

The Rise of Molech

Abortion and the Conscience of a Nation

January 17, 2016

Part 3- They Shed Innocent Blood

Psalms 106

1 Praise the Lord! Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

2 Who can speak of the mighty deeds of the Lord, Or can show forth all His praise?

3 How blessed are those who keep justice, Who practice righteousness at all times!

4 Remember me, O Lord, in *Your* favor toward Your people; Visit me with Your salvation,

5 That I may see the prosperity of Your chosen ones, That I may rejoice in the gladness of Your nation, That I may glory with Your inheritance.

6 We have sinned like our fathers, We have committed iniquity, we have behaved wickedly.

7 Our fathers in Egypt did not understand Your wonders; They did not remember Your abundant kindnesses, But rebelled by the sea, at the Red Sea.

8 Nevertheless He saved them for the sake of His name, That He might make His power known.

9 Thus He rebuked the Red Sea and it dried up, And He led them through the deeps, as through the wilderness.

10 So He saved them from the hand of the one who hated *them*, And redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.

11 The waters covered their adversaries; Not one of them was left.

12 Then they believed His words; They sang His praise.

13 They quickly forgot His works; They did not wait for His counsel,

14 But craved intensely in the wilderness, And tempted God in the desert.

15 So He gave them their request, But sent a wasting disease among them.

16 When they became envious of Moses in the camp, And of Aaron, the holy one of the Lord,

17 The earth opened and swallowed up Dathan, And engulfed the company of Abiram.
18 And a fire blazed up in their company; The flame consumed the wicked.
19 They made a calf in Horeb And worshiped a molten image.
20 Thus they exchanged their glory For the image of an ox that eats grass.
21 They forgot God their Savior, Who had done great things in Egypt,
22 Wonders in the land of Ham *And* awesome things by the Red Sea.
23 Therefore He said that He would destroy them, Had not Moses His chosen one stood in the breach before Him, To turn away His wrath from destroying *them*.
24 Then they despised the pleasant land; They did not believe in His word,
25 But grumbled in their tents; They did not listen to the voice of the Lord.
26 Therefore He swore to them That He would cast them down in the wilderness,
27 And that He would cast their seed among the nations And scatter them in the lands.
28 They joined themselves also to Baal-peor, And ate sacrifices offered to the dead.
29 Thus they provoked *Him* to anger with their deeds, And the plague broke out among them.
30 Then Phinehas stood up and interposed, And so the plague was stayed.
31 And it was reckoned to him for righteousness, To all generations forever.
32 They also provoked *Him* to wrath at the waters of Meribah, So that it went hard with Moses on their account;
33 Because they were rebellious against His Spirit, He spoke rashly with his lips.
34 They did not destroy the peoples, As the Lord commanded them,
35 But they mingled with the nations And learned their practices,
36 And served their idols, Which became a snare to them.
37 They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to the demons,
38 And shed innocent blood, The blood of their sons and their daughters, Whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; And the land was polluted with the blood.
39 Thus they became unclean in their practices, And played the harlot in their deeds.

40 Therefore the anger of the Lord was kindled against His people And He abhorred His inheritance.
41 Then He gave them into the hand of the nations, And those who hated them ruled over them.
42 Their enemies also oppressed them, And they were subdued under their power.
43 Many times He would deliver them; They, however, were rebellious in their counsel, And *so* sank down in their iniquity.
44 Nevertheless He looked upon their distress When He heard their cry;
45 And He remembered His covenant for their sake, And relented according to the greatness of His lovingkindness.
46 He also made them *objects* of compassion In the presence of all their captors.
47 Save us, O Lord our God, And gather us from among the nations, To give thanks to Your holy name And glory in Your praise.
48 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, From everlasting even to everlasting. And let all the people say, "Amen." Praise the Lord!

To the Glory of God

Now, **Psalm 106** is a *summary* of the history of Israel with a focus on her *repeated* sins and God's *repeated* Judgment and Mercy. So from *that* standpoint- **Psalm 106** is a short "snap-shot" of the entire Old Testament. And it cries out for something more final, more lasting.

The final two verses say,

47 Save us, O Lord our God, And gather us from among the nations, To give thanks to Your holy name And glory in Your praise.
48 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, From everlasting even to everlasting. And let all the people say, "Amen." Praise the Lord!

