorado for work. So quick update on that. How did the show go?

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Sure. Yeah. So we had a great time here about a month and a half ago in Jefferson, Texas, which has been declared the Bigfoot Capital of Texas, as you know, which is kind of a fun thing for anyone interested in Bigfoot and cryptids to be able to travel out to pretty historic place already. And now we've got the conference going on for 22 years now. And one of the cool updates that the host Craig will heater helped to facilitate was the county that Jefferson is in called Marion County. And about a few weeks before the events, he approached some of the council members there with the county dignitaries and helped to get a resolution to basically make Marion County a safe haven for Bigfoot. So that's pretty, pretty interesting.

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Go Craig, that that guy, man, I tell you he has more in his back pocket going on. But but to know that yes, we as well as like the Olympia forest, are now a safe haven for Bigfoot like you. You see Bigfoot. You ain't touching them over there in Marion County. There is no hunting a Bigfoot, anything like that. So that's awesome. That's fantastic. So

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yeah, it's really interesting to consider how you know that there's some pretty serious things that go into effect when some animals are discovered or found or, you know, that potentially are endangered and what kind of laws and Conservancy is enacted upon. And of course, that was a big part of the discussion there at the event. Just a guick rundown of the lineup. You've

got Shelly Covington, Montana, who's a wildlife tracker, certified tracker, and, and we had Matt Pruitt, who has worked a lot on many different, you know, Bigfoot related cases. But he helped to show some of the footage that was used in the pilot premiere episode of finding Bigfoot, which he was helpful in that production. Pretty long running show for those interested and then, of course, we had Mike Mays, who he runs a blog called The Texas cryptid Hunter. So here kind of a local researcher and then we had Chester Moore's as you know, it's gonna be I think, coming up here on on curious Rob pretty soon. So he was talking about the dark outdoors and some some pretty, you know, chilling things that people are coming across. Yeah. And not just Bigfoot related, but other strange animal and creature encounters here in Texas, that, you know, out of place, animals kind of stuff like that. So, pretty interesting. We also had Darryl Collier, who came out to share about some interesting insights that he gleaned from having a conversation with Chad GBT about the discovery of Bigfoot and sort of, you know, the, not just consequences, but the aftermath, the reproduction, or repercussions, rather, you know, people shouldn't have big foot later. So, you know, interesting sort of thought provoking dialogue, he was sharing about some of the things that maybe we have to consider. And of course, the headliner was Maria Mayer from expedition Bigfoot, which was cool to be able to have her come out, because not only you know, is that a current show going on, but she's actually a pretty renowned primatologist, she's a National Geographic explorers been featured on a number of programs and documentaries. And she discovered one of the smallest, I think, the smallest primates in the world out in Madagascar, I think it was and so pretty amazing to be able to think about what it's like to discover a species and maybe think about the process of what you have to go through before you can just say, you've discovered it, you know, to make that declaration, there's a lot of redundancy. There's a lot of science that goes in there. So we had a discussion about that. And so it was a pretty well rounded event, and it was great to be able to have it and we're going to do it again next year. That yeah, sorry. You got to miss out this time, man.

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Man. That sounds like I did miss out on a fantastic event. Greg always puts on a good one. There are always some great researchers there. And you know, that just hops us right into the conversation for tonight. Daniel, the The concept of technologies and not just lost technologies but burgeoning and new technologies, you know, and the idea of the way that new evidence is being analyzed not only in the field, but in the lab when it comes to cryptids, Bigfoot, things like that.

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Yeah, I think that it's something that will constantly change the, the field, so to speak, you know, how we analyze information, how we gather it, how we can disseminate it, you know, there's so much I think that will help. But it will also maybe be a double edged sword with, you know, how we have to make sure to check for some of the things that most people, you know, might not really be too familiar. But there's been a lot of Advents and AI, the chat GBT and all of these things, even in the last year, and people are wondering, you know, how is this going to look, you know, not just next year, but in five to 10 plus years, and yeah, how that's gonna change a lot for, you know, not just people interested in the mystery subjects and trying to search for, you know, the unexplained but also very conventional sciences and things like the medical industry, I think there's going to be some pretty eye opening innovations that we're

gonna see here in the next few years. But at the same time, you know, it makes us wonder how this is going to affect things like where people, and I think there's some really cool stuff out there with with so people are creating with like the arts, you know, AI generated art, some of its pretty cool, impressive and fun. But then some of it is being used in an attempt to try to pass off for, you know, so called historic images. And that makes it difficult for people who don't have the I was maybe the mind or whatever the resources to try to really discern what's what's been fabricated, and what's really been captured by, you know, an old camera or something, you know, so I think it's something where we have to really kind of be careful in what is being tossed around online. And just to try to be diligent and doing our homework when it comes to, you know, passing off information and, and sharing stuff, because there's a lot that goes on, on the, you know, social media on different groups where someone will share something that says, This is a photograph from, you know, whatever, 18 whatever year, you know, and it looks cool, but the thing is, is that, you know, there's some of those sales, tale signs are like, you know, a lot of these AI images are giving people extra digits, you know, extra fingers,

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like that, much like any artist who isn't a full on artists, you know, like, ask them why they drawn hands all the time. You know, like, how come you're doing all these busts and portraits and no hands, like, because hands is hard. That's why I'm showing some of my Ayar up on screen right now. We're like, quite literally, it looks like a black and white sepia tone image of a robot tearing up New York City in the 1930s. You know, like, like, it looks pretty darn realistic, man. And some of the things that you can do, just by a prompt, are, are wild and crazy. And yes. Can't can get to the point of almost looking photographic, I've got one right here where this woman in black is holding a jellyfish on her leash, you know, it's like floating in the sky like it. Like, it's pretty unbelievable, you know? But, um, yeah, I could see how if I just pop this in a in a group, you know, that want of confirmation is out there hard right now, man. And that was part of the conversation that I had with Clyde Lewis on his show the other night was, was the idea of a are we losing authenticity? Through all of these things? You know, are we losing the the authentic part of our and, and losing even the love for something authentic, to be as in love with things like a artists we are, you know, Al art, you know, I

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do think it's something that we're challenged with, right now we're at a place that I think we can sort of make sense we see the, the infancy of where maybe this could be going with a simple example like the fingers, you know, you can tell Oh, this is uh, you know, it's just one of those generated images. They've got like, six, seven fingers or whatever. But that's just a simple example. But again, that's, that's just like in the last year, it's hard to think about what things could look like if we continue this sort of trajectory in five to 10 years, much less like, you know how that could change it In a century or something, so I think that's why some people have been reluctant to continue pursuing the development of something like, general artificial intelligence to the effect of implementing it on a, you know, open scale, open source scale that is accessible to everybody. Because then, if people anywhere can access what they can with it already, in some ways, that's great. That's super helpful to be able to get for new people who are not nefarious, but it's kind of like,

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but you have to worry about the nefarious to like the big buzzword all of all of the last election cycle was deep fake, deep, fake, deep fake and man, they're still out there like right now the whole FernGully like live thing. Like the live reboot of FernGully poster that's out all over social media like that is fake. It's not real. It's not happening. Sorry to crush your souls people if you're a huge FernGully freak. But it's not happening. You know, and these things Yeah, like they start waves of things. No, no different than creepy pasta be got friggin Slender Man that ended up getting a girl friggin stabbed in the belly. You know? Yeah. Like, crazy rabbit hole really, really fast? You know? Oh, yeah. And it's

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tough to to know how that's gonna come into play in a realistic way. But like you just pointed out, I mean, in the most unlikely situations, sometimes it makes us realize like, wow, this does have an effect on real life, too. Sure.

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Absolutely. Man, because it has it has to do with how you filter information, how you trust your filter of information. And and, you know, even to the point of could that be used as a means of control your during tooten? Your darn dude, Nick could be if you were a nefarious of nature type? Absolutely. You know, you could do all kinds of things. This is why revenge porn laws exist. All kinds of things. And there, there haven't been, there have been a couple of rulings regarding Al that have come out. But there haven't been any laws passed regarding Al yet. And it's interesting to me, the one thing I keep saying is that have no fear, Al will only be as smart as the prompt given in the information that it can look up. However, Tay was only as smart as the information given as well. And Tay became like a raving racist within hours, because of the content that she was fed on Twitter.

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Yeah, you know, it's one of the things that it's a bit of a reflection, I think of, it's dealing with it.

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Like, it's, it's an utter reflection of humanity, like 100%. Like that is that is a mirror on the creator of the AI right there. And even to the point of fact, that right now, one of the most popular AI things out there is like, imagine somebody nude, where you like, throw their throw their picture in and process it out. Like there's some new AI generator that does that, it's like that, that's one of the most popular uses. You know. And we have to consider that like, as a society, when that's one of the most popular uses of this pretty powerful leverageable technology that could do amazing things, like I'm using it as a graphic designer, things like that, Daniel, like, I'm using it to generate, like flat logo type things and elements that I can use in graphic design, that I now don't have to go to a copyright database, and purchase a logo stamp, you know, or something like that, like purchase a general like, oh, make me uh, let me go find a magnifying glass and pay for the rights of the magnifying glass image, you know, so

that I can use it in perpetuity. Now, if I go and generate it through AI, I own the rights to that, which is pretty cool. You know, so so there's some really plus side things not even to mention the fact of once you start getting into leveraging Chet GPT and data and what it can do to just mass wads of data, that's going to be incredible when it comes to researching these topics.

