

WHY GOD HATES HANDS THAT SHED INNOCENT BLOOD

INTRODUCTION:

What's in store for the United States of America in 2021? We don't **know**, do we?

1. If I would have told you **last** January that many businesses and schools would be closed for a good portion of 2020, you would have never believed me.
2. If I would have told you that **masks** would become more common-place than **hats**—and that a vaccine for a virus would be developed from start to finish in less than a year—you would not have believed me.
3. If I would have told you that the NFL—a business that brings in roughly **16 billion a year**—would play most of its games in empty stadiums, you would not have believed me.
4. Probably the only thing you would have believed is if I told you that the Democratic leadership would try to impeach President Trump **again**—although this second time was in 2021 and not 2020!

Let me say it again—we don't know what is in store for the United States of America in 2021! Maybe a better question, though, than “what is in store for 2021” is this: “What does **God have planned** for the United States of America in 2021?”

Will God bring revival which we so desperately **need**—or will He bring judgment which we so justly **deserve**? **Why** do we as a nation deserve judgment? How much time do you have, right?

There are obviously a number of things that we do in our country that God **hates**. And yes, I used the word “**hate**” because God does! **Proverbs 6:16-17** These **six** things doth the Lord **hate**: yea, **seven** are an abomination unto Him: ¹⁷ A proud look, a lying tongue, and **hands that shed innocent blood...**” The verses go on to list 4 more things but the one I want us to focus on this morning is “hands that shed innocent blood.”

Please turn to Genesis 4:5 and follow along as I read through verse 10. I want us to pause and think about what God says to Cain in the last verse I just read.

God says to Cain: “**What hast thou done?** the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.” As I read this passage this week, I was struck with how God might say some of the same things to us.

--“What hast thou done? the voice of thy **son's** blood crieth unto Me from the **sheets and sink** of the abortion clinic!”

--“What hast thou done? the voice of thy **daughter's** blood crieth unto Me from the **instruments and suction machines** used in your so-called reproductive health clinics!”

--“What hast thou done? the voice of thy **nation's children's** blood crieth unto Me from the **hands of doctors and nurses** who kill your unborn!”

I could go on, but I believe you got the picture. We are a nation **ripe for judgment** because we are a nation that **daily** sheds innocent blood. This morning, in recognition of the Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, I want us to consider this thought: “*Why God Hates Hands that Shed Innocent Blood.*”

Why does God hate abortion; hands that shed innocent blood?

1. Because it is an Attack on the Prerogative of God

What I mean by prerogative is that God has the exclusive right...the privilege...the authority and power to decide when life ends—not man! Why does God have that right? Because...

A. God is the Creator of man

Turn back to Gen 1:26 “And God said, **Let us make man in our image**, after **our** likeness:”

--Who was God talking to? (Us?) Himself; the Triune God

--**God** was going to make man! God didn't call out for someone else to do it—and He didn't start the process of evolution—then wait for it to “kick in!” God just did it. Notice the emphasis of God as the Creator in verse 27. --Gen 1:27 “So **God created** man in His own image...”

--“in the image of **God created** He him”

--“male and female **created** He them.”

3 times in one verse God says: “I created man!”

First place in the Bible where we see God declaring that He made man, but not the **only** place!

Psalms 95:6 “O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the **Lord our maker.**”

Psalms 100:3 “Know ye that the Lord He is God: **it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves**; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.”

B. God is the sustainer of man

Psalms 31:15 “**My times are in thy hand**: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.” (Knew His time was in God’s hands and it was up to God to spare his life!)

Dan 5:23 “...and the God **in whose hand thy breath is**, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified:”

Acts 17:28 “For in Him **we live, and move, and have our being...**”

God is the **Creator** of our man, God is the **sustainer** of man, and... C. God is the taker of man

Psalms 89:48 “What man is he that liveth, and **shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul** from the hand of the grave? Selah.” We have here two rhetorical questions—questions that are asked that we already know the answer to. --Is there a man that lives and shall not see death? Nope; unless the Rapture comes, of course!

--Can a man deliver himself from the grave? Nope; only God can do that!