So over and over- God's people called on the Lord to save them. And God *did* save them. He was merciful and gracious and slow to Anger. But then over and over, they reverted to unbelief and disobedience. So the end of this **Psalm**- just like the end of the Old Testament itself- cries out for something more that the Old Testament

itself could never provide. For example- the very *last thing* God said to His people in the Old Testament was:

Malachi 4:5&6

5 "Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord.

6 "He will restore the hearts of the fathers to *their* children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse."

... which tells us that every Truth of the Old Testament is *not* finished. So they lack *completion*- they are *not* an end to themselves. They groan for something more. They point to the future. So from that we see that the entire Old Testament is really a collection of inspired and infallible Stories and Books of Promise.

Which is *why* the New Testament exists. Because the final, complete, decisive, lasting Act of Divine Salvation happened when Jesus, the Messiah, came into the world. Jesus was:

- ✓ The final Adam (**Romans 5:12-21**)
- ✓ The final Prophet like Moses (**The Acts 3:22; 7:37**)
- ✓ The final Israel (**Matthew 4:1-11**)
- ✓ The final High Priest (**Hebrews 7:23&24**)
- ✓ The final Passover Sacrifice (**1 Corinthians 5:7**)
- ✓ The final Manna from Heaven (**John 6:31&32**)
- ✓ The final Suffering Servant of **Isaiah 53** (**Mark 10:45**)
- ✓ The final Son of Man of **Daniel 7**(**Matthew 24:30**)

The Blood of Jesus was the Blood of the promised final New Covenant in **Jeremiah 31:31** (**Luke 22:20**). So Jesus was the final, decisive **"Yes and Amen"** to all God's Promises (**2 Corinthians 1:20**).

So when we read the stories of the Old Testament like the one here in **Psalms 106** and we feel the oppressive weight of sin that *never* seems to have its final solution. And so we conclude:

It's all pointing to Jesus Christ

Now this is not merely Christians reinterpreting the Jewish Scriptures. This is God Himself revealing the *completion* of the Jewish Scriptures. And so the entire Purpose of the Jewish Scriptures and the long history of Israel is *not* found in *itself*. It is found in the Person and Work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

So when this **Psalm** ends today in verse 47 with the cry,

Save us, O Lord our God

... we should take it to mean:

“O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, rescue us from captivity wherever our enemies have the upper hand, and hasten the coming of the King- Who will deliver us once for all from the worst of enemies, and make Atonement for our sins once for all, and write His Law on our hearts, so that we may fear Him *always* and *never* rebel against Him again!”

And when we hear that cry and understand that implication- we should rejoice- because God has come already! And His Name was Jesus. And He has revealed the Mystery, long obscure in the Scriptures, that by His Life and Death and Resurrection- not only Jews but also all the nations of the world- will be forgiven and justified and cleansed and reconciled to God by faith in Him alone.

In other words, flying over this **Psalm** and all its horrors and failures that are so relevant for our modern age- is the Banner of Jesus Christ as the final Savior of the world- Who has died for sins and conquered guilt and condemnation and death and hell- for everyone who has been empowered and enabled to cry out from the heart,

Save us, O Lord our God

So flying over this third Message about Abortion is the Banner of the Cross of Jesus Christ. And its color is red because the Blood of Jesus Christ takes away the sin of Abortion and the sin of not caring about it. So I don't just *end* today with the call for Repentance and the offer of Forgiveness- I *begin* with it. And I want it to hover over your heads while I walk you through this **Psalm**.

Now, first of all- we need to get the larger picture of this **Psalm** and then focus on the sacrifice of innocent blood. So there are three things in this Psalm:

- The sins of God's people
- The Anger and Judgment of God
- The cry for Salvation

Now, we will focus on the first:

The Sins of God's People

Psalm 106:32

They also provoked *Him* to wrath at the waters of Meribah, So that it went hard with Moses on their account;

Because these people were not satisfied- they goaded Moses to strike the Rock instead of speaking to it. And God was angry that Moses did not sanctify His Name by believing Him, and so God judged Moses (**Numbers 20:11-12**). And that's what it means here when it says:

... it went hard with Moses on their account;