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I think so, and it's something that I think a lot of people will start resorting to just because, again, how accessible it is. I mean, I I admittedly, you know, to be honest, I actually didn't really use it much. Chat TPT specifically, I didn't really use it a whole lot up until pretty recently, not out of reluctance or anything, I just, you know, hadn't really found a specific use for it much. It's curious, and I'm interested, but I started using a little while back for certain things here and there. And, of course, you know, it's not perfect, there are some, you know, real improvements with the newer versions and noticeable ones that, you know, they're developing, and will continue to, I'm sure, but um, it's one of the things that I think we have to be careful of, because, you know, there's a lot of information, I think, the current one, like three points, 3.0, or 3.5, whatever is going on right now. That it's got a database that it pulls from that's got whatever information that it's loaded up with, up to, I think about 2022, things online, all kinds of things now, it's just regurgitating information that's been fed, it doesn't necessarily mean that it's factual or correct, but it's just trying to make sense of what it's been given. Right. Yeah. As an example. We were talking about the Texas Bigfoot conference a moment ago. Darrell Collier, one of the presenters, as I mentioned, gave a talk on, you know, discussing Bigfoot with AI, and so on in the audience pointed out, well, you know, what, what version are you using, and, you know, this one's been known, it's prone to be at fault and too prone to error, things like that, of course, that that is the case, one, one example that I found. And doing some research, like I said, I just kind of recently started implementing it for the purposes of the research I'm doing for my project about Aurora, as you mentioned earlier, and so I'll go through and I'll give it some prompts and things to kind of see what its responses are. And as an example, you know, one thing I got back was it said that there's a book about Aurora, by so and so person, and so and so first, and I thought that's really curious, because there's definitely not a book that he told me about by the people that told me about and Yeah, and so I, you know, I think that, I mean, there's nothing really terribly wrong about that. But it just goes to show that, you know, whatever information, even with something like that it got was from something that just didn't actually have the information. Yeah, the way it needed to, or whatever's going on. Because I, you know, the version I was using, and a lot of times, it'll say, like, it's not connected online, it can't pull from a database or something. It's just preloaded with what it's got. And I would say to it, you know, that there's no such book or whatever it is, and it would say, Oh, I'm sorry, you know, to start for that, you know, like it. Yeah, it didn't know, you know, and so what I'm seeing with some of these things, is that a lot of people will try to resort to it as the sort of new fugal Oh, yeah. Yeah. Just like Google, it doesn't mean that it's necessarily right, it just gives you a bunch of information. So it's gonna be a new way where people find information, regardless of if, right or wrong, necessarily. But if it's just there, it's quick to respond. And I think that's what we're gonna see people using it. I

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absolutely. And that's just it, you know, people don't realize that sometimes that data pool is being pulled from Google, it is being pulled from Wikipedia, it's being pulled from all of these open source places, you know? So yeah, like, you're gonna have the exact same and that's

what I keep saying is that it's only going to be as smart as your average news reader. It's only going to be as smart as the average person reading the internet, you know, but at the same time, watch it folks, because it's only going to be as smart as the average person reading the internet. You know, it's gonna, it's gonna have the same propensities that we will to just absorb something into the data set and assume it without actually going in programmed to research it. I mean, most people don't even realize Daniel the AI can't even can't even like spell. Like, in the turtle, like when I do mid journey if I try to hit like give it text it comes back garbled. It's yeah, gobbledygook. It doesn't know what to do with it. Most API's are looking at things contextually grabbing a paragraph here, a paragraph, they're melding the two together, where it makes sense. They're they're doing things through a contextual form of grammar. They do not know what the word horizon means. They don't know the context of the word horizon in that way. You know, so they don't know how to fact check horizon. They don't know how to do that. They don't know how to spell horizon. They know how to look for it. You know? So it's it's interesting when you start getting into that now, they're working on all these things. And, you know, I don't think we're going to be in a in a Skynet type situation anytime soon. Not Not at all. Nor nor to the point, I don't know about the whole, what do you think about the whole point of sentience of the of the Google AI?

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Well, you know, I think it's one of the things Ray Kurzweil wrote about, you know, the whole idea of the singularity, where, you know, we, as humanity, we merge with AI, we become a singular sort of consciousness, and that will redirect the whole, you know, future of humanity and our world and all that, I think that there's some, there's some real sort of cause for concern where people have said, we need to maybe slow down, but then people are, they're really working away to try to get this stuff to help probably where it could, it should be used. And I think a lot of medical situations, it can be very helpful. And then like, we were taking a moment earlier to say, like, you know, it's probably important that we were careful to see how this is being released in in a way that we're not, maybe just giving it to everybody, although I think just everything online, people can get a hold of already, but just the capabilities of allowing anyone to have it and how it can do so much, you know, let's say the next few years, is, it's pretty eye opening and with what, you know, cyber types of things are being considered now, you know, people are wondering, you know, what's really going on, but I do think like you were saying so with, with some of the the the advents in this type of technology, with, with Google and a lot of these other things, I do think that it's people, you know, a lot of times are saying, we're not really yet general, artificial intelligence, they're just a lot of times it's mimicry. A lot of times, it's just like, we were saying, regurgitating things it's been said into, it doesn't really have a mind of its own. It's just kind of repeating like a parrot. Yeah, things that we stored into it, that I think that that can be helpful if we're trying to have a database, you know, and one of the other things is that, I think, Facebook was trying to implement this, and maybe they are in some ways, you know, basically, where the idea of Facebook itself was to record or document, capture pretty much every possible instance of a person's life for input that they give, and then take all of that, and roll it up into sort of a virtual avatar, that represents that person, that is an interactive person in some way, whether that's, you know, a hologram or, you know, a digital interface, and in that way, they can still be, you know, quote, unquote, alive or interactive in a way that they wouldn't be alive, to ask them things and to talk to them about stuff. You know, and so he's,

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ya know, it's, it's, it's pretty wild. And when you start getting into the idea

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of having a conversation with a historical person, that, you know, we've never really been able to do, even though it's not really like you're talking to them. It's something you know, closer to the effective, I guess.

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Oh, no, we just lost Daniel. And yes, you know, Daniel, you are absolutely correct to know that. Things things are getting to that point, things are getting to the point of we need to have a plan to one. Oh, he's not there yet. So yeah, we need to get to the point where we actively have a plan. I remember just just a couple years ago, when, when things went awry in the world and the whole issue was that who nobody really had a plan for, you know, so yeah, we have to start looking at emerging technologies. The idea that, you know, that the UN could not agree on a killer robot to well, still no. So yeah, the the UN recently had their vote on killer robots, folks. And whether or not robots would be allowed in the battlefield and that way, you know, like, and a terminator aspect where it's like, oh, let's just have robots strolling around shooting people up. Yeah, they they could not come to an agreement, the time passed. So as of right now, with as far as the UN is concerned, They are allowing robots in the field, they are allowing that they they haven't voted against it. They tried voting against it, and nothing really happened. So it's curious to see that and curious to see that, like, we've got the first humanoid robot facility that is that is being launched up in the Oregon area. Welcome back, Daniel.

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Hey, I guess they were they were on towards, they're

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always on to his buddy.

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Yeah, you know, I think it's interesting to see where where this could take us, I think that it can be helpful to have a way for us to get information differently and maybe pry into some historical type of information in a way that's different. Basically, what I was saying before, I think the call dropped, or whatever it was, was that, it's, it's interesting. And I think you raise a good point with the whole idea of the humanoid robot, having AI because it's one thing to have AI, it's another thing to put it into a form, you know, with the morphology of a human, to make it more, you know, empathetic to, for us, you know, to be able to relate to. So one of the curious things about that is that if we look at how we could just interact with historical data now, we could read books, go visit places, talk to, you know, people, descendants, all of this,

whatever, really good ways of research already, people will probably always do those things. But in the event that you could just throw all of what is available into a cohesive AI at in the form of a person, it's a little bit more personable, that you get to go and talk to this historic figure, you know, and so there's something like that, I think, is kind of what will keep our humanity grounded in the world. But at the same time, we got to be careful. Because obviously, we've already considered many of the dilemmas that we see in sci fi, you know, there's sort of rise of AI and how that's going to affect what we're up against, you know, when it comes to new dilemmas. And of course, you just mentioned something, I think we should probably all considers that, you know, to, to, at what point are we, you know, as either, you know, nations or the world, whatever it is going to be considered of where we stand with delegating, sort of, you know, roles in society to Al by recognizing them with certain capacity of some of intelligence or sentience. I mean, as an example, we have we seen in I think it's in the UK, they, they declared that cephalopods, which are like, squids, and things like that are creatures, they're they're intelligent, they're sentient, and that they basically are, should be recognized as sentient beings. And I think, you know, people can get into the sort of ethics of well, what does that mean, you know, to what are they off to?

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So I think it's one of the things where is it going to be in the next maybe 1020, whatever years where we're, we're finally having a conversation, okay, we need to recognize these, ar, whatever, whatever it could be, might potentially be looking to have some kind of acknowledgement, you know, that we bestow upon it, to integrate into society with that kind of capacity. I mean, these are things that we seen in science fiction, and I think it's helped to give us a sort of, you know, a foundation for what to expect, obviously, doesn't mean that it's going to be one to one. But we can see right now, even just the things that we've done in the last few years, and where we're going in this sort of direction of how we're integrating this on a large scale is not only science fiction, it's pretty impressive to see and I'll mention something I found pretty interesting, years ago, but this was apparently there was a meeting held by the Royal Society, over sciences, and this was done back in like 2010. And some of the the people who were involved with this are pretty high, you know, upper echelon, people, very high caliber, several accolades, all of that and one of them was a NASA historian. His name was Steven dick. And basically he made the claim that if we come into contact with some kind of nonhuman intelligence, some you know, whether it's aliens or whatever it is something non human or just intelligent in its own way, that isn't from here. He said, basically, that we detect it out there we come across it, it's more than likely going to be some kind of Technology or AI, from an original originator, I guess you could say. And that they would basically be what he said was, quote, immortal thinking machines. And that we may be finding ourselves living in a, quote, post biological universe, which I think is really intriguing to consider that, you know, if we're able to, to come up with some of this stuff, sort of in this early on in our technology, there's no telling what, what beings or you know, civilizations who've got a little bit of it start where they could be with that,

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that is precisely the work of Michael P masters. And we talked to him at MUFON, this last year at the MUFON symposium, he is an anthropologist who's, who's putting the concept out there that, you know, if you start drawing out our morphology from the point of CRO Mannion to now and the way that we have evolved, if you draw that out, we would come pretty close to what most gray reports would be facial structure wise, things like that. So the idea is that most of these sightings are technology and people from the future or from an adjunct earth that that may be coming through to, to maybe, maybe see what we did, you know, to try and fix it in the future, what have you. Which, which is a remarkable concept. And when you start thinking about it, man, like I was, I was just having this, this debate with somebody the other day, and the fact of the only reason we have time is that we all agreed how many seconds there weren't a minute here. That doesn't mean that time exists the same way to a Venusian or, or, you know, a dupe from Jupiter, like I don't know, like they, they would have a different means by which to measure time because time moves differently for them. You know, that is that is, as Einstein specifically said relative to the observer. So it's a non equation when you're thinking about it. And the idea that the future exists literally in a dimension right next door to us. It's pretty wild. We are we are learning all kinds of things with vibrational frequency, things like that they have already apparently opened portals to other dimensions in the lab. So

