

The Industry of Death

Exodus 20:13

Introduction

We are going to embark on a study today, for which I have spent over two years researching and compiling information. I was convinced that as I preached through the Bible, we would eventually come to a text that would allow me to pounce. And this is the day.

We find ourselves in Exodus, chapter 20, verse 13, reading the sixth commandment,

You shall not murder.

It is interesting that today marks the anniversary of Roe versus Wade – the case in which abortion was legalized. I want to introduce, if you do not already know, all that is taking place as a result of that case at this time. I do not think you know the depths of it and, in fact, it is so hideous to reveal all of the depths of this perversion that I will simply instruct as best I can.

I will then tell what the Bible has to say about life – when life begins, who the creator and the designer of life is, and the process of conception. The Bible is very clear.

Understand that abortion is not really new. We can trace it all the way back to at least four hundred years before the time of Jesus Christ.

Today, medical practitioners, if they so choose, quote the Hippocratic oath. In that oath, these words, among others, are included, “I, as a physician, will not aid a woman in procuring a device for the purpose of abortion.”

Introducing . . .

A Booming Industry of Death!

Now, let me introduce a booming industry of death.

Types of abortion procedures

First, I will give the different types of abortion procedures. This is not to be gross, but rather to simply inform you of the hideous nature of murder that is taking place in America. There are several types of abortion. There are three different categories: the first, the second, and the third trimester.

1. During the first trimester, there is what is called dilation and curettage.

The opening of the cervix is dilated with a series of instruments to allow the insertion of a curette, or a sharp, scraping instrument. The fetus is then cut into pieces and scraped from the uterine wall. Bleeding is usually profuse. The operating nurse must then reassemble the parts of the baby to make sure the uterus is empty, otherwise, infection will set in.

There is another method called suction curettage. The cervix is dilated and then a tube is inserted connected to a strong suction apparatus. The vacuum is so powerful that the baby is torn to bits and then sucked into a jar.

2. During the second trimester, which is the most prevalent form, there is salt poisoning or saline injection.

This method is used after sixteen weeks, so the baby is now four months old. When enough fluid has accumulated in the sac around the baby, a long needle

is inserted through the mother's abdomen into the baby's sac. Some fluid is removed and a strong salt solution is injected in. The helpless baby swallows this poison and suffers severely. He kicks and jerks violently, as he is literally being burned alive by the solution. It takes over an hour for the baby to die by this method. His outer layer of skin completely burns off. Within twenty four hours, labor will usually set in and the mother will give birth to a dead baby.

In a moment, I will read a quote by a doctor who performs these abortions. He rationalizes it and justifies it, yet condemns himself by what he says.

3. During the third trimester, there is a hysterotomy or caesarean section.

This is when the baby is eight, eight and a half, or perhaps nine months old. You may not have been aware that a baby can be aborted up to the day of birth. This is done by hysterotomy or caesarean section, mainly in the last three months of pregnancy. The womb is entered by surgery through the wall of the abdomen, the tiny baby is removed and allowed to die by neglect or is sometimes killed by a direct act; such as, puncturing the heart or a blow to the head.

4. There is another method of abortion that you have probably heard of. It involves a pill, RU486.

RU486 has long been sold in France and China. This is called "the morning after" pill that literally creates an abortion. The feminists demanded that someone step forward in America to make this available. What they do not tell is the number of women that will die by using it and, of course, the number of infants that will die.

Understand that this issue of abortion was even around during the time of Christ. That was surprising to me. As I study the Bible and commentaries and read what the ancients have written, it is amazing to me that sin and perversions that we think are new on the scene are really ancient. They go back as far as we can imagine because there has always been Satan. His design is to preempt the creative acts of God. He could care less about anything except shaking his fist at the authority of God, who is the power, the energy, and the force behind conception and birth.

Aristotle and Plato, in their day, defended abortion for large families.

During the time of Christ, the Greco-Roman world had three reasons why women would abort their babies. These are found in extant manuscripts.

- Number one, to conceal illicit sex.
- Number two, because rich women were illegitimately impregnated by lower class men and did not want the embarrassment of bringing these lower class babies into the world and then being responsible to take care of them.
- Number three, it allowed a woman to preserve, quote, "her figure".

