

We Are Not a Stain
Psalm 22
January 23, 2011

Abortion is evil. These words can be so hard to digest for us, because our society refuses to say these words. Instead, we say abortion is a choice between a mother and her doctor. We are given a vision that a mature, wise thinking woman is talking to her kind family doctor and determine that perhaps the best course would be to end this pregnancy; as if that happened. Wise and kind doctors don't say that.

Most abortions have more to do with unwise choices made by people who are not thinking wisely. They are advised by uncaring and unethical people who urge an easy solution to a problem. They are counseled not by doctors, but by Planned Parenthood workers and clinic staff who say, "You want an abortion? Okay, we'll schedule it for you." It is performed by doctors who are not your family doctor, but men and women that the woman normally will never see again. It is the paid extermination of human life and it is a travesty and a stain on our nation.

Human beings are made by God in God's image. No one has the right to kill innocents not guilty of capital crimes except God Himself. Each baby in the womb belongs not to the mother but to God. The spirit of this world does not know nor honor God. In our society, we turn a blind eye to abortion, or, if we speak of it, we protect it as freedom or a right. The values of our society are strange and warped. Chickens are to be protected from uncomfortable living conditions, but babies are slain in the womb. To be a tree or a cow is to be noble. To be a dolphin or a whale is to be holy. To be water or air or to have feathers is to be sacred. But to be human is to be a stain. Even our exhalation has been declared pollution. Our thinking is man-centered, man thinking he is at his best, and man at his most brilliant, is a fool. God says "Wrong! Wrong! God is true and all men are liars.

We are worshiping the creature and not the Creator. And that is why we abort human flesh in the womb and call it a solution to a problem. Our current president echoed the feelings of a nation when he said,

"Look, I've got two daughters. 9 years old and 6 years old, I am going to teach them first of all about values and morals. But if they make a mistake, I don't want them punished with a baby,"

But God has said, "Children are a gift from the Lord!" So, we must adjust our thinking to conform to the truth of God on this matter. We must not be fools in our thinking, clinging to the wisdom of man, believing that humans are a stain in a holy world. Life matters. Every human being, no matter how great or how small, he or she matters. As long as there is breath in our bodies, we must speak out against the evil of abortion. Not only for the voiceless unable to speak for themselves, but for love of humanity and of the human race who live in foolishness.

PSALM 22

Psalm 22:1-11 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? 2 O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest. 3 Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. 4 In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. 5 To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame. 6 But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people. 7 All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; 8 "He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!" 9 Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts. 10 On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God. 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.

This is a sorrowful Psalm. These are but a few of the verses, however the entire Psalm prophetically looks at the sorrows and the sadness's of Jesus and how His life ended. In this Psalm, we see the oppression, torture, and murder of the one innocent man who ever lived upon the earth. He wronged no one. He created everyone. And when He took on flesh and walked among us, He was found not worthy of living.

He speaks of being surrounded by evil doers. He speaks of being out of strength, in pain, being pierced through his hands and feet, being ridiculed, and finally, being laid into the dust of death. I want us to begin by looking at two parts in this psalm about Jesus; Verse 6 and verses 9 and 10. Let's begin with verse 6:

6. But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

Jesus described the pain He had to suffer as being made less than human. No man should be treated this way by other men, especially not an innocent man. Perhaps a worm that is crushed underfoot could be treated like this, but a man must not be. In this, we can see how the unborn can identify with Jesus or Jesus with them. A human being would certainly not be treated with such disregard that he is dragged out of his mother's womb and slain, thrown in the trash and treated like refuse. The baby in the womb echoes the voice of Jesus in a question: "Am I a worm and not a man?"

And then in verse 9-10:

9 Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts. 10 On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God.

In verse 6, Jesus pointed out that He was being treated as a worm and not a human. But in verse 9 and 10, He returns to His value as a man made by God. He says, “Yet I am human!” He knows that He is not a worm. He is a man. And as a man, it is God who took Him from His mother’s womb. All who are born into this world are the handy-work of God. God knits each one together in the womb. And by virtue of being human, each one has great dignity. The innocent should not die.