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yeah, yeah, I mean, I think there's some pretty interesting things that will be able to help us out in many ways with detecting, you know, phenomena or data or whatever it is in the field. In many disciplines, we can see how some of those types of things are helping us already with certain machine learning and certain implementations of this type of technology, have helped with digitally unraveling scrolls and helping to kind of read older languages and, and pick the graphs and things that help us maybe kind of reconnect ideas that we fallen out of touch with. So as much as we can see, maybe going back, it can probably help us in some way, make highly accurate predictions, maybe not just, you know, that this is going to, you know, whoever, whatever is going to do this, on this day, not necessarily like that, but similar to how we attempt to utilize meteorology to, you know, look at the weather and maybe what the patterns are going to be, like, you know, with the things that we've done to do something like that, I would imagine that the advent of this type of AI can help us significantly and in predicting, you know, just as, as we've seen, being able to kind of track certain cycles of the moon or the, you know, planetary alignments, and all of the things that we've seen, humanity is a, you know, world culture is done all over the world. And it's amazing to consider how we did that, supposedly, without any help or technology, and that's really impressive. But to think that now we have this, you know, we can probably come up with all kinds of uses to help us to kind of look forward into the future and help us get a sense of what to really conceive of, you know, to help overcome a lot of obstacles and barriers, as as a whole, you know, as a species as a world civilization that, you know, I think a lot of the challenges that any pioneering group of people have to get beyond and otherwise, you know, just succumb to whatever, you know, the The challenges are that keep us sort of stuck. But like you said, with Dr. Masters, I'm really impressed with his work and seeing that, you know, there's a lot that we could potentially consider when, if we now today, you know, in in with what we're dealing with now, if we gave, we cranked out 500 time machines, and just randomly gave them through a raffle or something to anybody. Some people might say, Wow, this is such a exotic, precious thing, well, we'll only use it to go back to check this with that. And then you might have whoever else say, I'm just gonna go check out anything and everything. And just, you know, hit that random generator

and see where it takes us. So I think that in saying this, I just mean, to kind of bring up the idea that it makes us wonder how, just like we were saying earlier, how accessible some potential technology like that would be? And what are the ethical dilemmas that we'll find yourself in is, if we come up with this kind of technology? It's kind of like now, you know, vehicles, cars are pretty common. Yep. That, you know, most people are able, in, you know, at least in this part of the world, you know, we can try to strive towards attaining a vehicle for personal or commercial use, right? Well, it's a little bit different. If we start giving everybody flying machines, it's a little different. After that, we started giving everybody time machines, right? So it makes us wonder if there are humans, if we, you know, if there's something we would see ourselves doing now, you know, why not in 100 500 1000 years, we've really developed and perfected the technology with your help or not, to be able to go back. And or if that's even what it is going back or whatever, you know, if we're able to kind of dial in something that helps us kind of go back, so to speak into our own timeline, there are probably a number of reasons why we would depending on who would want to or feel felt like it was necessary to do that. Because we have to remember, sometimes people do things not because it's important, for a greater good, but sometimes for selfish reasons, or recreational reasons. So we have to consider, if, in the event that we do mature to the point of, you know, basically getting beyond sort of a lot of mundane uses for such a technology, would we really still be dealing with a potential issue of let's say, you've got deranged radicals or terrorists who haven't got a time machine and now you've got time at traveling terrorists? You know, it's like, Is this really what we want? Or is it is it really is that we've gotten past all that we don't have to worry about the ones coming back are or that are, you know, good or bad, or whatever it is? So is it something that we'll continue seeing, just as we do now, you know, we don't want to just crank out flying machines, and just give them out to everybody because it would be total lawlessness. And, you know, while that might seem fun, for some, it's like, well, you know, we don't want to just start cranking out time machines, and then just have everybody go do whatever, totally messed up the universe, or whatever is going on.

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I just completely saw the plotline for Back to the Future for in my head. And it's the fact that the terrorists killed doc and Marty and take the time machine. A man imagine the shenanigans with that one. But that's exactly it. That's exactly that's exactly the point. I mean, you know, it is getting that way with so many things, you know, and it was once the point that like, hardcore data, worms, things like that, you know, Stuxnet, it's that kind of thing. We're the work of black bag ops for the CIA, that kind of stuff. Man, you can have chat, GPT, right, all kinds of things. You know, like, you can have chat GPT read a computer virus for you just as easy.

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Yeah, you know, I think it's something that makes us wonder, you know, too, and again, you kind of have to wonder if the people using it are well versed in how to operate it, if they're going to be using it, you know, morally, ethically, all of that. I mean, this obviously goes with any any technology. But when it comes to something with a little bit more intricate nature of of what it does, it makes us think about what are the laws that could potentially go it's just like space, this idea that soon will be spacefaring will be going out, flying around and spaceships and visiting, you know, moons and planets and getting out there and, you know, and settling on an asteroid, or whatever, you know, this, just these these tropes that we we've seen for the last

century, you know, they're they're deep seated in the back of people's minds and I'd say, you know, one of the things that we don't often consider, but we do see sort of, you know, play out here and there is, it's like the Wild West, you know, once you get out there, who's gonna stop you from doing anything? We don't have the I mean, we've got Space Force, but I mean, yeah, they're, they're not really I mean, to my knowledge, you know, no one other than people talking yet. Yeah, there's there are, you know, they have this and that, I mean, sure, maybe, but I guess the whole idea of getting forwards that it's just another arena that we don't have order structure in that potentially could lead to more chaotic things that, you know, can eventually lead to more, you know, yeah, structure out of it. But it's, it's a, it's like the Wild West. And I think that we'll continue seeing those types of frontiers in any direction, whether it's technology, in space. But also, I think it's, it's something that we, it might be inevitable that we just have to work through those, those social barriers of development at that degree of our, you know, journey along the way of like, wherever we seem to be going, I mean, at the event that we're supposed to go off planet off world and establish homes and other places, you know, as people like Elon Musk are trying to do with SpaceX and get us to Mars and habitat, that all that so I think that you know, that the ideas are there, people are considering it, and are putting things into motion. But I think that there are some other sort of disproportionate things that people point out like, well, we've got a lot of problems here. And so if we have technology to do that, obviously, I think it's makes us wonder when people say, Well, what about food crisis? And, yeah, and, you know, resources? Well, I mean, we've seen even in the implementation of these things in science fiction, you see, fabricators where people can, you know, come up with whatever it is that they need, and it'll manifest it. And if it's a physical device or object, you know, we see that now as 3d printing, even at a very minimal scale, people are cranking out stuff in their homes, that they wouldn't have been able to do. Outside of making it. You know, that's, that's part of it. But you know, when you have a device that can literally make it for you, now, you just you look at something like Moore's law, which, you know, I think that if you modify Moore's law, not just to exponentially, the exponential development of processing power and microjet circuitry is what Moore's law is, but it's like, every, every few years, we're changing, like, not just the processing power, but like, the materials you use. Yeah, and how how that material works. So, you know, if you take something like what Moore's law indicates, and you say, Well, if we are able to make stuff now 3d print off, and then an X amount of years, we'll have fabricators cranking out things instantly. And even food, you know, you could say, I want a cheeseburger, but chock full of vitamins and make it just look and taste like a cheeseburger, but it's going to be the most like, nutrient dense thing you could think of. I mean, I think we're getting to the point where that's the reality that we're having to face is, yeah, what will it come down to, to, you know, stop certain things like that from being common, you know, widespread and accessible in a way that okay, you know, we can get this to places that people really need it? Or will it be what I think is more probable? Is that a luxury to the wealthy first, and then it'll slowly sort of trickle down into the public domain and public sector of, you know, whatever places can afford the upkeep of such such new technology, but it wouldn't be helpful. But I think it also comes with consequences. As I think we all know, it's not just going to be an easy, you know, crutch, you know, to get past things that still make us really confront our humanity, you know, is it? Is it ethical to do some of these things? Does it make sense to not be able to do some things that we just a few generations ago, people have to try to do and know how to do and if we run out of these basic skill sets, because we leave technology to do it, it's going to put us in a very difficult situation when all that technology is some how rendered, you know, unable to be used for whatever reason, and I think it's important that we see that maybe we've we have experienced that in just modern times, but also in the ancient world. When you see all these things around us. Structures, megaliths. Yeah, and we can't really seem to pinpoint I'm not saying we we don't know totally And I'm not saying that it's all super exotic, because I think it's not at all as the one thing I think it's important to,

you know, be able to go through and look at each case by case type of thing. But when there's some real strange types of stuff that we see, with some ancient structures and ideas and technology, it makes us wonder, did we have something that someone has something that was used, and for whatever reason, it's not here anymore, or we forgot how to have it, how to use it, and how to keep that memory intact. I think it's something that we need to think about now. Because, I mean, everything's printed everywhere, it's online, everywhere. But if the internet ever, for whatever reason goes down. I mean, people can read and do that sort of thing, research, but it's, it would change and revolutionize how we have to interact with the world. And I think that's the sort of thing that when we look back at our distant past, we wonder, we, you know, someone was really doing something incredible. And for whatever reason, we're just here scratching our heads at how and with, keep that in mind, because we can forget just as easily as we were there doing it. And that's important. Hey, man,

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the example that I give regularly is, I mean, the the idea of a thumb drive. Holding right now a terabyte thumb drive, it's literally the size of my thumbnail folks. I never thought that I would see a terabyte in my life when I had a Commodore 64. All right, but much less the fact that it would fit like this. Now, right now, everything is moving to ceramic. I've got Sarah bite up on screen right now. terabyte.com is where you can find them. They are talking about reduction of overall data costs of 75% by storing things on ceramic medium, and using lasers to imprint and decode Much, much like you would a CD or DVD surface. In addition to that, here it is five d optical data storage. Coming from a slice of crystal, the slice had simple quartz crystal that can hold up to five terabytes of data. These are both things that they who says that the crystal I'm holding in my hand right now does not have data from an ancient civilization on it. The only thing is, how do we get it off? Because yeah, how they coded it. You know, if if I went out and showed a 15 year old an eight track tape was like, here you go kid, have some fun, listen to some music. They'd be like, What the heck is this thing? Much less finding a player to be able to reel it up on and play it? Right? You know, and those are things within our lifetime. Daniel. Right? Things are forgotten so fast. I'm Cajun, like you're hard pressed to find a cage in my mother's age that's fluent in Cajun. Now, like that's one generation, where a whole language native to America went away. One generation, that's all it takes. It's been pretty eye opening. Yeah. Like it's shocking. It's shocking how fast it happens. We're talking less than 50 years less than my mother's lifetime. You know, yeah.