The rabbis said, and it was written in the *Talmud*, "We outlaw abortion."

The church then and the church today believes that the safest place in all the world for a baby is the womb of its mother. The rabbis would treat the baby as a living human being, not some appendage; not some tumor; not some embarrassment; not some kind of tissue that is to be discarded. "This is *life*," they said.

We declare the same today. In fact, the *Didache*, a compilation of extra Old Testament law; the early church law, said this, "Thou shalt not murder by abortion."

Abortion is not new. There are those today, who are arguing as to what the churches' position will be. This is perhaps, one of the most tragic things of all. The world looks to the church and says, "What is the churches' position? What do the scriptures teach?"

There is the National Religious Caucus for the Rights of the Abortionists. It is filled with churches and organizations; such as, the American Baptist Church, the Church of the Brethren Women's Caucus, the Episcopal Church Woman's Caucus, the Presbyterian Church of the United States, the United Church of Christ, the United Methodist Church, the United Presbyterian Church, the YWCA, to name a few. These are churches and organizations that have corporately signed the bloody decree that a baby in the womb is *not* life and, if they have their will and their way, they will snuff it out.

If the church does not know what God's position is; if the church does not hold the teachings of scripture to be valid, then we are all "out to lunch". The world definitely cannot receive an answer from the church if we abandon what scripture teaches.

That is the reason we are going to cover dozens of passages of scripture in a rapid fashion today. Those who say they represent God, by whatever church

name they may be called, if they do not represent His scripture, they do not represent God.

Myths surrounding abortion

I want to briefly expose some of the myths surrounding abortion. We hear many of them. We cannot cover them all today. In fact, my purpose is really not to be an apologetic against all of these myths, but I think you need to be aware of them and I want to do my part.

1. Number one, it is said that abortion will take care of the, quote, “unwanted child”.

Let me read these words from the Planned Parenthood Federation, which is the hellish force behind abortion, “If women are forced to carry unwanted pregnancies, the result is unwanted children. Everyone knows that they are among society’s most tragic cases. Often uncared for, unloved, brutalized, and abandoned.”

That makes sense. According to The American Humane Association, between 1976 and 1982, the number of reported child abuse cases more than doubled from 400,000 to nearly a million.

However, The National Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse posted a 35% increase in reports of sexually abused children in 1984. In other words, ladies and gentlemen, the 1973 abortion-on-demand decision is *not* curbing child abuse.

Furthermore, there is no such thing as an unwanted child in this country. Let me share a story about the time my wife and I were expecting our twin boys.

Marsha and I were in Dallas and we went to Baylor Hospital for a checkup. She was nine months along; full term. The doctor began the checkup and said, “Hey, what are you doing walking around? You’re about to have these babies!”

The doctor ushered Marsha into the hospital and sent me downstairs to fill out numerous forms. If you have been in that situation, then you know it is the craziest time in the world to fill out forms.

So, I am downstairs trying to remember my name, phone number, address, and all of that, and the receptionist hands me another form. She says, “By the way, if you don’t want the babies, fill this form out.”

If you only knew the trouble my wife and I went through during that pregnancy. You *bet* we wanted

them – at least long enough to punish them, and then we might give them away! We wanted those babies!

I filled out all the forms, but that final form peaked my interest. I thought to myself, “Man, fill out a form to give them away.”

Obviously, that would be an alternative to abortion. I asked the receptionist, “How many people are on your list at Baylor University Hospital to adopt babies?”

She said, “We’ve got over a thousand couples waiting for you to say you don’t want your baby and they’ll give it a home.”

Nearly twenty five million babies have been deprived of someone’s love and home. There is *no such thing* as an unwanted child.

One American couple in six suffers from infertility. It has been estimated that at any one time, there are two million couples pursuing adoption.

2. There is another myth and that is that abortions are necessary for the case of rape.

This is a very tragic scenario and yet, it is a very small percentage of the entire scenario involving abortion. In fact, at one time in Pennsylvania, free medical assistance and abortions were given to women claiming rape. There were nearly fifty a month, until the state decided that the women had to first go to the police and report it as rape. Then, it nearly disappeared. Rape is a very slim percentage.

