

King of Life
Psalm 72:1-14
January 24, 2010

In the winter of my 10th year on earth, our nation blessed the practice of abortion by a Supreme Court decision. Since then 45 million Americans have been slain legally. Forty-five million children have found that their first home, which should be the safest place on the earth, is their gas chamber, their torture chamber, their execution room, the place of death. That which should bring forth live children brings forth corpses.

There are those Christians who have sought to defend the legality of abortion. Those people should repent immediately. They are opposing God. The Bible is clear that children are a gift from the Lord, that the womb is where He knits us together, complete with souls, and that human beings are of greater value than anything on the earth. In the womb, brothers have wrestled, prophets have been formed, and the Holy Spirit caused children to leap! In the womb the Savior of the world had His home. It is to be a place of life.

The reasons for getting abortions amount to selfishness. The top reasons are: being single, no money to raise a child, because the father of the baby is not supportive, and/or because the baby will interrupt school or work or life style. Does it matter what the reason is? Can there be a reason for slaying humans like we do? There cannot be. We live in a free society, a society where the people get what they demand. Therefore, our entire society shares in this slaughter. Christian, what are we to do? What did our Savior do? What is our Savior's heart? Let's answer that question together from Psalm 72.

TEXT: Psalm 72:1-14

1 Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son! 2 May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice! 3 Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness! 4 May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor! 5 May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations! 6 May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth! 7 In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more! 8 May he have dominion from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth! 9 May desert tribes bow down before him and his enemies lick the dust! 10 May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts! 11 May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him! 12 For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper. 13 He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy. 14 From oppression and violence he redeems their life, and precious is their blood in his sight.

This is a prayer. This is a prayer for the people of Israel to honor the King, Jesus. The prayer calls on God to send the King who is just and righteous and makes all things right. Rulers of men are so rarely just and righteous. Wouldn't it be great if everyone we sent to Washington or Harrisburg or even the courthouse in Kittanning were just and righteous? Wouldn't it be great if you could know that every senator, every congressman, every judge, and every cop was ruled by the righteous standard of God; if they tried to, at every turn, not to do what is best for them, but that which is just and right? What would the result be in our state and our nation? Would it not be peace, prosperity, safety and wisdom? Our nation is unruly, sinful, oppressed, and bankrupt to the same extent that our rulers are not just. No one fears a fair man who fears God.

This prayer in Psalm 72 is to the God of Israel. He knows the King of Justice will one day come. He's asking for Him to come now and rule the people to set things right; to stop oppressors and bribe takers, those who steal from the people and crush the defenseless. Under a King like this, God will be glorified and the people will rejoice. They will fear God while the sun endures and while the moon gives light. The King will be to them like a warm life giving water upon a freshly mowed field. The righteous of the nation will rejoice. There will no injustice to push them down. The prayer is for the King of peace to come to Israel. But the prayer is not just for Israel. It is for the entire earth. Tribes in the desert will honor this King, and their wicked men will be put in their place, licking the dust.

All over the world, wicked men oppress their people. The King of Israel, when He comes, will end their injustice too. And, just as ending injustice in Israel will bring her joy, prosperity and peace, so will ending injustice in the earth. The Good King of Israel is not limited to Israel. He rules all the nations of the earth. He hears the cries of those under the thumb of evil men and He will deliver them. This is clearly a picture of the millennial kingdom which will come to the earth when Jesus returns.

Jesus hears the cries of the oppressed. Some might say, then why are they are oppressed? Why do they still die? Why do they still suffer? Why has He done nothing? Those who ask these things think God is like a man, limited by time and space –that He cannot avenge sins in eternity. No oppressor will escape His wrath. No righteous person oppressed will go unrewarded. Precious in His sight is the blood that the oppressor spills. He saves every drop and He will redeem, resurrect, and reward. The wicked will perish.

This is a prayer for justice for his nation and the world. This is the prayer that I pray for my nation and for the world. This is the prayer I invite you to pray. Mankind is precious to God. But mankind is not precious to mankind. We are out of line with the morality of the universe. God does what is needed to save us, body and soul. We work against Him, devaluing humanity. Our history is a story of wars strung together. But it is hard to imagine any slaughter that rivals abortion world wide. For it is not the passionate violence of war, it is the dispassionate, cavalier destruction of ourselves. We are killers. With this in mind, I'd like to share some snapshots of the killing to consider.

Forty-five million babies have been aborted in America since 1973; about 1.4 million a year; or 4000 per day. One seventh of our population is 45 million. That's a lot of dead people! Four thousand little babies are killed every day. Imagine if we added the number of babies killed to the population of our county every day. At this rate, it would take only 18 days for us to double in size in Armstrong County. The reverse is true also. If doctors killed the human beings of at the rate that we kill babies in this country, it would only take 18 days until we, the citizens in this county were all gone. We're killing mankind.