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Pretty incredible. I'll share a quick little story of something that you reminded me of here. So he's back. This must have been about 20 years ago for myself. I before I was really heavily involved in researching any, you know, the unexplained or anything like this, I was, I was in high school. And I was curious about some of these subjects and, you know, looked at online, a few things here and there, but never really considered, you know, delving in wholeheartedly or much of that. But one of the things that I do remember that caught my attention was this website about something called the WingMakers. And I didn't really know much about it at the time. I don't think much of it now. But it was this really interesting site about some place I honestly can't remember where it was, it was a wilderness area where some people traveling stumbled into a cave entrance or something like this. And it sort of went winding down into this, you know, labyrinth of different rooms and all of this, you know, with artwork and strange

writing and so much just weird sort of out of place, artifacts, related objects. And so the people who found it, I guess, you know, got in trouble or did something and they reported it and people came government, you know, and all this and they blocked it off. And they researched it anyway, long story short, the WingMakers is an interesting story. I don't know that I would give it any real credibility, other than it's inspiring, it's kind of a, you know, makes us wonder what other situations might this has happened in a similar way, or it could happen. But the main takeaway is that, you know, that this, this idea, the story goes that the government went out there with scientists, and they were examining all of these different things in artwork and artifacts. But one thing that I remember from the story that intrigued them with this disk, they recovered a disc that they had these scientists work on and build computers, specifically, in an attempt to read and access or play, like you were saying, with the eight track and things like that. So, you know, just as we would hand off something to, you know, within the same group of generations, we're looking at something, you know, as the story goes, you know, just something that's totally way outside of our own cultural relevance, but in a close enough understanding that it's a, it's something it's some kind of artifact or technology that was fashioned, our interpretation might go one way or the other. But the story was interesting, because it, it showed that it was suggesting that people were attempting to engineer a device to play this type of this. And the story basically, went on and on. And, you know, it was called The WingMakers. But the idea was that these scientists never could figure out how to access this technology, but they knew it was technology. So maybe we'll find ourselves in that similar type of situation. And maybe we have, maybe that story is real, or maybe not, but maybe there are some like it, where we'll come across things that make us wonder, you know, who really knew what, and is there something really to still be able to know. And just, as you mentioned, with the crystals, we all have, you know, the people listening and and those who are interested are probably familiar that there's the whole idea of this crystal skull prophecy where you bring them all together, and they're supposed to have like a world changing event. But there's this idea that these crystals have information that can be accessed. And I think that the more we look at modern circuitry with silica, and, you know, and looking back, look at ancient structures with quartz style, and granite, a lot of it that we use, now it's for, you know, circuitry and, you know, channels that carry and can be used to actually, you know, make devices work through microchips and things like that we were making small technology, micro technology, it might have been that before in the ancient world we were making or whoever's making it, macro technologies, not with motherboard, but maybe with Mother Earth. And maybe that's the thing with what we're seeing now is that what we're doing isn't really, maybe just new, we're just changing how we're implementing IT and engineering, similar things in different ways. And I think that's something that might be, you know, useful for us to think of as we move forward. And we do have potential findings that could revolutionize stuff that you know, could be sitting in boxes, like an Indiana Jones, maybe there are things that, you know, 1020 30 100 years ago, we just didn't know how to engineer something to access. But now and maybe with the help of Al, it'll say, oh, all you really need to do is turn this one and put a little bit more voltage on this, or whatever it is, and then suddenly, you know, that this can be opened up and you find it was just a mixtape or whatever, you know, and it could be pretty revolutionary.



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Yeah, and I mean, even even, you know, AI was just put to task on a whole bunch of cuneiform tablets that have never been able to be translated and Bamp just happened. Like, they translated it with within like, hours, the AI was able to translate the tablets and yeah, using technology for amazing things like that is awesome. And what it's supposed to be used for Daniel. The sad thing is, yes, there is that. Once again, even even the idea of Back to the

Future, too. You know, who think Marty it'd be the one that's like, oh, let's get rich quick. You know, thought he learned the lesson in the first one. But but, you know, there's there's always going to be somebody who is willing to do so and sadly enough, as we saw the propensity of that as much greater than the propensity of people to be the responsible Doc Brown, you know, so so we What did we do to start pulling back the reins, if I don't think we need to pull back reins yet I don't think we are anywhere near, you know, any kind of danger territory with Al or anything like that. But like I was saying, as you came back in the UN has been unable to agree on robots in the field, they totally blew that vote. So that's still open, wide open territory as far as like, having Terminator robots stalking the battlefield, which is pretty disturbing in and of itself.

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Yeah, I mean, I think it's something that we'll have to really come to terms with. And in some way, it might be a recurring issue, because, you know, one of the things that is going on lately in the whole UFO arena is certain, you know, legal challenges and barriers that are being confronted in Congress, and, you know, certain amendments and things that are attempting to be passed, but are having some challenges. And so some people think it's like, well, this, that was our Big Shot, that was our big chance. But, you know, it could be that this is going to be something as it has for decades, it'll come back, you know, this particular instance, is not, I think it might be the most recent iteration, but it's probably not going to be the last, I think it's something that, you know, it'll come back and when it, you know, hopefully there's not a catalyzing event, to make it an issue in a bad way, you know, in the sense that when it comes to AI, that, you know, we're already at the point where we're having to address a situation that might occur, rather than say, Okay, we're ready, where do we go from here. So I think that we need to be, you know, you know, just paying attention to the technology that's being implemented in many different disciplines in the industries that are using things for medical application for transport for all kinds of things, that probably would be good applications. And be careful on how it's just going to be sort of a free for all. And like you said, we're not going to like hold back yet. But you can tell, you know, once it reaches critical mass, it's gonna be hard to have crowd control that to police these things. And in a way that's safe. Because we don't want this to get in the hands of someone who's just going to use it to do terrible things. And obviously, you know, that's hard to control for, for anything. But I would say that, I've always been fascinated with the idea that, you know, while we have a lot of really brilliant minds, attempting to explore the arena, in the search for making contact with some non human intelligence, whether that's aliens, whether that's spirits, whether that's angels, or demons, or whatever it is that we interpret it through that lens, we try to make sense of how people are able to have these experiences. And I think that if technology can help, then hopefully can help establish a consistent interface through which we can have a correspondence or a dialogue, it's not just a one off thing, where it's a personal experience that isn't able to be corroborated, or or replicated through other means. Because, you know, those are all really special and important experiences for people to have, whether they're good or bad, you know, that's something that is very personable to that individual. But if we can do something to establish an interface, using Al, or whatever it is, that can help us fine tune to that frequency, whatever it is that we can say, oh, you know, now we've got a channel open where we are now live with. So and so. You know, it could be something it could be, we have Gord we're live Virginia with Gort. There's no calls aren't dropping, that signal is not going in and out. We've got him good and strong. It's coming. Coming in strong, right. Like that would be something that would be revolutionary. Because, yeah. Because you know, we don't really have that we have ideas that people can channel we have people that say that they're in, you know, they're in contact with this being and, and and

I'm not saying that that is not true, or that doesn't happen. But the challenge we face is if that is happening, it's for whatever reason, only able to be performed through that person in a way that they can do it and that no one else can and that almost seems like anyone who's doing that anyone should be skeptical of that, for obvious reasons. I think that's fair. But if we can somehow say, hey, you know, the radio signals kind of fuzzy. Let's dial it in a little bit closer and then suddenly, you know, there we go. There's no more communication challenge. I think that if we can establish that, it would be something that might be like the The Dead Sea Scrolls are something where we realized that, you know, we're already so close to trying to make the connection, we just didn't have a way to translate it or a way to kind of tap into how to put it into our own frame of mind in our current world. So I think that uses like that can be helpful in establishing a baseline for, you know, getting back in touch with ancient languages with ancient thought forms of what we were doing, and living and how and all of this, as well as what we might interpret from the future. So I think there's a lot of really interesting ways that the technology aspects are not really just new innovations, although a lot of them are. But they're, we're sort of maybe tapping into things that we knew about at some point. And we're sort of getting back into touch with, and I hope that AI can help give us perspective, in a way that doesn't, you know, go itself, but also can help just shed insight into the nature of reality in a way that we, we can't physically do in a way that maybe deals with processing and stuff that most people can't do, like you said, with, you know, tackling, you know, a room full of ancient tablets, or, or scrolls or books or things that you know, that human hands touch, even the most skilled ones, make one slip up, then it's gone forever, you know, it's like AI, it's not perfect, and it will mess up a lot. And there will be challenges, but it's going to be way for us to, you know, go through a lot of stuff in a much more efficient and maybe effective way than humanly possible. And I think that's one of the things that we have to be careful of is that, you know, we don't want to also put faith too much, I guess, in AI, to, you know, to the extent that we're deifying it, because then we'll come right back full circle, you know, and, and, you know, that can be a big challenge for us, too, as well.

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Yeah, you know, and hey, we've said it before on the show with you, Daniel, let her let them go ahead and find out, you know, the, the let them become sentient and find out what we use them for that we use that we used robots for manual labor and sex bots. You know, like, that's how you end up with Mr. Smith? Well, you know, that's how you end up with the matrix and agents and things like that, and an AI seeing humanity as a disease on the planet. So we do kind of have to consider once again, our own ethical platform as people as we use and utilize these technologies moving forward. So yeah, it's a it's a big issue. It's a it's a big nut to crack. And it's an amazing time to be alive, man, as a kid who grew up with an Atari 10. Now, it blows my mind on the daily man, what we can do. So thanks so much for taking the time for coming on talking about these things. It's always great chatting with you let everybody know where they can go to follow Daniel Allen Jones, where they can go to keep up with your work on the upcoming book about the Aurora crash? How is that going?