Let me say this, however, because I do not know who is in the audience today or what your background may be. Please listen to this. It is never right to do wrong, even though it may seem to give you a chance to do something right. Did you understand that? It is *never* right to do wrong. If we do not believe that, we believe in situation ethics.

Never compound the guilt and the pain upon a woman who has been raped by counseling her to become party to a murder. What help is that? It is no help at all.

I, in fact, ran across a story this week, of a young, teenage, black girl who was raped by a white man. That is just the information needed for those who would say, “Let’s abort.” She was a believer and decided to bring the baby into the world and raise the baby. That baby was a girl who would trust Christ and sing for Christ. And today, whenever we hear the song “His Eye is On the Sparrow,” we think of Ethel Waters. She was that little baby.

It is never right to become a murderer, even if someone has been raped. Do not become a felonious criminal because a felony has been committed.

3. There is another myth and that is concerning “back alley” abortions.

You hear all about this. Planned Parenthood has coat hangers on billboards and say, “Oh, we want to keep them from going back to that.”

Do you realize that since it has been legalized, six to seven times more women have died during the abortion procedure than before? So, that also can be considered a myth.

Forces behind abortion

What are the forces behind abortion? Let me expose several to you.

1. One motivating force is a new sex ethic.

In other words, in this country there is the belief that we should have the freedom to pursue whatever kind of lifestyle we want to pursue. We have a problem, however, there is a consequence. So, let us rid ourselves of the potential consequence and then, we can have this liberty.

That was compounded by, of course, the rise of feminism. It was begun by lesbians who espoused total sexual freedom. Then the ERA (Equal Rights Amendment) came along, or soon after, and demanded abortion-on-demand. Listen to this quote, “Women are not equal to men unless they are rid of childbearing responsibilities.” That is their tenant.

2. Another motivating force behind abortion is over-population, which is really another myth.

People say, “Oh my goodness, where are we going to live?”

Have you ever heard the fact that you could put everyone in the world, shoulder to shoulder, in the state of Rhode Island today?

There is a theological problem with that too. God created earth and in His design, He knows how many people earth can inhabit. If we think we are filling it up, then that is all the more reason to expect His return because He knows how big it needs to be to handle the population.

Planned Parenthood, of course, is behind this. Planned Parenthood was created by Margaret Sanger, an incredibly immoral woman, and a communist. There is a biography on her life and she said, “Birth

control, such as abortion, is calculated to undermine the authority of the Christian church.”

Do you see what her motive was? She did not care about the rights of a woman. She said, “This will undermine the authority of the Christian church.”

Let me quote her further. She also said, “I look forward to seeing humanity free some day from the tyranny of Christianity.”

She also expounded a six-fold plan for peace in which she suggested we sterilize all the feeble-minded. The feeble-minded included: Jews, blacks, Catholics, and people like that.

That is the force behind Planned Parenthood and a force behind abortion.

3. Then, of course, another force, and the final blow, as you know, on January 22, 1973, in Roe versus Wade, our highest court, which is designed to protect us, violated the fourteenth amendment that reads, “[No one shall] . . . deprive any person of life . . . without due process of law . . .”.

The pathetic twist is that all in the medical field will neither say that there is no life nor will they all say that there is life – there is division.

Who would ever put to death someone if they are uncertain as to whether they are dead or alive? Wouldn't you think it would be better to make sure that person is dead before proceeding with abortion?

It is inconsistent that the Supreme Court has also ruled that a man can be prosecuted as a murderer if he attacks a pregnant woman and the woman's baby dies. In other words, they are saying that the only person in America who has the right to kill their baby is the mother.

Business resulting from abortion

There are businesses resulting from abortion. This really is grisly, but I want to let you know what is happening.

In 1981, *Fortune* magazine declared abortion to be a billion dollar industry. There is, in fact, a triple profit with abortion.

1. There is first, a profit from the abortion itself. This includes what the woman pays the clinic, what the doctor makes, and all of the medical staff.
2. There is also the sale of the dead babies.

They refer to them, obviously, as fetuses; I refer to them as babies. They sell the bodies of the dead babies and the bodies are broken down.

There are cosmetic industries built on the collagen which is found in tissue and bone marrow. Ladies, if you go to the store and see something like a hand cream that is labeled, “enriched by collegian,” be sure to read where the collegian originated. Make sure it is animal collegian because it may be baby collegian. They sell it to unsuspecting customers.

