

Sanctity of Life Sunday

I. Wrongdoing is Justified - Ezek. 16:20-21

1. These are God's people - not pagan peoples (**verse 20**)
 2. Bore to God, yet sacrificed to idols
 - obviously their prostitution was not enough
 - they take God's gifts and give them to idols
 3. You slaughtered my children (**verse 21**)
 - A. These children belonged first to God
 - Rea -obviously God (just like us) takes delight in our children
 - Rea -there is no more helpless, nor vulnerable person on earth than our children
 - B. Maybe they thought they were sacrificing something particularly precious to themselves to their gods
 4. The prophets condemned social injustice -especially of taking advantage of the weak
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
1. Weaker individuals are always under a special "watchcare" of God in Scripture
 2. Weaker persons
 - orphans
 - widows
 - the sojourner, stranger
 - the wick
 3. What do you think God thinks of the abortion of children in the USA?
 - in some places abortion has grown, until parents chose the gender of their children, aborting the rest
 4. When the lives of children are not sacred, the lives of no persons are sacred
 - in our culture the lives of the unborn do not "matter"
 5. I will never vote for a man or woman who is pro-choice
 6. Murdering infants is worse than anything that Hitler ever did

II. Callousness Becomes the Norm - Ezek. 23:36-39

1. Will you judge Oholah and Oholibah - a challenge for Ezekiel to judge them (**verse 36**)
 - these places represented the capitals of the Northern and Southern Kingdoms
2. Confront them
 - Rea -it is our Christian "job" to confront the evil of abortion
 - note these practices are called "detestable" in this verse
3. The sin is called "adultery" (**verse 37**)
 - bloody hands
 - spiritual adultery
 - offered the children up as "food" for their idols
 - Rea -the idea being that these idols had to be "fed"
4. They became so "calloused" that this did not "matter"
 - Rea -small sins callous us to the bigger ones - I know it is not PC to talk about small

- and big sins... I'm just communicating
5. They have done this to me (**verse 38**)
- Rea -note that God takes this "personally" - all sin is sin against God
 -and at the same time defiled my sanctuary
 -they are defiled and as they enter the sanctuary they defile it
- Rea -Jesus said leave your gift at the altar, go make things right, then return
 -also... desecrated God's Sabbaths - instead of honoring God they were defiling Him and His honor
6. On the very day (**verse 39**) - they sinned and worshiped together
- Rea -on His day and in His house
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
1. Do we desecrate the house of God? - or is the church "different?"
 2. They were still "worshiping"
 -they were still attending services
 3. How dumb to think that God does not know the difference - or that God doesn't care!

III. God's Truth Revealed - Ps. 139:13-16

1. You created me (**verse 13**)
 -my inmost being
 -in my mothers womb
 -knit together
 -abortion is wrong
 -fearfully and wonderfully made (**verse 14**)
- Rea -speaks to the "wonder" of human life
 -modern technology bears out the "wonder" of life
- Rea -technology also shows (with no debate possible) that this is a person - and it is alive
2. My frame was not hidden from you (**verse 15**)
 -God knew this child - person
 -in the secret place, but not secret from God
 -woven together
3. The progression of an unborn baby
 -at conception - the foundations are there (Rea - DNA for a unique person)
 -at 35 days - fingers can be discerned
 -at 45 days - brain waves appear
 -at 5 months - weighs a pound - responds to startling noises
4. Your eyes saw my body
 -my days were in your "book"
- Rea -at this point God already has "plans" for them - before the first day actually happened (**verse 16**)
5. Since 1973, 6 million abortions have been performed
6. How can we take a stand?
 -teach our kids biblical principles
 -urge married couples to remain faithful
- Rea -teach (boldly) the Biblical standard of abstinence before marriage
- Rea -pastors simply have to take a stand!

-it grieved me recently when a woman told me she did not know where her pastor stood on this issue

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. So if technology shows us the baby “alive” - how do we yet still protect the “right” of the mother to “kill” a person? (a very, very vulnerable person)
2. When we decide to “pull the plug” on a person at the end of life, doctors always look for brain waves to determine if they are still alive. Why does that not work for the unborn? Why are they are not alive at 45 days if the brain waves are there? Most moms don’t know they are pregnant for quite some time.

3. If all lives were precious it would affect the BLM issue positively

-it would affect the “Me Too” movement

those
-it would affect our concern to present the gospel over all the world, because
lives (in other nations) are precious to God as well (not just American lives)

Beyer Bryan - SS Lesson for January 16, 2022