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Sure. So you know, I've been really just trying to work away between my job and everything to get this publication wrapped up. There's a lot that's been going into it, it focuses on the history of the legend from Aurora, Texas in 1897, that talks about as he just said, a crash of what they called airships at the time, with the pilot being recovered and buried in the local cemetery. So I know we've talked at length about this story before. It's, it's a classic, you know, it's sort of deep seated in the lore of UFOs. But my focus is not to make it a UFO book, per se, it's really just focusing on all the ways in which the story or what I like to refer to as the legend has been embedded in media, newspapers, everything until now. And to really look at it as folklore, and how it inspires us to be considerate of not only, you know, similar events that might really have happened, or when something like this could potentially happen in the future, and what we can learn from people just like us, you know, maybe conjuring up ideas of it or really witnessing it over 100 years ago. So it's going to be focusing on that it's something I'm going to try to get out next year. But other than that, I'm all over social media, Facebook, Instagram. And I actually am in the process of redoing my website. Some of it's up already, but it's going to be a wiki format so that way, it's more of a database As with a whole archive of information from the media work that I've done over the last decade plus at this point, so you can actually go now the vortex dot wiki, wi K i, and some of it's on there, and I'm just trying to do what I can to get it all updated. And so I'd be glad to, you know, catch up with anyone who wants follow up with any thoughts, questions or comments. And like I said, Chris, it's been great to come back. Glad to be able to share that you know, coming up on I guess about five years since I've done a complete like sort of makeover and starting you know, fresh with the vortex and, and so I'm trying to do what I can to kind of revamp in and get the website ready for you by next month. So yeah, check it out in for anyone who's interested in keeping in touch on online most social media platforms, and we'd be glad to you know, stay in touch. So thanks.

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Absolutely, man. Thanks as always for coming on. Appreciate it, I'll be sharing links, all that kind of good stuff. Love to your brother, and to your family. Take care of yourself, my friend. We'll talk to you soon.

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He was Well, thanks, Chris. Thank you.

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Bye bye, man. Always great talking with Daniel Allen Jones, folks while you are online, checking out all of his amazing work at the vortex dot wiki make sure to stop on by curious realm. Curious realm.com forward slash VIDEOS is where you can go to follow Daniel's channel on YouTube. That's where you can find our YouTube embedded. That's where you can find all of our guests YouTube's embedded, so you can easily watch follow share their episodes, their content, things like that. Make sure to visit curious rom.com forward slash store that's where you can get not only your couriers whelmed swag but also books and videos from our guests. When we come back from this commercial break, folks, we will be joined by our good friend and guest Reverend Michael J. S. Carter his new book is called enlightenment. We will be talking about it not just enlightenment of self but enlightenment of the world around you enlightenment to the world around you and your involvement in it. This is an amazing book with an amazing message we will be talking with the mic Reverend Michael J. S Carter about enlightenment right after this folks.

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With the rise in attention to the health benefits of cannabis and cannabinoids including CBD. True him science has become one of the premier providers of full spectrum CBD and CBD related products using a proprietary spideroak process. Through him science extracts maximum benefit from the whole implant, buds, leaves, stems, seeds, even roots, every part of the plant is used and then reused to formulate a rich Complex Profile of CBD, CBD derivatives and terpenes guaranteed to provide the relief and benefits you need daily. Visit true him science.com To experience the best CBD oils, edibles and topicals on the market today. And use code curious seven to save 7% off your entire purchase of \$50 or more and get to 25 milligram CBD cookies or brownies for free. That website again is drew him science.com and the code is curious seven.

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The curious realm Podcast is your source for the latest and greatest news and events in the world of the paranormal, esoteric and forbidden knowledge. And there's no better way to spark the conversation than with items from the curious realm store. Choose from fan favorites like hoodies, mouse pads, coffee mugs and more. Buy books and items from your favorite curious realm guests. Get your hands on the latest gear for paranormal investigations and experience Then we discuss on the show open your web browser and stop by the curious realm store at curious realm.com forward slash store to buy the latest curious realm where and out of this world gifts for yourself or your family or a mind that you want to open. That web website again is curious well.com forward slash store

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Have you considered starting a podcast? Looking for a way to make your business a voice of authority in an industry? The podcast Cadet is the solution for you. Whether starting a podcast for yourself, your brand, business school, church, or just plain fun. Podcast Cadet is here to help you navigate the waters of the podcast industry specializing in one on one consultation and training with industry professionals in fields ranging from podcast technology and editing, to distribution monetization and even social media strategies. Podcast Cadet tailors their services to the specific needs of you and your podcast. Do you already have a podcast and trying to find ways to engage and grow your audience? Sign up for your podcast Cadet audit today. And let us help you explore new and exciting ways to leverage your content and elevate your podcast brand a whole new level. From consultation and workshops to affordable podcast production and maintenance packages podcast Cadette is your one stop shop for everything podcast related on the internet. Visit podcast cadet.com today to sign up for your consultation or training and use code curious wanting to save 20% off your entire purchase. That website again is podcast cadet.com Hello everybody and welcome back from that commercial break our our good friends at true him science we love them so much thank you so much to him science they are always sending me test bottles, things like that a brand new batches this one right here number 17 is absolutely amazing if you are a CBD user if you have considered checking out CBD stop on by checkout true him science everybody true him science.com Is the website, use the code curious seven to get 7% off your entire cart. Our guest in this segment is the amazing Reverend Michael J. S. Carter. He is the author of initiation as well as numerous other books on

the topic of not only the sacred but Sacred Scripture UFOs. Paranormal, the way that all these things tie together his new book is enlightenment. He sent me an advanced copy of it. And man, I am here to tell you, Michael, I am in love with this book. It's fantastic. It is one of the most digestible pieces that I've seen in a long time dealing with a deep, deep topic of humanity. And that is that is the general enlightenment of humanity and empathy toward each other.

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Yes, thank you. Thank you. You know, of course, it was interesting, because people have been saying, you know, well, it's human nature. You know, we don't like when we put each you know each other in boxes. But sometimes we don't know when we put ourselves in a box now. You know, when I first started writing about the topic of UFOs, and the Bible, you know, I wrote two books, I wrote alien scriptures, and then I wrote a new world of you can take it. And then I said, Well, I don't want to be just known as the UFO minister. So I wrote, you know, God consciousness. And I wrote the book on, you know, the metaphysics of spiritual healing, and the power of affirmative prayer. And so but it was still around the topic of UFOs and religion. And people had been saying to me for years, Michael, you need to write a book of sermons. We love to put them together. And in my mind, I'm like, Who wants to hear about my sermons? People only want to listen to me if I'm talking about the phenomenon, and it just kept coming and I kept putting it on now part of this was being lazy. Don't get me wrong. And and

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just being human.

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Yeah, I was fatigued. And finally, I got it. Like three people told me, why don't you write this book? And you know, all you got to do is get some of your sermons together. And then what Every new ones you put in, and I did it. And I had a good editor, a professional editor, so that helped. It's my first hardcopy book. And even though my year was hectic, as I was telling you earlier, just dealing with illnesses in my family, and you know, church stuff, at the end of the year, I have this book, and a lot of other blessings, you being one of them, that I'm really thankful for the end of the year. So I'm looking back, as we all do, I'm sure you do, you know, looking at their trajectory of the year and things I'm thankful for. And here we are. And you are again, you are my first interview about the book and so I'm very grateful for that.

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Absolutely. I'm grateful to be your first interview and for you sending me an advanced copy. I can't wait to get my own hardbound copy your first hardbound book. Yes, it it releases. Well.

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it is it is fantastic. And the now granted once again, like you said quite a bit of these are all of this is sermons that you have conglomerated together on numerous topics of humanity yours Your and I still

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had some leftover, but these were the ones I wanted to fit in. Yeah, yeah.

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And they you know, I love the fact that you you divided into sections of humanity, whatever, you start getting into the actual table of contents, things like that. The chapter points number one, the chapters are so so entirely, once again, digestible, if you are somebody who had like, I tend to philosophy is one of my regular reads whenever I go to read, yes. Fiction, for some reason puts me to sleep. I don't know why. Yeah, I hear you. It's because like, when I was a kid, I always enjoyed reading like instruction manuals, things like that, you know, it was something that I could wrap my hands around and actually do something with and I guess that's why I view philosophy and theology kind of the same way where it's like, here's a cool instruction manual that's going to give you some new tools in your tool belt on how to break some things down and this this absolutely man, like, even just going through section number one on religion, you know, a book of Revelation. Yes, you know, the G word pebble in my shoe, some of the some of just the sermon titles in these are everyday things that we deal with as people and one of the first sections that I found that I wanted to ask you about this, there was a paragraph around page 25. Okay. Crucial. This reexamination is the historical figure of Jesus around whom Of course, the entire Christian tradition has built the de myth, the mythologizing of Jesus, the stripping away of the incredible beliefs about him in the identification with the Trinity, for instance. And it goes, it goes further to talk about how how this is necessary to humanize not just Jesus but the idea of Christ to begin with. Yes, let's get into that real quick and kind of crack that nut and it's sure explore how Jesus became mythologized to begin with like I myself, as you know, I'm a former Roman Catholic seminarian, as Yeah, on the show pretty regularly, I guess you would call me a recovering Catholic. I have come much more to I would say, if anything, church wise, probably much closer to Unitarian point of view where I see it Hey, man, as long as you are believing in something, like bigger than you, that's, that's the big, the big push of the stone. Everything else just comes down to the flavor of ice cream? Yeah, no, at least in my microwave. So let's, let's get into how Jesus was mythologized to begin with and how we ended up in this situation. River.

