**January 29, 2017 “The Sanctity of Human Life” Genesis 1: 27-28**

It is my opinion that the society in which we live has created an atmosphere where it is nearly impossible in this society to become or remain a dedicated disciple of Christ. There are so many opportunities for distractions whether through electronic media, print media or in the general attitude of our societies’ penchant to be attracted to nearly anything as long as it is not Christian.

The pilgrims when they came to America came with express purpose of, and I quote, “the advancement of the Christian religion”. I personally believe that if those who were alive and influential in the founding of our nation were able to come back to life again in the age in which we now live, they would be appalled.

What would those individuals think of the demonstrations held in the last few days at our nation’s capital? Could they have imagined the decadence of the demonstrations of some of those at the march? I personally was appalled at the language and some of costumes worn by some. I think those who founded this country not only would be ashamed of our decline into immorality; the corruption of many within our government; they would also be appalled at the condition of many if not most of the doctrinal stances of our churches, the values portrayed in our educational systems; the overall conditions of our home lives and the defense of an ideology where women are subjected to the most barbaric practices?

So how did we get here? How have we gotten to the place where Islam is defended and Christianity maligned and disdained by many? I personally do know of not one Baptist terrorist group in the entire world. How is it that we can no longer describe or defend marriage as a union between one man and one woman in many of the courts of America today? That is appalling enough but how is it that the same can be said of many of our major church denominations today?

What makes leaders of nations go all the way to France to march in the streets over the deaths of cartoonists who supposedly desecrated Mohammed and march in the streets in some of our major cities decrying the violence and yet remain silent over the fact that nearly 1 billion children have not been allowed to see the light of day due to decisions made for their own governments? Mass exterminations by the Nazis has been decried for years. In fact, just this week, I saw postings on-line saying, “Never again”. These posting were decrying the Holocaust. Surprisingly, the gulags of Stalin; the purges of Mao Zedong along with the killing fields of Pol Pot have all been vilified and yet the greatest extermination of life in the last 100 years barely raised a peep???? How can this be???

Today, since this is the closest Sunday to the infamous Roe V Wade decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in 1973, I think we should address the overall sanctity of human life from God’s perspective. The sacredness of human life is an issue near and dear to the heart of God as we will see today.

1. Only human beings are made in the image of God
   1. Genesis 1:27-28
      1. There are majestic rivers
      2. Majestic trees
      3. Beautiful birds and animals
   2. But only man reflects the glory of God
      1. Ability to reason
      2. Ability to communicate
      3. No idol, picture, painting or other things made by man can compare to the intricacies of the human complex
2. Psalm 139:13-16… At conception
   1. God starts His work in the womb
      1. Jeremiah 1:4-5
         1. Called from my mother’s womb and even before that
         2. Called for a purpose
            1. Ephesians 2:10
   2. Here in lies one of the great problems in our society today
      1. Many people live without understanding their divine purpose
   3. Where did this mindset come from?
      1. Mid 1800’s… 1859 to be exact
      2. Charles Darwin
         1. On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life
         2. That last part of the title had great effect on the world resulting in:
            1. World War 1… much of the German Hierarchy adhered to the “favoured race” part
            2. WW II… with Hitler
            3. Margret Sanger… founder of Planned Parenthood
         3. When man is nothing more than an animal… everything is permissible and only the strong will survive
      3. Karl Marx
         1. Communist Manifesto
            1. Advocated

“free love”

“progressive income tax”

Abolition of inheritances

“free education”

“children should teach the parents”

* + - 1. Karl and his wife Jenny had 7 children
         1. 3 died infancy… due to extreme poverty
         2. One died at age 9
         3. 2 daughters who survived to adulthood committed suicide
         4. He was well known for his infidelity to his wife

1. What about children with deformities?
   1. Psalm 127:3
      1. Exodus 4:10-11
      2. How many of us are less than perfect?
         1. How much less perfect than I am do you have to be to be of no value?
      3. Why would God form these less than perfect individuals?
         1. To remind us that we live in a sinful fallen world
         2. To remind us that this is not the way it will always be
         3. To remind us that every individual is important
2. When God initiates a life, man is not allowed to end it for convenience sake
   1. Exodus 20:13… Thou shalt not kill
   2. Exodus 21: 22-25… value of human life in the womb
      1. The Planned Parenthood organization performed 270,000 abortions per year as of 2006
      2. When people were asked why they had an abortion, 50% said they didn’t want to be a single parent or had problems in current relationships; 66% said they could not afford the child; 75% said that it would interfere with their lives, and 95% said for reasons of convenience
   3. What about abortion to save the life of the mother?
      1. Former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop stated that in his 35 years of medical practice he could not site one case where abortion was necessary to save the mother’s life
   4. Devastating effects on life
      1. Patricia Neal, award winning actress in an interview before she died revealed that she had had an abortion in the 1950’s. She stated in the interview that if she could do anything over again in her life… she would have the baby. She died at the age of 84 and the interview was not long before her death and it shows the overall effect of abortion on the life of a woman.
      2. Perhaps the two greatest sins against women are:
         1. Pornography
            1. The only value of a women is her reproductive organs
            2. As seen in Washington DC’s march
         2. Abortion
            1. How many women today are suffering silently?
            2. How many have feelings of absolute worthlessness?

Drowning in despair?

Drugs or alcohol?

1. What are we to conclude or learn from this message?
   1. Psalm 103:12… as far as the east is from the west
      1. There is not one of us who does not have something in our past that had brought dishonor to God… not one of us.
      2. Psalm 51:5
      3. Hebrews 10:11-18
         1. One sacrifice for sin… Christ Himself
         2. He is enough
         3. He is sufficient for all
   2. God wants to spend eternity with you… All you “who have sinned and come short of the glory of God”
      1. What is your purpose in life?
         1. To glorify God
         2. Enjoy His presence forever
      2. Revelation 22:17
         1. Come… God’s forgiveness is for all of us