Thirteen million African American boys and girls have been slain since 1973. That is equal to 1/3 of the total population of African Americans. For black people in America, abortion is the number one threat of death, more than crime, more than cancer, more than heart disease, more than aids. If you are in a baby in the womb of a black woman in America, you have a one in three chance of dying there. All the while, those so called shepherds with names like Jackson and Sharpton, who claim to benefit black people, are the shepherds of death who defend the status quo. And all of us look the other way. And we are not alone the entire world of men are killing machines.

Forty-six million babies are killed world wide every year. That is 126,000 a day! God said, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth." He loves humanity. We, as the human race kill 46 million of our very own per year. That equals to 12 million more people than live in the nation of Canada. Do you know how many people live in Haiti? Nine million people live there. The entire western hemisphere is mobilizing billions of dollars to help this nation of 9 million. But the entire world doesn't bat an eye nor spare a care for 46 million people who have already died.

In China 7+ million babies are killed every year, that is over 20,000 a day. China is the nation that performs the most abortions within its borders. Every year, 7 million, every day 20 thousand, every hour 833, every minute 14, every 5 seconds one baby dies. What if someone was picking us off that fast? This world is one of killers. Planned Parenthood is the world's largest abortion provider. Planned Parenthood, born right here in America, is the largest abortion provider in the world. They are proud to be. They call it "health care". They are now in every country around this globe that they can be in. They started here. And now, we have exported our sin to the world. What do we do? These are the facts; God loves mankind, and mankind is a killer of mankind. God loves Justice and He loves the oppressed.

So what are we to do, as Christians in America? The answer I offer is two fold:

1. Get into the fight and open your mouth.

Proverbs 31:8-9 8. Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute. 9. Open your mouth, judge righteously; defend the rights of the poor and needy.

When the King of Justice returns, He will make all things right. However, that is not an excuse to do nothing. I have heard well meaning Christians piously say, "Well, the best thing we do is pray." I say wrong! That is no different than walking by a starving man and saying, "God bless you, be at peace." Prayer is for those who are working, not a substitute for work.

If you are not in a fight, you have nothing to pray about. “Pray to end abortion?” That won’t work. You must also have skin in the game. No where in the Bible will you ever find a theology where God says, “Pray and sit there. I’ll do the rest.” “Fight to end abortion and pray as you do!” Open your mouth. You live in a representative republic. Open your mouth. Defend the rights of the poor and needy. In this case, they are in the wombs of women. Run for office. Ask those who run for office what they are going to do. Stand between that which is evil and the weak. We must fight.

2. We must live in the gospel:

The gospel is the truth that God in His mercy substituted His Son for the people of the world. He shed His blood because we are killers, not because we are worthy. You and I who oppose the injustice of abortion do not do so because we are not equally killers. We do so because we have been redeemed by God. His kindness alone is the reason we can see the truth on this matter. If it were not for His kindness, we would support abortion; we would support Planned Parenthood and all the killing. Why did He choose us to see and not another? He chose us because of His grace alone. The gospel must be on the feet of those who stand up for the oppressed. Not hatred for the killers of man, but grace and mercy, knowing that God has died to redeem them, and many of them He will call to salvation. We must also remember that the gospel is the solution for the problem in the big picture. Jesus bore the blood of all the babies on His own body on the cross. He bore the punishment for the killers who are in the image of God. Jesus is the redeemer. He buys sinners back from hell and the devil’s control. He buys us out of our chains.

Living the gospel, preaching the gospel, being humbled by the gospel, this is to be our response to abortion. If I counsel a pregnant woman against abortion, then I must also tell her of the kindness of God. The gospel is a message of power, not weakness. The gospel is a message that creates revolution in souls. The gospel is a message that doesn’t abort life but creates it. The gospel is a message so powerful that those with no life in them can be born from Heaven and have life that cannot die. Most of the warriors against abortion in this world aren’t fighting because they are smarter than every one else: no, they are gospel warriors. Jesus has rescued their souls and in so doing, opened their eyes to see His ways, and they regret their foolishness of the past and now live for Him. The gospel is the heart changing weapon that should always be used. It is the power of God to salvation.

For our own nation, let us pray. For ourselves, let us pray. Have you had an abortion? Have you helped someone else have an abortion? Can you see you in this great sin? Run to Jesus and find the power of the Gospel to wash away the blood of murder from your hands and make you brand new. And let us pray for courage to act in our country. Let us pray for speed in the spread of the gospel message throughout the globe, again and again. The gospel is the message of the King who Israel is waiting for. He is the King who brings justice by paying for the sins of His people. The gospel message of this King is enough to fight abortion in our world today. Abortion is about the hatred of mankind by mankind. The Gospel is about the love of mankind by God.