We see a **similar statement in Psalms 22:29** “...and **none can keep alive his own soul.**” Simply put, when God says, “It is time—it is time!” We need to remember that, don’t we?

Hebrews 9:27 “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:” Each of us has an appointment day—and God sets that day—not us!

Cain didn’t see it that way, though, did he? Back to Genesis 4.

--In verses 1 and 2 we see that Cain is the older brother

--In verses 3 and 4 we see they each brought an offering unto the Lord. Cain brought from the fruit of the ground; Abel from the flocks.

--Notice the end of verse 4 “And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: ⁵But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.”

--In v 6, God confronts him about his anger and his attitude and in v 7, God encourages Cain to do the right thing. But instead, Cain rises up and kills his brother (v 8).

Cain takes a person that God has created—his very own brother—and killed him out of anger and jealousy.

Abortion is worse than that though, isn’t it? There is **no anger or jealousy** against the tiny baby in the womb—they have done no wrong! There is an attack, though, on a life that God has made.

Was there a struggle when Cain killed Abel? We don’t know because we aren’t told. But we do know that there is very little struggle when the **abortionist murders** a helpless baby!

--**The kicks of their tiny legs** are no match against the instruments that will soon tear them apart!

--**Their pulling away** does no good—they have no place to go!

--And although they **feel pain** and cry out, their cries are not heard!

God hates the shedding of innocent blood—but especially of the unborn.

How could we ever think that that is okay? And yet one recent study shows that 43% of American adults believe that abortion is morally **acceptable**; that it is **okay** to do. Think of that...43%!

That means of the 1000 people that live in Necedah and the surrounding area, 430 of them think it is okay for one person...**made by God** in the image of God... to **take the place of God** and end a life that only God has the right to end!

It also probably means that those same 430 **voted** for a party—and a man—that believes women have the “right” to choose whether a baby should be born alive or not! And this Friday—January 22nd—the 48th anniversary of the decision to legalize abortion in the United States—they will **celebrate** “the freedom of choice” instead of **mourning** the fact that since 1973, our so-called civilized and educated country has murdered roughly 63 million babies! No wonder America is ripe for judgment!

Why does God hate abortion? Why does He hate the hands that shed innocent blood? Because it **steals** from God a right that belongs **only** to God. I daresay that most women who get an abortion **do not** do so because they want to **take God’s place**, though. Although most women have **more than one reason** for choosing an abortion over giving birth, a survey conducted by the Guttmacher Institute found that 73% chose abortion in part because they felt they **could not afford a baby** at that time.

The thought-process, then, is this: “I **don’t have the money** to care for this baby so I’m going to **end its life**.” Is God **okay** with that kind of thinking? Obviously **not**! That brings us to reason #2 God “hates hands that shed innocent blood:” **2. It argues against the Provision of God**

A. The price of raising a child

How much does it cost to **raise** a child? It depends on where you live, of course, but one article says it will cost approximately \$245,000 to raise a child to 18! Think about that—almost a quarter of a million dollars to raise **one child** to adulthood! My wife and I raised 5 children, meaning we supposedly needed 1,225,000 dollars in order to do that!

Did I make that kind of money? NO!

Does it cost that much to raise a child? NO!

Imagine a young couple saving for their first child and waiting until they “could afford it!” How much would they have to have in the bank before they felt they could “afford” a baby?

B. The priority of God in raising a child

The priority of God in raising a child is not in clothes...and toys... and things. God does not require name-brand this, the latest gadget of that, and having your child on every sport’s traveling team that was available. I worked with a guy who spent 3 or 4 nights a week all summer—plus weekends—driving his son to this baseball practice... and that wrestling meet... and this weekend basketball tournament. That is not the priority of God when it comes to raising children.

Luke 12:15 “And He [Jesus] said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.”

“He who wins is the one with the most toys” is not something God came up with—man did!

The priority of God is that fathers bring their children up “in the nurture and admonition of the Lord” we are told in Eph 6:4.

C. The provision of God in raising a child

Does God **provide** for your needs when you have a child? He certainly does! He will provide for everything you **need** to care for that child! The problem parents sometimes have is not knowing the difference between needs and wants. God will provide for the **needs**—but He may not provide for all the **wants**.