Psalm 106:34

They did not destroy the peoples, As the Lord commanded them,

Now the Israelites did *not* utterly destroy the pagan peoples of Canaan as God had commanded them. And this shows that God's *opposition* to sacrificing the children that we will see in a moment is *not* due to a general *opposition* that God has to "killing" in general. There was a place for killing in God. And the explanation for this horrific moment in Israel's history is given in **Deuteronomy 9:4**, where God says,

Do not say in your heart when the Lord your God has driven them out before you, 'Because of my righteousness the Lord has brought me in to possess this land,' but *it is* because of the wickedness of these nations *that* the Lord is dispossessing them before you.

In other words- during that period of Israel's history- God used His Own people as the "Sword of His Judgments". So when God wanted to judge a people for their blasphemies and disobedience and wickedness- God used the Jews to bring God's Wrath upon them.

Now this kind of Judgment may not sit very well with us today- precisely because things have fundamentally changed with the First Coming of Jesus to this world. For example- in **John 18:36** Jesus said,

My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm.

Now the only point I am making here is that this is what God did back then. God's Anger at telling His people to slaughter man, woman, child, and animal of entire civilizations did not stop because of some sentimental rejection of violence or physical force. There is another very important Reason *why* God opposes killing like this now. And we'll get into it in a minute.

Psalm 106:35

But they mingled with the nations And learned their practices

Now the root issue here is *not* marriage between different races. The issue here is that God's people began to "do" what the pagan nations did- which in effect made God's people to be pagan as well. And they began to live as though they didn't know God at all. In other words- God's people saw what the other pagan nations of the world were doing- and they began to copy them. So they stopped doing what God told them to do and stopped living the way that God told them to live, and they began to act like the pagan nations that God destroyed. And verse 36 describes what happened:

Psalm 106:36

And served their idols, Which became a snare to them.

And *this* was the overarching Reason for God's Divine Prohibition of why He didn't want His people mingling with the pagan nations of the world. It *always* led to idolatry. You see, the ways of the lost pagan

world *appeals* to our fallen flesh and so cohabitating with pagan people who worship pagan gods and who conduct their lives in pagan practices *always* leads to God's people being disgruntled with the things of God. It *always* leads to the people of God feeling as though they are missing out on all the fun and looking at God's Ways as being unnecessarily restrictive and hard. And so sin begins to look attractive. And that which God *forbids* suddenly looks good. Or in the words of Moses:

Genesis 3:6

When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make *one* wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.

Or in the words of the Apostle John:

1John 2:16

For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

Or in the words of the Apostle Paul:

2 Corinthians 6:14-17

14 Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?

15 Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?

16 Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "*I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE.*"

17 "Therefore, *COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE,*" says the Lord. "*AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN;* And I will welcome you.

Or in the words of the Apostle Peter:

1 Peter 2:9-12

9 But you are *A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION*, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

10 for you once were *NOT A PEOPLE*, but now you are *THE PEOPLE OF GOD*; you had *NOT RECEIVED MERCY*, but now you have *RECEIVED MERCY*.

11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

12 Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe *them*, glorify God in the day of visitation.

And, of course, this is a concept called "Christian Separation", which, even though it taught from Cover to Cover in the Holy Bible- is a concept that is almost *universally* ignored by the overwhelming majority of those in the modern Church.

Now this Divine Separation does *not* teach that saved people are "better" than other people- but only that we have been wondrously "chosen" and sovereignly "set apart" to live our lives with abandon to God's Glory. Now God *could* have left us with the people who are *not* chosen and who have *not* had the Love of God set upon them. God *could* have left us polluted in our own blood to perish with the others.

But, in His great Mercy- God chose to show us Grace- so that we may be His people and He may be our God. And so you can't have it both ways. Either God has called you or He hasn't. Either you have been chosen by God or you haven't. Either God set His Love upon you to save you or He hasn't. Either you are going to spend eternity in the unimaginable Glory of God's Presence or you will spend eternity in the lake of fire. Either you belong to God or you don't. Either you are a child of satan or a child of God. Either you are fish on the right side or fish on the left. Either your eyes are open or you're blind. Either your ears can hear or you are still deaf. Either your heart is soft and believing or your heart is hard as stone. Either you have been given a new Divine nature or your nature is still rebellious and fallen. Either you are living in the Kingdom of Light or in the dominion of darkness.