3. Then, there is experimentation on the aborted babies – alive and dead.

Listen to this, “Abortion has been used to justify widespread fetal experimentation.”

In 1973, for example, kidneys were taken from aborted babies for study at Dalhousie University in Canada.

The New England Journal of Medicine reported on the study of the effects of a mother’s drugs on her baby that was aborted alive.

In 1973, Dr. Reyes, at the University of Manitoba, cut open the skulls of live aborted babies and studied them. He later killed the baby by a sharp puncture to the heart.

Live and dead aborted babies are being used in experimentation. In fact, in America, scientists have taken fetal organs and grafted them into rats to see how long the rats will live.

Dr. Lawrence Lawn, of Cambridge University in England, buys aborted babies to experiment with. Mr. Phillip Stanley, a spokesman for the clinic selling the aborted fetuses, says, “A fetus is . . . so much garbage.”

Let me read a quote by one abortionist who is currently involved in the practice. His words condemn himself. Dr. John Szenes, age thirty-six, has this to say, “You have to become a bit schizophrenic. In one room, you encourage the patient that the slight irregularity of the fetal heart is not important, that she is going to have a fine, healthy baby. Then in the next room, you assure another woman, on whom you just did a saline abortion, that it is good that the heart is already irregular . . . she has nothing to worry about. She is *not* going to have a live baby.”

Dr. Szenes continues, “At the beginning, we were doing abortions on smaller fetuses and the kicking and heartbeat did not manifest itself as much. I think if I had started with twenty-four ‘weekers’ right off the

bat, I would have had a much greater conflict in my own mind, if this was the same as murder or not. But since we started off slowly, with fifteen to sixteen ‘weekers,’ the fetus just never got consideration. Then gradually, the whole range of cases started to become larger. All of the sudden, one noticed that at the time of the saline infusion, there was a lot of activity in the uterus. It wasn’t fluid currents. It was obviously the fetus being distressed by swallowing the concentrated salt solution and kicking violently through the death trauma. Now, whether you admit this to the patient is another matter. Her distress by unwanted pregnancy, to me, is the primary consideration, ahead of any possible consideration for the fetus. We just have to face it,” – note this – “somebody has to do it. Unfortunately, we are the executioners in this instance.”

The truth behind abortion

What is the truth; the real motivation behind abortion? Let me give you three.

1. Number one, it is decision making apart from God.

What I want to do today is to simply reaffirm the sovereignty of God. That is, He is the Creator of life; He is the rightful owner of life; He is the decider of life; He determines the length and the breadth of a person’s days. It is *not* a woman’s right, it is up to *Him*, the sovereign God. I want to affirm that today, as I talk about this.

2. Number two, it is sexual freedom without consequence.

Did you know that nearly 80% of all abortions are performed on unmarried women? Eighty percent.

That pulls the mask off so we see that, just as in the time of Jesus Christ, there was this embarrassing consequence. And the woman felt that, rather than bear her child and give God the glory, and hopefully turn that child to God, it would be better to say, “We don’t want this baby. It’s an embarrassment. It’s an inconvenience.”

Internationally, abortion has now become the most common form of birth control.

3. Number three, it is materialism without restraint.

The billion dollar business related to the death of aborted babies is incredible. Those who are making money in this business, fistful after fistful, could now

no more stop than they could help themselves. Why? Because without God, without His authority to stop this, stopping will take their financial support and there is a materialist hunger that literally, rationalizes murder. Such is the case of this doctor who refers to himself as an executioner.

We will not even do to cats and dogs what we do to babies. There is an interesting law in New England that I came across. It levies a thousand dollar fine for shipping pregnant lobsters because it will hurt the offspring. America loves lobster; we want lobster, so we would never want to hurt the lobster industry. So, there is a fine of a thousand dollars for potentially damaging an animal.

Introducing . . . A Biblical Description of Life!

Now, let me introduce a biblical description of life! I will give a couple of principles.

1. Principle number one, conception is the work or the act of God.

Men and women, this is much more than the uniting of sixty-four chromosomes. This is the creative, powerful act of a creative God; a powerful God. We have given ourselves far too much credit for the procreative process. It is God who is the ordainer of life.