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Well, yeah. Now now, you know, we have the Gospel accounts, and all of them are very different and very similar in a lot of ways. But I'm just going to jump to you know, the Council of Nicaea Oh, absolutely. And 325 CE and, you know, where him being born of a virgin, him being,

you know, very God, a very God begotten, not made, a dogma that came into And, and to Orthodox Christianity with Constantine, you know, obviously Mary having to have been St. Jerome, you know, being the one who translated virgin. You know, Alma in Hebrew but meaning young girl, but not having Jesus could not have been born by by his mother having sex the old fashioned way, even though we are told, I believe in Matthew, that he has had brothers and sisters. So I think with when when the church was becoming the church with all the hierarchy and the bishops and, you know, the priest and the Emperor's and all that, that's when this really really got embedded. And anything, you know, there was areas and areas controversy was the Gnostic controversy. But anything that did not agree with what Rome was now putting out as this is the official, the official, sanctified, if you will, story of Jesus was just taken out. Yesterday. Now, we've seen that happen before in Hebrew, Canada, but we're not talking about that, you know, in the sixth or seventh century BCE. But when when all that stuff was rewritten to take out kind of the extra terrestrial stuff. But that's when it really got to be dogma. That's what it really got to be church doctrine. And this is what it meant to be a Christian. Yes, if we go to x 15, Peter and Paul are having their Ted Ted about, you know, Peter, saying, Well, I've where I was with the man, and Paul saying, you know, well, I met him on a road to Damascus, we start to get that push and pull. But it really becomes official, I think, with Constantine and cons, you know, and 325 CEE, I, I really wish there was there had to be a trinity. Yeah, you know, that was one that was crucial to the theology, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, which to me, had always been a different mathematical formula that I really couldn't, it was the only

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way that they could fight against Arianism at the time, which was the thought of Arianism just so just for those of you that are not aware of church history, things like that, that may not be fully hip to the Council of Nicaea. And how we got to the books that we have the big big problem and why the whole creed was written where yes, like, God from God light from like, true God from true God be

1:27:43 gotten Yep. And God, not me.

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And and the reason that became was because the Aryan thought was that God, God was there, he was a creation, there was a good creation, a bad creation, but God basically assumed whichever face you needed him to assume, if you needed God to assume the face of the Holy Spirit, that that's what he assumed. And and the Council of Nicaea was like, no, no, it's much more mystical than that. It's the fact that there is a God of three, three individual parts that take part in one being and the way that it's always been simplistically explained to me by folk is, you know, be it being out on a frozen lake, in a rowboat where you have chunks of ice floating around in water and fog around you. You have all three different elements in a different aspect that are all made of the exact same thing. And that that is the Trinity in action. Right there. They are all coexisting in the same space. All made up the exact same steps substance but in a different quality. Yeah. I

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mean, one could make that argument.

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Rough, philosophic Road, though, man.

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Well, I mean, I just I'll put it in a little more crassly. When Jesus is in the garden yoga 70. Before his arrest, who was he praying to? You praying to himself? Yeah. Yeah. Who? Who was he praying? I mean, it's just, it's just hard to wrap, you know, and I've heard Well, God's ways are not your ways. And, you know, so Unitarianism just kept it simple. God is one and end of the story. There is one source by many different names. And there's unity in the diversity of creation, but there's one source and that that was easier for me to share to fathom, you know, and then universe realism comes along and they say everybody saved, I'm using the language of the day back when, you know, over 200 years ago, and that makes sense to me. They'd say God is love, and everybody is saved. And that means that Pol Pot is safe. That means that Hitler is say that mean, because love does not barbecue you and eternity.

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No, no, exactly. And the fact is, we, despite anything, despite any atrocities, you commit, as a human being, the one thing you will never ever, ever get rid of, because you have been breathed into by spirit is the seed of eternal grace, you will never get rid of that you will, you will never get rid of that detention reality, no matter how indelible the mark is, or how much you try to get rid of it, you will always have the sufficient grace that it takes. Yes.

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And so I said, Okay, this, you know, I, you know, and I can I can wrap my mind around this. And it was also that I could question and I could ask questions, and no one would look down on me and say, I was blasphemous, I was a heretic, they would realize that I'm wrestling, that that is normal. The unexamined faith is not worth having. And so that's how I came from the Baptist tradition to Jesus now. And then I started looking for now this was before any UFO experiences and what have you. That came later. But I was trying to find the, what I could relate to, you know, if I believe he rose from the dead, or he was turning water into wine, and those kinds of things, it would be easy to write off because I could just say, Well, you're a god. That's you. Of course, you can do that. But I was trying to get to the day in day out life of what it must have been to be this man occupied living an empire, which we do now. wrestling with what it meant to be a human being. That's where I wanted to focus. And I and Unitarian and Unitarian Christianity, universalism, Christianity gave me the the space to do that without saying I was not in the club anymore. Yeah, and yeah, yeah, yeah. And then, you know, I had something to work with. And because I knew people, that we're not Christian, or whatever, and I said, these are good people. These are people who are full of love, and they're precious. And and you're

gonna tell me that a deity is going to banish them to eternal hellfire, just because they don't believe that. And I just I just tried to keep fitting around peg in a square hole, and it just didn't. So I found Unitarian Universalism, not a perfect denomination, but what is, but it gave me the intellectual acuity. Were coming from the Baptist tradition, you could think but don't think too much. If you think too much, you're going to be a problem, because then you're going to start asking all these troublesome questions. And as

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a Catholic, you can think as long as it doesn't stray away from this forefinger thick document, called Yes, called the Catechism. long as it doesn't stray from that big green book, you can still call yourself a capital C, Catholic. There

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you go. There you go. Yeah. And it's interesting. It's interesting, but but that anyway, that's where I was, and which, which you'd like you're talking about in your tradition, and every tradition, you know, and I look at the Jewish tradition, and I look at Jesus, he was, he was born Jewish, but he was a different kind of Jewish person. And he was he, you know, a lot of the problem he got into was because of, he was saying, hey, you know, this is what Moses said, but I'm giving you a new way. So in some ways, he was trying to transform Judaism, and the powers that be but of course, there was always Rome. But, you know, the more orthodox, you know, they were like, No, you this is you can't do this. This is not what we're talking about. This is not what we're talking about. And I found myself in that same position. And I said, Well, I don't have to reinvent the wheel. I can go back and look at these narratives. And they will give me I don't care whether they're Buddhist narratives or biblical, you can go back and you can say, here are some ways to live and 21st century America and keeping your integrity keeping a spirit of love, yeah, keeping your intent and so on. Uh, I started revisiting Christianity. Now to some people, you know, again, even without the UFO overlay, they would say, Well, no, that's not Christianity. And then I would say, I used to always be on ivory reacting instead of responding. But I got to the point where I'm not gonna let anybody else define me. You don't tell me what it means? Yeah, I'm not gonna let these politicians or other people, you're not going to tell me I can tell you. I used to play with it. Well, I'm not really a Christian. I'm a follower of the teachings of Jesus, which are two different things. But But I see where I could I could incorporate, and I could grow and learn. And still hold on to those teachings. I remember the Dalai Lama saying that if you if first of all, if you leave your religion of origin to become a Buddhist, he said, don't never talk bad about your religion of origin, because it may not make sense to you. But it still makes sense to a lot of other people. But he said, Why not use Buddhism to make you a better question? Why not make Buddhism make it better? He said, Don't come over here until you absolutely have to. But he said, Why don't you explore your tradition? Yeah. On a deeper level, that's what I've been doing. I've gotten away from it. I was a Buddhist, I was an atheist. I was an agnostic. I was like, Oh, I don't know this is. And I keep coming back to these teachings.

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Yeah, and I mean, even right here, just a paragraph underneath where we were talking about, we came to realize, however, that what little we could find out about the historical lesus

revealed a man in a world view strangely different from our own understandings. And yeah, when when you look specifically, and this is something that we always talk about, whenever we have you on talking about Bible, anybody talking about Bible is that you cannot interpret the Bible through a modern lens. No, it is a document, written by a certain group of people going through a certain thing politically rigid religiously, is that influenced every bit of that now now? Are there lessons that project forward to now? Absolutely. When, like, the prime example would be the 10 commandments. Might be a little harsh for some people. However, when you consider the fact when the 10 commandments came about that the Jews were still wandering in the wandering for 40 years at the time. And were living in a caravan type lifestyle, where they pitched tent every night and picked it up and walked in the morning. They didn't have homes, they were living in a timber note as to their nature, their neighbors. So if you were covering your neighbor's wife, that may really do something bad for the caravan.

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Yes, you know, yes. Yeah, it was nomadic.

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Also ruled, like don't eat shellfish. You know, we don't have refrigeration. And we live in the desert. That's a pretty good rule.

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Yes, yeah. And so and we have to keep the context Yeah, of what was going on then. And again, again, I'm not even again, I'm not talking about with what UAPs and stuff like that. That's something for another time. And so and so I kept going back to those teachings, there's a sermon called the pebble in my shoe. And I talked about Christianity being that, that that I remember preaching at a church, a UU church, and I, you know, I took at the end, because, you know, I have a flair for the dramatic, I took my shoe off, and I pulled out a pebble. But But But yeah, it because no matter how far, I tried to get away from those teachings, I was always going back to them, you know, all the time. And part of that is because of my upbringing. Part of that is that I was born in the West, I'm like you I'm, I'm trained and in western civilization, Western philosophy. And so

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like, what was said to ignore your route, is to quite literally ignore the core part of the plan. There

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you go. Without hitting tree. Yeah, so So you know, but I'm grateful to Unitarian Universalism, for giving me the room for giving me the space to be able to work those things out without being told that I was somehow less than and I was encouraged to I was encouraged to doubt. I

was encouraged to to look at my doubts, and that's what seminary was all about. Absolutely. For me as well. So, you know, at It was very influential in that part of that time. And that part of my life. Well, and

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I think beautifully, the yen once again, this yes is a collection of sermons removed the word. You You are universal Unitarianism whenever it's used, this is an everyday document about living life. Yes, it is absolutely amazing. It's absolutely beautiful. And some of the some of the things that you get into with this, especially when it starts getting into social justice, when it starts moving into the realm of Brotherly Love treating each other, especially with empathy, and understanding the individual. Because Because once again, and I was just having this conversation, I my livestream last week, I had somebody that called somebody a racist and went off on an organization and proceeded to go into a lot of really bad experiences that they had with like two people in an entire organization. And I was like, I find it interesting how you how you are calling one person racist yet the other, on the other hand entirely, your dominio tising an entire group of people in an organization because of your experience with two people within it. Yeah, you know, that is literally the root of racism, is that this distillation mentality and the fact of you know, because one person of this type did this to me, everybody is like that. That's like that type? Yeah, you know, yeah. And forgetting the individual individual within that. Yeah.