To suggest that “I cannot afford this child, therefore I will end its life” is an argument against God’s ability to provide—and something God obviously hates.

But what about us? Are there decisions that we make—or won’t make—because we don’t trust that God will meet our needs? Do we give to the Lord’s work—or say we can’t because we can’t afford it? Do we buy things that we don’t really need—and can’t afford—and then don’t have the money to give extra to support things like pregnancy centers that fight against abortion?

Why does God hate hands that shed innocent blood?

Reason #1: Because it is an Attack on the Prerogative of God

Reason #2: Because it Argues against the Provision of God

Reason #3: **3. Because it is an Assumption against the Plan of God**

What do I mean by abortion being “an assumption against the plan of God?” Hopefully this will help.

Not all pregnancies are **planned**, are they? Some are; some are not. One article I read suggested that nearly **half** of the pregnancies in the United States are **unplanned**. And because they were unplanned—by the man & woman involved, anyway—it was “**not the right time**” for them to have a baby. “According to the Guttmacher Institute, nearly **three-quarters** of women who choose abortion do so because ‘having a baby would **dramatically change [their] life,**’ either by **interfering with their education, their career or the lives of their other children.**”

Let that sink in. It is not the **right time** to be pregnant...it will change their life dramatically...it will interfere with their education...their career...maybe even the lives of their other children. In other words, it is not **convenient** for them to have a child, so they seek out a place where they can have their baby killed.

Notice how this excerpt from an article entitled “The Top Five Reasons Why Women Have Abortion in the USA” reads almost like an infomercial:

“[Abortion is] the most reasonable decision when a young girl conceives:”

“What happens when your 16-year-old daughter turns out pregnant? It’s not feasible in that case for her to quit school and start a family. And she just **might not want to** carry it to term, then give it up for adoption. At our [abortion clinic Orlando](#), we have approaches that can help address this **dilemma quickly and safely**. She will be able to go back to regular life activities in **less than two days.**” 2 things struck me from that quote:

--the child is called an “it!” “She just might not want to carry **it** to term, then give **it** up for adoption.”

--the “ease” at which this “dilemma” can be solved quickly and safely. “She will be able to go back to regular life activities in less than two days.” Sadly, they make it sound as easy and non-emotional as getting the oil changed or tires rotated on your car!

So how does this apply to us? Again, think Big Picture.

--Anything **unplanned** ever happen in your life?

--Anything ever happen to you or your loved one that you **didn’t ask for** and weren’t expecting?

--Ever think in your heart—or say with your voice—**it is not the right time** for this to be happening?

It is not the right time for the furnace to go out...or my car to need tires...or me to lose my job!

It is not the right time for me to get sick...or my wife to get sick...or my parents to get sick!

It is not the right time to lose a child (like some of you have) ...or lose a sibling...or lose a spouse or a parent!

But I must ask: “It is not the right time according to **who?**” It is certainly the right time **according to God** because He allowed it—or is allowing it.

He is the all-knowing One, not us!

He is the source of wisdom, not us!

He knows what He is doing, not us!

And He has for us, in His Word, some reminders for us when we are tempted to question His timing:

Job 2:9-10 “Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die. ¹⁰ But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips.”

Isaiah 55:8-9 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

So what does God want us to do in light of what we have heard from His Word today?

1. First, we need to recognize that just as some women seek abortion because they feel they cannot afford a baby or that it is not the right time, we need to ensure we are trusting God's provision and the wisdom of His timing.
2. We need to pray for the salvation of those that are directly involved in the performance of abortions.
3. We need to vote for pro-life—not pro-choice—candidates.
4. Financially support—and pray for—organizations that fight abortion and offer alternatives.
5. Here's something that I was surprised to learn while preparing this sermon. Only 1 in 149 women consider **adoption**. There were some suggestions as to why—like the pregnant woman not wanting others to know she was pregnant—but the article went on to suggest that it could be that **they know more about abortion than adoption**.

Think about that! There is more information available about killing babies than there is about giving them up to someone who wants them! Is that not something we could help change?