Let me give what the scriptures have to say on the negative side.

Look at Genesis, chapter 16, verse 2.

Sarai said, “. . . the Lord has prevented me from [conceiving]. . .”

Skip to Genesis, chapter 20, verse 18.

For the Lord had closed fast all the wombs of the household of Abimelech . . .

Turn to I Samuel, chapter 1, verse 5.

. . . the Lord had closed her [Hannah’s] womb.

It is God who allows conception.

Now let me give what the scriptures say on the positive side.

Look at Genesis, chapter 17, verse 19.

. . . God said, “. . . Sarah your wife will [conceive and] bear you a son . . .”

Skip to Genesis, chapter 21, verse 2.

So Sarah conceived and bore a son . . . at the appointed time of which God had spoken to him.

In the mind of scripture, in God’s revelation, conception is as crucial in the creative act of God as the development of the baby and the birth of the baby. Mark that down. It begins at the beginning – conception.

Turn to Genesis, chapter 25, verse 21.

Isaac prayed to the Lord . . . and the Lord answered him and Rebekah his wife conceived.

Look at Ruth, chapter 4, verse 13.

So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife, . . . and he went in to her. And the Lord enabled her to conceive . . .

These verses make it pretty clear.

Turn back to Judges, chapter 13, verse 7.

Manoah is going to bear Samson, and this verse says,

. . . Behold, you shall conceive and give birth to a son, . . . the boy shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb to the day of his death.

Matthew, chapter 1, verses 20 to 23, is interesting and we need to understand that one of the greatest theological arguments that life begins at conception is the fact that Jesus Christ was incarnate. That is, He left heaven and He became human; He entered the process of life. And when did that begin? In Bethlehem? No. At conception.

Jesus Christ, at one time, was the simple unification of sixty-four chromosomes. He was at one time, an embryo. God put Him through the entire process so He would know the process of humanity. God wanted the incarnation to make that kind of statement, I believe, as we apply it today.

2. Principle number two, physical life in the womb is the design of God.

This is now beyond conception and into the designing of the body.

Turn to Job, chapter 10, verses 8 through 12. Job says,

Your hands fashioned and made me altogether, and would You destroy me? Remember now, that You have made me as clay; and would You turn me into dust again? Did You not pour me out like milk and curdle me like cheese; clothe me with

skin and flesh, and knit me together with bones and sinews? You have granted me life and lovingkindness; and Your care has preserved my spirit.

Skip to chapter 31, verses 13 to 15. Do you see how clear this is?

If I have despised the claim of my male or female slaves when they filed a complaint against me, what then could I do when God arises? And when He calls me to account, what will I answer Him? Did not He who made me in the womb make him, and the same one fashion us in the womb?

That is the creative power of God in the secret place of the womb.

Look at Psalm 100, verse 3.

Know that the Lord Himself is God; it is He who made us, and not we ourselves . . .

Turn to Ecclesiastes, chapter 11, verse 5, and listen to this.

Just as you do not know the path of the wind and how bones are formed in the womb of the pregnant woman, so you do not know the activity of God who makes all things.

The wind is mysterious; it is the work of God. In the womb, in the hidden part, God is creatively designing a body. That is His part as well. They are both from His power.

Notice Isaiah, chapter 44, verse 2a.

Thus says the Lord who made you and formed you from the womb . . .

Skip to verse 24a.

Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, and the one who formed you from the womb, "I, the Lord, am the maker of all things . . ."

Turn to Psalm, chapter 139. Let us look at this Psalm and consider the creative power of God. Verse 13a says,

For You formed my inward parts . . .

This is literally saying, "my kidney," which was the Hebrew euphemism for all of the material part of the body that is created in the womb. Continue to verses 13b through 16.

. . . You wove me in my mother's womb. I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; wonderful are Your works, and my soul knows it very well. My

frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; . . .

(How about that term for embryo?),

. . . and in Your book were written the days that were ordained for me, when as yet there was not one of them.

That means from the conception and the forming in the womb to the end of life, God is the power; God is the sovereign behind it all; God is involved in the process.

Application – The "Real" Results of Abortion

I think the application in this is simple – from conception to birth and beyond, God is the creative designer.