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Yeah. And I mean, you, we could unpack that, I mean, individuals are part of systems. And so, you know, if we talk about racism, as in a systems type of way, then you may be able to say, Okay, I'm part of this structure. I'm part of this system. And yes, I think that we could all agree with that, at least to a degree. But in a situation. I'll give you an example. Please. I hope, I hope I hope it's a good example. I was in Georgia, outside of Athens on Thanksgiving around Thanksgiving with my wife. And we were I thought doing the speed limit. Okay. Oh, and I was doing 62 miles an hour. In a 55 mile an hour, you know?

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Okay. Okay. Not going speed demon on it or anything? Yeah. So,

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so a stereotypical good old boy cop. He pulled me over. And he said, you know, you were doing an ad and 55 mile an hour zone. I said, officer, I beg to differ. I was doing 62 miles an hour, you know? And he said, No, you weren't? No, you aren't. And so I looked at my wife and she just said and, you know, he was pleasant. Sure. I got like this good old boy kind of stereotype. I mean, he looked at it, and he had the accent of it, but he didn't, you know, I you know, you can feel these things. Sometimes. He didn't give me a ticket. But to make a long story short,

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it's good for him.

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He gave me he gave me a frickin ticket man was 500 bucks. Oh, Gods. Yeah. So I'm writing and you know, it's near the holiday. And I'm saying I swear to God, like, six or seven people on our trip back. Were being pulled off. You know, they had to meet their quota. Oh, yeah.

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No, no, no, he's just beautiful thing about an out of state person is they coming back for traffic court? There you go. They're just gonna pay the fine.

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One could have made the argument that I'm I'm I'm a man of color. My wife is white. We're down here. And you know, we could have we could have taken him to other places. But it wasn't about that. I you know it what goes around comes around. Sometimes you're the bear sometimes the bear is you. I mean, he wasn't I didn't feel this hostility and What are y'all doing down here? Now granted, we did have North Carolina license plates. My wife is a animal lover. So she had a couple of stickers, you know, on the back. But, brother, I you know, I didn't want to pay \$500 But I just left there thinking He got me. Yeah, I wasn't speeding. I, you know, it was no way I was speeding, but this is like, Yeah, but yeah, so so that's what I'm saying, it's the knee jerk reaction could be, well, that man, he saw me with these gates and I'm with my bike. And it wasn't about that. So I think you always will you call you use the word grace? You know, you gotta call things as you see it. But sometimes you got to wait and see, you can't believe everything you think? Well,

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when you especially can't rush to judgment, to begin with, we have a big, big tendency to die in our society right now. Especially, especially in our modern Doxxing society. When it when it comes to justice, that seems to be a big modern form of justice, is that kind of stuff? And it's like, you know, are you are you thinking about the other people in that household who had nothing at all to do with that person's decision? You know, is that justice and and we, it's, it's hard, sometimes it's interesting, because once again, you do not have to, to have enlightenment. Just to get back to the title of the book here, you to have enlightenment, you do not have to have any grand epiphany, you do not have to be struck and off a horse, by the light of God and have the scales lifted from your eyes, you don't have to have a huge, miraculous moment. It's quite literally the fact of taking the moment to stop and realize taking the moment to stop and think like you're saying to stop and process even that experience that you just had, in a different in a different situation, you know,

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\$500 things, but that was it. But but it wasn't that, you know, and you're right. And so I just had to say, even in those moments, because we've all had them, but But uh, you know, I'm just learning and trying to learn to respond to life, instead of reacting. Yes, yes. And that there's a desert and a c and a c between the two. And that's why I have the tick, not on quote there. You know, enlightenment, enlightenment is when a one one definition is when a wave realizes it's part of the ocean, that I am not separate from you that we come from the same source that we go back. Now, that's very abstract, and we're bringing it down to minds a ticket for your person having that moment, but but in the end, it always comes back to that. Yeah. And so that's to me where the enlightenment comes from. And of course, Jack Kornfield, book, after enlightenment, the laundry, that even even if you did have this big epiphany, even if you did have this big grandiose, life changing event, you still got to go home and do your laundry, well, you still got to brush your teeth in the morning, you still got to be in the world with dirt. And the smell of it on you

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was one of one of the most humbling moments in my life, Reverend came came after the seminary. And he you know, as you probably know, many people, it doesn't really matter which religion seminary you leave from. When you leave frequently, you know, people go through a lot personally. There has been moments of revelation in your life, you have felt called to something that now for some reason, you are no longer called to. And you can be lost in many, many ways. Now, I spent many years as an assistant youth minister, I taught religion. I taught, you know, helped teach our CIA helped to teach confirmation, all kinds of things. But I was sitting in church one day, and this is this is when that that moment that you were talking about with the Dalai Lama hit me. Where, you know, typically I would have looked around and said felt some kind of angst for for people just going through motions, and things like that people, people wearing shorts, whatever. I suddenly had this huge moment of empathy, and the feeling of needing to pray for people that could only experience their capital G God in that way. And in that space, and through that doctrine, you know, there there are those people, as the Dalai Lama said, don't like pray for them. Pray for them. Don't Don't admonish them for not getting to the point that you're at, or anything that's not in lightened, you need to make sure that they are cared for in the way that they need. And if they need to go to that facility on a Wednesday night for Bible study on a Sunday for church on a Saturday for choir practice, and and be with people of like mind and like community, then that is what they spiritually need and to admire somebody for that or to to think them less for that. I find that to be the unenlightened path. Right?

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And then, you know, you have to start rethinking Am I Am I in the right occupation? No, I agree. Yeah. And we have that. And so, you know, I, I will say this about Unitarianism. It's always been a very denomination that is very focused on social justice, and feeding hungry and, and I get all that I love it. However, and I know some people who that's all they would come to search for, see, I don't, but I don't do that I, you know, I come to church, like, I go to church. So I can get my fuel my food to get me through the next week or whatever. And then whatever I do with that energy, is, you see what I'm saying? I, because of the focus on social justice, you know, sometimes we can forget about how do I how do I? How do I get my nourishment? Because

whether you do social justice or not, they're going to be ups and downs, they're going to be rough times, they're going to be times when you take three steps forward, and 12 steps back. Yeah. And what do you fall back on? Because the times get discouraged. And I think that's where the spirituality and religion, a healthy religion can sustain you? Well,

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and you know, you actually brought that up, and this part of the sermon right here. So perhaps a second look at spirituality and religion may be the key, I'm speaking now the deeper meaning of religion, not the present interpretations of Christianity or Islam. Many people think that in order to make religion more popular, we should modernize it even more, the very thing that human beings do not need to do the idea that somehow all of religions are incomplete. And they have, and they all have to get together to create a total religion is not true. Why? Because the traditions came from the sacred, and they are there to lead us back to the sea. Yes,

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yes. Yes. Yes. I, I think and as I mentioned before, you know, I was just talking to someone else about this the other day, but you know, people were so well, what do I do? They were looking for a formula. How do I do this to get through in the world? How do I, you know, like, if I do a plus b equals c? And I said, I don't know. Yeah, that's right. And that's what I was trying to tell them. But, but I did say, but you don't have to reinvent the wheel. You don't have to, you can go back and look at the narratives of human beings, whether they're religious narratives, philosophical narratives, narratives, art philosophy, you don't have to reinvent the wheel, you can go back to those teachers and those individuals, and that same knowledge you can apply to now. You don't have to modernize it in the sense of where it's a situational type of ethics or whatever. There was some things that was said and done 5000 years ago, that are true now, and there'll be true 5000 years from now. Yeah. Yeah. And those are the eternal truths that you want to hold on to what I do to my neighbor, I do to myself, Okay, which is a very, very basic one, you know, the all else's commentary, it was a Rabbi Hillel had said I wanted to one that's why it's rabbis, that do unto others as you would have them do unto you, the rest is commentary, you know, that that you reap what you sow? Those are universal truths, what you come out to you will come back you know, those are things like that, that you hold that you can hold on to do you know what I mean? That if you chasing after wealth, and all these other things, and so the templates already there, what we have to do is to apply it.

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Yeah, yeah. Precisely. And they you know, it's interesting because many people in a lot of fades out there, reverend. think these things But much like the experiencer they are afraid to come forward to their community. Yeah, even Yes. Yeah. For fear of ridicule, by their by their fellow community of fellow believers. Yeah. And even even

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clergy. Oh, yeah. may have had experiences that don't fit. It doesn't have to be UFO, it could be near death. It could be a psychic and whatever. And they can't come out and say it. Yeah

because they'll lose their jobs. Well, I mean, the

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prime example would be the instance that led me into the seminary I was serving in mass, I was a junior in high school, and I was just transported is the only way I can put it. I saw everybody. I was still in that place. But I was amongst a different hue of reality. Yeah, I was in a totally different place, and what I considered to be what I found later in life to be just the true presence of my god, yeah, I've had it outside of that sanctuary space. I've had it all kinds of places. But it is it is, and I remember going to Father John Upton, after mass, and thank God, it was him. Yeah. Seriously, I mean, Father, Joe would have would have listened. But I don't think he would have seen it as as deep a spiritual moments, right. As Father John did, where he was like, wow, Chris, that is that is amazing and beautiful. Like, I wish I could have an experience like that. With my god, like that, it was it was really beautiful, the way that he put it to me, and thank God, I felt comfortable enough with conversations I'd had with Father John, outside of the doors of the sanctuary, you know, where I knew that he might be open to something like that, you know, because when I got to the seminary and tried to tell that to some friends, it definitely wasn't received with the same verb. Let's just say,

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Yeah, that's a good way to put it.

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And it can be it can be hard, because that is the stealing moment in your life. You know, it can be hard when that moment is not believed. It can be hard when that revelation even even if it is the simple, everyday revelation that you have that is that is mentioned in these in these beautiful sermons that you've put out. Yeah, it can be hard when that's not validated.