Now, in the case of Jesus, there was a very specific reason why He suffered. God had a plan for Him. He sent Him as the innocent One so that He could suffer this indignity and die as though he were guilty. Why? He came to die in our place. Christ died for sinners like you and me. He did this so that the payment for our sins would be complete. He was sent to die for all who do evil. He was sent to die for abortion doctor, who can slay child after child after child and who has seared his own heart to the reality of what is happening. He has died for the parents of the pregnant and the impregnators who selfishly demand the death of the innocent ones, coercing women into slaying their children. He has died for the mom’s who will never hear the cries of their children, for they have extinguished their voices before they breathed their first breath of air. He died for careless boyfriends and one night stands who began this process in their sin. He died for the rapists and the parents who molested their victims and left them with a nightmare pregnancy. He died for sinners, not saints.

We find it easy to think that Jesus died for the little babies who died before birth. We find it easy to think that He loves the innocent. And so He does. But the gospel is that He died for sinners. And so we who are Christians have a very difficult time. Why? We strive because we must uphold the standard of the righteous, and are the voice of the voiceless and speak for the unborn. We must fight in the legislature and in the newspapers and in the churches and in the homes of all of our society and say, “Stop this madness! These are humans, not animals! We must stop the killing!”

But we must at the same time do this without being sanctimonious and self-righteous. The people who do these things are sinners for whom Christ died, just as you and I. For this reason, we must always start with forgiveness. Do you carry around guilt for the evil you did? For the sex you have had with people you don’t know well or aren’t married to? Do you carry guilt for aborting your baby or helping others to do so; for sins of all kinds? Your sins make you guilty before God but He has satisfied His justice by slaying His Son in your place on the cross. There is forgiveness and grace for you. Later in the Psalm, this prayer is offered up:

Psalm 22:19-20 19 But you, O LORD, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid! 20 Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog!

Jesus cried out for His Father, who heard Him. Although He had to go through this suffering, God would raise Him from the dead. My friends, who is crying out in prayer for the children without a voice?

Children are dying, human babies. How many black, white, Asian, adults will never be seen because, though God formed them, they never found their way to this earth because they were slain, legally, safely, in our society? We are living with a travesty, a nightmare of carnage. We as a nation have innocent blood on our hands. Even today, more blood will be shed. O God, deliver their souls from the sword! And finally, let us look at the heart of God:

Psalm 22:24 24 For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.

God is on the side of the aborted. He is on the side of the hurting. Someone might ask, "Then why hasn't He stopped this evil if He is on their side?" That's a fair question and deserves an answer. I'll give you two. First, He has. On the cross of Christ, the battle ended. The day will come when the justice of God will flow down from the mountains, the dead will be raised, the faithful will be rewarded and brought to life, and the wicked will be judged.

But the other answer I offer is to ask another question: Why doesn't God stop all evil right now? If we ask Him to stop all abortions, should we not also expect Him to stop all wars? What about all violent crimes? What about all thefts and all lies, all wicked thoughts and all sins? You might say, "Well, no. we have to have freedom to do right and choose what's right and make moral decisions ourselves. We don't want complete mind control. We just want Him to stop the big sins, like abortion." Are there big sins? We underestimate the holiness of God.

God is so holy that every sin is a big sin, and every sin is sufficient to banish the one who committed it forever from the presence of God and into eternal punishment. We know God's heart on abortion. He hates it. He is with the afflicted. The question I'd ask you is "where is your heart?" Instead of questioning what God is doing about the unborn, what are you, man created in His image, doing to stop your fellow man from doing this evil?

Finally, know this: we must fight this battle for life, knowing that the evil of abortion will end one day. We fight a winning battle.

Psalm 22: 26 The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever!

Abortion will end. The wicked sin and the murder will stop. This Jesus who cried out in suffering is the Lord who is sought by the suffering of the world. And they find Him! He is alive and He gives eternal life.