This, by the way, answers the problem of deformity; of handicap; of disability. There will come a day when, by genetic testing, the woman will be given the right to abort her child because of the discovery of some disability – Downs Syndrome, a missing arm or a leg, or whatever it might be.

Yet, you may remember when Moses said to God, "Lord, I can't go to Pharaoh, I'm not eloquent."

Do you remember what God told Moses in Exodus, chapter 4, verse 11?

The Lord said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes him mute or deaf, or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord?"

Is it not God who made us all? Who are we to determine the worthiness of someone based on what we can see?

There was a woman who was expecting her fifth child. All of her previous four children had had some type of handicap; some type of problem physically. She had a drunkard for a husband. She conceived and was going to bear the fifth. She was told to get rid of the baby; to abort. But she decided to carry the baby to full term and brought that baby boy into the world. He is my favorite composer. We know him as Beethoven. He was deaf when he composed "Moonlight Sonata".

Who are we to say? That question, however, points to the problem – we are the ones who are saying. We are not basing our viewpoint, our belief upon what the scriptures say – that life begins by the

creative act of God. He knits it together in the womb – it is God’s right and no one else’s. And that body inside the woman’s womb is not an appendage – it is a living soul; it is a human; it is a life. That gives a different perspective of the whole issue, doesn’t it?

What are the real results of abortion?

1. First, God’s authority is denied.

Romans, chapter 1, spells it out. They did not acknowledge God; they did not thank Him; they refused to believe Him, so, as the last part of the chapter tells us, they became murderers.

Why? Because without the authority of God, I become God and I determine who lives and who dies.

2. Secondly, a child’s life is taken.

It is interesting, when this issue came before the U. S. Supreme Court in the Roe versus Wade case in 1973, there were over two hundred nationally recognized gynecologists, pediatricians, and medical professors who signed a petition on behalf of the unborn. They offered clear proof that the unborn are human beings with just as much right to live as any of the rest of us. In spite of that, the Supreme Court ruled against them.

Eleven years later, in 1984, sixty one physicians, including two past presidents of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, signed a statement entitled, “The Utmost Respect for Human Life”. It reads, “We urge all those engaged in the abortion debate to recognize that a central issue in the discourse must include acceptance of the fact that induced abortion causes the death of a living human being.”

One of the tragic twists in the logic of the medical field and the medical world, and I think in society that backs it up – I am not putting all of the blame on the doctor – is that they will take a prematurely born baby, perhaps, seven months, and rush millions of dollars worth of technology to the aid of that child to keep it alive. Yet, they will, at eight months, pull a baby – wriggling, crying, moving – from the womb of a woman and toss it into a bucket and say, “That isn’t life.” How tragically twisted.

3. Let me give a third result of abortion that I think, is often overlooked. A woman’s honor and conscience is violated.

Since 1955, in Japan, fifty million babies have been aborted. They call them water babies. There was such a repercussion of grief, depression, and

suicide that the leaders decided they needed to do something. So they have created Buddhist temples dedicated to water babies. Now, the women can go and buy, for a couple of dollars, in American value, a little statue of Buddha dedicated to the memory of their water baby. For a dollar and a half, they can have a priest offer a prayer on behalf of their dead child.

Do you know that in America, suicide increases among women who have aborted their child by 400 to 800%? They are victims too – they have been fed a lie.

4. Fourthly, a society’s future is condemned to death.

Let me tell you something that I want you to understand because I mean this from the bottom of my heart – abortion will not create the downfall of America, abortion exists because America has fallen. It is the symptom of our moral decline; of our bent toward materialism, sexual immorality without consequence, and on and on and on. It is seen best in this industry of death.

So what’s on the horizon for a society that opens Pandora’s Box? We will follow the way of Rome. I think we are in the last part of Romans, chapter 1. From a theological viewpoint, I do not necessarily believe that Jesus Christ has to return before we reap the consequences of Romans, chapter 1. We have made God an American. God is not an American. We, like any society that shakes its fist at the authority of God, will suffer the consequences; we will pay the penalty.

We have already seen the door cracked open, so let me tell you what else is going to happen.

There will be the legalization of infanticide. That means that babies, once born, will be, quote, “terminated”.