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Yeah. And meanwhile, we were reading from a book where people were having fantastic experiences. Yeah. They were having all these psychic experiences they were having contact with with other beings and other people and seeing things in the sky. And but but but but it's almost like, Yeah, well, that happened back then. But that's not happening now. Yeah, yeah. Yeah, exactly. Yeah, yeah. Yeah. Yeah, you may, you know, Jesus may put his hands on somebody with cancer, and it'll go away. But don't think you can do that. When he clearly states that greater thing. So So and that's why I think people leave their religions of origins, many times some people say, No, I'm going to stick with it. And I'm going to work with it or work within it or not. But a lot of people leave because, you know, they're not getting the validation. They're not getting the affirmation. They're giving up a bunch of Zhao shalt nots. Yeah. And the joy is taken away from religion. Well, and so who was it? Alan Watts said that True Religion is about laughter. Yeah. Yeah, it's about it's about joy. We call it the gospel. What does that mean? Maybe it's good news. But you look at these people, and they don't look like they're having fun.

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All the time. I was raised Roman Catholic, you want to talk about some people with some whacked out beliefs in some places? Brother, brother, we we front of the line with tip of the spear man, you know? Yeah, and those are things that you have to be able to reconcile with. Those are things that, you know, like, despite fallacies, you still have faith. Because your faith is your faith. Yes. You know, and, and yeah, yeah, it's, you know, like I tell people all the time and even on the show my faith in my God is absolute. Yeah, yes. My faith in the flawed instrument called the capital C church. Yeah, do you have greatly diminished? Yeah.

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Yeah. us. I was watching I don't know if you saw this the Pope's exorcist with Russell Crowe. I have not watched it yet. Yeah, yeah, yeah. And I watched it twice. It's pretty good. If you're gonna do a sequel, but there is one, you know, and it's Hollywood eyes or what have you. But it was it was interesting, and it was entertaining. But there's, he's in front of this tribunal. And one of his buddies is this Cardinal, and he's the man of color. And I don't know whether he's African or African American, beautiful looking man. And you know, they've been in the trenches together. And he said, Well, if if they come after you, I'll be there to defend you. Because he knows that that Russell Crowe's character can be cut out there. And Russell Crowe looks him dead in the eye. And he says to him, my faith needs no defense. Yeah. And it was like, Whoa, yeah, yeah. I don't need you to defend my faith. Yeah. And I it was a very, very powerful moment. Anyway, if you get a chance to watch it.

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It is on my it is on my short list of things. Yeah,

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it's worth it. But getting back, you know, I wanted to take a slice of life, I took philosophy I took religion. I took justice, I took holidays I took and I just wanted to, to give a universal kind of, you know, it says right there personal spiritual growth, the nature of justice, because I they're universal truths, that you can pick up this book. And you can be an orthodox, whatever, you can be a liberal, you can be a Wiccan, you can be whatever you are, and you will find something in this book for you. And that's the beauty, I think, of Unitarian Universalism. But it's also the beauty of what it means to be a human being.

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Well, and, and to have the conversation Reverend, that's all that is. That is that is what it's about. And honestly, I put like, 18 stars around this, this part in my little tablet reader. Because I loved it so much. This is quite literally like, the reason I started dudes and beer and continued on as curious round. salutely was it was this right here? And I'd like to read it. It's from the

pebble in my shoe, sir. Okay. And it's a story about you and some friends after September 11. And he was wearing the flag to let other Americans know that one could be progressive and liberal, and still love and care for his nation. I was shocked. I challenged him by saying, who is going to know your politics just by you wearing the flag? He responded that perhaps a conversation would ensue. And a meeting of the minds would follow. That, to me is the most beautiful and poignant part of this book. Because yeah, it's absolutely true. We have to be willing to have the conversation so much that we are willing to put ourselves and even our politics out there. Yeah, not and not and like you're saying not in reaction.

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But in our standing and responding, responding,

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and in genuine empathy, because when you're empathetic with someone, I don't care what why somebody believes something. I just want to know what they believe. That paradigm, yeah,

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tell me how you got there. Because then that's how our conversation, my friend Will I didn't get a chance to see him. He lives in Brooklyn. I didn't get a chance to see him. But yeah, he's one of those kinds of guys. And it just blew me away. Because he has he's a very progressive individual, his politics is live. And but he would wear a flag. And I remember that, and it that's it. You know, it was a part of what I was saying earlier. I'm not going to let someone else define me by telling me this is what doesn't look like, No, I get to define that. We can talk about it. And I just want people to be able to be able to do that. Or to at least talk about it. Because when we talk about God, or non God, you can always tell when we made God and our own image, because God always hates the same people we hate. Yeah, you know, yeah, that's what you know, you

- 2:04:44 certainly fairly narrow minded god.
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 Yeah, that's what you know. I need to revisit this. You know
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 who I don't like the Hittites. Maybe you should just go slaughter all of them. About that. But

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yeah. And so, and we're very close to that. Now we are if we're not very careful, we're very,

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we're so very, very close to that, Michael, we are we are, we are walking a razors edge of on one side, wanting that confirmation of belief on both sides, infrared and ultraviolet at the same time, while at the same time walking the fine line of not caring about each other at all. If somebody believes something different than you, and that is such a precarious and dangerous place as humanity for the conversation of humanity. Yeah,

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yeah. So I think that, you know, I have hope when I get up in the morning, say, and I want to be part of the solution and not part of the problem. That doesn't mean I don't get discouraged. It doesn't mean that after a couple cocktails or a couple of beers, I don't go off sometimes and go crazy and talk and my frustrations come up. But the next day, I'm back in the game. Yeah, I can't afford not to be and neither really none of us can be we're

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angry and to feel angry. It's whether or not you choose to live your life in anger.

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There you go. What's the old Zen said thing seven times down, eight times up. That's it. And so there, there it is, I want people to buy the book, but I want them to see it as an I can't control it, but I'm almost sure that they will. They will find something in it for them. And, and it'll bring us together there. There

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are some beautifully, beautifully amazing messages in here and I cannot wait to read it again and find more parts to underline and highlight for myself. Just as my daily credos and meditations because yeah, thank you, you know, it is a like, every day is an exercise in mindfulness every day, every day and mindfulness of loving yourself mind because when you love yourself, you're okay with everything around you. Yes, you know, yeah. And we have to love ourselves enough to love our neighbor enough to let them be happy. Yeah,

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you know why? Because I've taken out on sets on the front of the book. Enlightenment is when

a wave realizes that it's part of the ocean. That's right. And we when we realize that we are all part of the same source. You were you there's unity in the diversity. Diversity doesn't mean divisive. And it doesn't mean that you don't have your own unique self, your own unique gifts. Everybody's unique. We and so when we when we walk when we keep that in mind, I think we may treat each other. Just a bit more gentle. Yep.

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And we are all E Pluribus Unum. We are out of one we are many. And each penny that struck is unique and different in its own special little way. You know, but they all equal up to \$1. When you get 100 of them. There you go, you know, and we are all pennies, man. We are all the same equivalent value, everyone. So this, this book is beautiful. I love it. I love the teachings inside of it. I'm glad that we got together. I mean, so many times we get together we touch on these topics, we get into these topics. But I'm glad that we have the time to sit down today and actually, like crack this one open because it is one of those, like, this is why I started this show is it the communication of humanity and the understanding that we are not supposed to be homogenous. We are not supposed to all believe the same thing for the same reason. It knows the journey. And if you don't care about how somebody got to where they're at. You're the problem.

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Well, and you know, this is your ministry. Yeah. Thank you. Thanks. This is your ministry.

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I have taken that to heart since the last time you've told it to me

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why you went to seminary man? Yeah, uh, you know, you don't you don't you don't have this not always in the church ministries, not always in the church or not. This is your ministry. And that education prepared you for this. Yeah. So we could even have these conversations. This is your ministry. That's it.

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That's it. And you know, we are all called the vocation we're all called to spread the word of how how we got to where we are with other people so that we grow as a humanity. And that's what's important. Thank you so much for your time. As always,

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thank you for having me on.

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Anytime and always, whenever you feel moved to talk you feel free to message me and we'll talk.

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I will. And I'm wishing you and your Family, gentle peace this holiday season,

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same same let everybody know where they can follow you where they can go to keep up with everything where they can go to find sermons from the new amazing book, enlightenment.

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Well, you know what they can do, obviously Barnes and Nobles in Amazon, but we we stream our services on Sunday. So if you want to not only hear the word but you want to watch me at church and attend one of our services, just type in Unitarian Universalist congregation of the Swannanoa Valley, I know that's a lot of words, but it's in the book. And on Sunday, like Sunday afternoon, or we're loving to 12 you can actually attend the service. We have a Christmas Eve service too. And you can find me on Facebook, I'd Reverend Michael J. Carter, or you know, Michael Carter, I use I post mostly on Reverend Michael J. Carter. Budget, but check, check that out. And you can always send me an email at Michael J. S. carter@gmail.com. And I will respond. Awesome.

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Yes, he does respond, folks. Once again, thank you so much for your time, hold the line. Thank you while we close everything out with the audience, and we'll chat for a second. While you are online, checking out all of the amazing work and getting the amazing books like initiation and more from Michael J. S. Carter, make sure to step on by curious realm. That's where you can stop by the store and buy all of our guest books. There are easy links right there. You can also go to curious realm.com forward slash video. And you can you can see all of our guests YouTube pages embedded right there and follow them. Watch all their videos, everything else. Like follow subscribe, share everybody. And remember, share your heart share your minds this holiday season. That's what it is about. That's what every day is about. It's about the conversation of humanity. And what we can do to lift each other up, not tear each other down. So remember that this year and take care of yourselves take care of each other. And remember, stay curious. We'll talk to you soon. Bye bye. Thank you for tuning into this episode of The Curious realm. Stay tuned for more guests forbidden topics hidden hidden truths. Download the official curious realm app and view the knowledge vault on our website curious realm.com Follow us on social media by searching curious realm. Curious realm is available on your favorite podcast services, as well as YouTube, Roku, Amazon Fire and Apple TV through

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