

Genesis 1:26, 27

Sanctity of Life

From the mind of God ...

I. What God Believes

- A. Creation
- B. Law
- C. Gospel

II. What God Sees

- A. Everything
- B. The Innocent

III. What God Expects

- A. Submission
- B. Compassion

... to the heart of man.

Children, Listen ...

1. How did God make man and woman? Genesis 1:27
2. Does God care about babies in their mommy's belly?
Exodus 21:22-25
3. Did God know you even before you were born? Psalm
139:13
4. Do you think it is important to protect unborn babies?
5. Will you pray that our country would protect our babies
from harm?

Arrogance Vs. Confidence

It may seem outrageous to claim that we know the mind of God regarding the sanctity of human life and the issue of abortion. The worldly minded would surely label such an assertion as nothing less than pompous arrogance. But the fact of the matter is that God has revealed his mind to us on many things in His Word, including the value of life, even life in a mother's womb. Though the terminology of Scripture may not directly address modern methods and mentalities God makes it clear that life is precious and that the life of the innocent in the womb is not only a viable human being, but that those human beings are worthy of care and compassion. Conversely the disregard of such a life is godless-minded and the destruction a heinous act against humanity and God Himself. As one writer put it, it takes "semantic gymnastics" to make any rational argument for abortion – and I will add that it takes grotesque Scripture twisting to make God either indifferent or approving of the practice. Let one be deceived God is Pro-life and we can say so with confidence. And let no one, not even this great nation be deceived – God sees all things and the aroma of innocent blood reaches the heavens. It is time for our nation to repent and seek forgiveness and grace while it may be found. He demands submission and He will not be mocked. God also expects compassion, especially on the part of His church. Lord have mercy on our nation and grant your true church the grace and resolve we need to protect the unborn and provide for the lives of the little ones made in Your image.

2 Samuel 13:1-22

Disgrace in the Household

Sins of the fathers ...

I. Desperately "Love" Sick

- A. Redefining Love
- B. Maddening Obsession

II. A Wicked Plot for "Romance"

- A. An Outrageous Fool
- B. His Crafty Accomplice
- C. The Innocent Prey

III. The Crime Scene

- A. Vile Perpetrator
- B. Piteous Victim
- C. Aggravating the Assault

IV. Indignation

- A. Worthless
- B. Tainted
- C. Righteous
 - 1. Justice
 - 2. Mercy
 - 3. Justice (intentional repeat)

... and a desperate need of grace.

Children, Listen ...

1. Did Amnon really "love" Tamar?
2. Did Tamar do anything wrong?
3. David was mad for what happened. Did he do anything about it?
4. What did Tamar's brother Absalom want to do to the man who hurt his sister?
5. Where do we find hope for holiness, purity and the end of sin?

Outrageous Evil

When the only glimmer righteousness found in a man is in the likes of Absalom you know it is going to be hard to find redemption in this tale of shame. David's household was about to bust lose with depravity and this sordid scene opens the horror show. The only innocent one is poor Tamar who falls prey to the vile advances of her half-brother. Amnon's actions are perverse, his friend is wicked, his dad does nothing in response and his half-brother is fit to be tied as he wants to kill the perpetrator that defiled his sister. A disgraceful and tragic pall has fallen over the King of Israel's house. One could certainly do a legitimate analysis of family dynamics, human nature and a number of other psycho-emotional elements of this story, but the bottom line is that sin is devastating. This horribly repulsive scenario drives this home in an effectively disturbing way. If nothing else it leaves us longing deeply for righteousness, purity and an end to all sin – longing for redemption – looking for a Savior. Thankfully the Scriptures, even while sometimes immersing us in the darkest of settings, offers the light of hope – even though we may have to strain to see it, it is there and finally found only in Christ: righteous, pure and sinless.