Professor Michael Tooley, of Stanford University, argues that one is not a person until he is self-conscious. Children do not become self-conscious until they are about a year and a half old. On this ground then, there is justification to kill a child well into his second year. So now, if we can tell they are not going to be genetically capable, if they have any kind of physical deformity or any type of malady, we can still kill the child – he is not self-conscious. That opens the door to infanticide.

In Texas, infanticide is already accepted. On April 4th, 1981, a young mother threw her live,

prematurely born baby, about seven and a half months, from the seventh floor of a Dallas hotel. The autopsy revealed the baby died from multiple wounds from that impact. Later, however, the charges against the woman were dropped. Why? Because for another month and a half, she could have aborted the child in any clinic in Texas. That is infanticide.

Infanticide is not where this will stop. It will continue on to euthanasia. Our country, like Sweden and other countries, is headed toward the legalization of some form or type of euthanasia.

I used to think the word was “youth-in-Asia,” and meant young people in some third world country. However, the “eu,” which means “good,” and “thanasia,” which means “death,” combined, means “good death”.

Let me explain it this way, by their own declaration, in 1973, the Humanist Manifesto II declared that suicide and euthanasia; that is, helping people die or literally, causing death, is entirely acceptable.

Since that manifesto, voluntary euthanasia groups have sprung into existence. One group, called Exit, promotes a book, *Let Me Die Before I Wake*, that provides how-to information for those desiring to end their lives early. The founder of the group, Derek Humphry, boasts that they have helped a lot of people die well.

A few years ago, former Governor Richard Lamm of Colorado, recommended openly that elderly people have an obligation to die and get out of the way.

Former Surgeon General, Dr. C. Everett Koop has warned, for every “Baby Doe” in the 1980’s, there will be 10,000 “Granny Does” in the 1990’s.

There are some that are already suggesting that we declare, as a country, the average lifespan of a human being. Let us say it is seventy, so that after seventy years of age, medical help is withheld if the person gets sick. That is euthanasia; we help them die. That is coming too.

Legalization of drugs will also occur. Why? It happened in Rome. In fact, the apostle Paul refers to drugs and the use of drugs. In Galatians, chapter 5, verses 19 through 21, he gives a list,

*... the deeds of the flesh ... are: ... sorcery
... murders ...*

“Sorcery” is the word “pharmakia,” which literally should be translated, “perversion by use of drugs”.

Revelation, chapter 9, verse 21, says that these will not inherit eternal life. Who? Those who are murderers and sorcerers – “pharmakia” or those who abuse drugs.

Do you think the Bible is appropriate to the twentieth century? You had better believe it.

Homosexuality and lesbianism will proliferate and on down this tragic list it goes.

John Witherspoon, a member of the Continental Congress, said, “A Republic must either preserve its virtue or lose its liberty.”

A challenge for the church

What is the challenge for the church? I want to give it in one statement, and that is, there are no human rights until there are divine rights.

We, as a country, have disregarded the authority of God. Now I am glad that everyone in this country who acknowledges God as Lord is not included in that “we”. However, when you throw away divine rights; when you throw out the fact that He is a sovereign God that we are accountable to, you lose the foundation for human rights.

The greatest thing that you and I can do, ladies and gentlemen, is to recognize that we are on a sinking boat and that we need to get as many people into the lifeboats as we possibly can. That little girl that lives next door to you will have to choose, one day, whether or not to keep her baby.

I wonder where these chief justices were when they were little children. Were they near a church? Did they live near Christians? Who was silent; who did not tell them about Jesus Christ? Who did not tell them about the authority that God should have in all of our lives, the authority that scripture should have, and the value of life?

We now have another generation living around us within the tentacles of our ministry, and we must declare to them that God is sovereign and only by acknowledging Him can we ever hope to improve our culture and our society. We bring people to Jesus Christ.

Let us go back to Matthew, chapter 28, verses 19 and 20. Jesus Christ told them to go back into their perverted, degenerate societies and make disciples.

Who are you discipling today? Who have you won to Jesus Christ? Where are your disciples? Everything else falls short of fulfilling that commission to,

. . . make disciples [to immerse] . . . them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you . . .

We have our work cut out for us. There has never been a more exciting day to name the name of Jesus Christ than today.

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