Either you love Jesus or you hate Him. Either Jesus has bought and paid for you or you still belong to satan.

And if you belong to satan then you do not *want* to accept the things of the Spirit of God because they are foolishness to you, and you *cannot* understand them because they are spiritually appraised. And if you belong to Jesus- then you have been born again of incorruptible Seed that is created in Righteousness and true Holiness, and you have been delivered from the tyrannical domination that sin had over you and you have been set free, turned loose, raised up, empowered, filled, turned around, set aside, and you are faithful to God, fruitful in His Kingdom, and busy in the Work of the Lord!

And so people who have truly been recipients of the miracle of the New Birth simply you can't act or think or behave or live or speak like those who haven't. And so by definition- genuine believers act *differently* than unbelievers. And we *act* differently because we *think* differently and we *believe* differently from those who know not God.

Now the almost total capitulation of Christian Separation is the single biggest reason *why* it is so hard today to tell Christians from the world. The *absence* of this level of devotion to Jesus Christ is the single biggest reason why God's people today suffer from the same social problems that the lost unsaved world suffers from. The glaring lack of Holiness in the average believer today is the single biggest reason why the modern Church is filled with worldliness, carnality, sexual sins, ungodly marriages, rampant divorce, illegitimate children, and abortion.

Listen, we *can* and we *should* spend time with our lost friends and family. We are *not* to live our lives as "monks" in a monastery. That is *not* the Will of God. But we also must realize that we can only fellowship with unbelievers so far. Because we *always* have an agenda behind *why* we are spending time with them. We want them to be saved. We want them to know and love and enjoy Jesus. We want them to turn away from their sins and see the brilliance of the Glory of God in the Face of Jesus Christ.

We love our unsaved friends and family. And love dictates that we seek to win them for Jesus. So don't try to tell me that you love somebody if you're not *actively* and *continually* encouraging them to repent and believe.

And so our time spent with all lost people is spent in evangelization- not merely in enjoying their company. And that will *always* result in one of two things happening. Either they will be saved or you will compromise.

Now we are not the first group of people who have struggled with this Biblical Separation. The Jews struggled with it before we did. And **Psalm 106** says that the ways and idols of the pagan nations of the world became a "snare" to them. They were a trap that led to the destruction of God's people.

And verses 37-39 give us the specific sinful behaviors that this idolatry led to.

**37 They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to the demons,
38 And shed innocent blood, The blood of their sons and their daughters,
Whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; And the land was polluted with the blood.
39 Thus they became unclean in their practices, And played the harlot in their deeds.**

Now this is strong language. But this is God's Language. He is very Angry about this. Read verses 40-41:

**40 Therefore the anger of the Lord was kindled against His people And He abhorred His inheritance.
41 Then He gave them into the hand of the nations, And those who hated them ruled over them.**

So a lack of treasuring God led to a lack of valuing Holiness. And a lack of Holiness led to mingling with pagan ideas and practices. And that led to idolatry. And idolatry led to a snare. And the snare was the sacrificing of their own children in religious rituals. And these rituals were spiritually "whore-like" in God's sight. And so the Anger of the Lord was kindled and Judgment fell.

Now I want you to feel the horror of this Language. Hear words and phrases like: "sacrifice," "demons," "innocent blood," "polluted," "unclean," "harlot," "the Anger of the Lord was kindled against His people," and "the Lord abhorred His inheritance."

We need to feel the force of this so that when we use such language today we do not communicate, any *more* than the psalmist did, that we make it impossible for sinners to be saved. That is the most amazing thing in this **Psalm**. Now read what God did – right in the middle of all this sin- in verses 44-46:

44 Nevertheless He looked upon their distress When He heard their cry;
45 And He remembered His covenant for their sake, And relented according to the greatness of His lovingkindness.
46 He also made them *objects* of compassion In the presence of all their captors.

So the reason we need to hear the horrible Language is so that the magnificence of Grace will sound as amazing as it really is.

And just like the psalmist looked child sacrifice full in the face, so today we need to study Abortion. And we need the raw, hard to hear facts- that will be just as raw and just as hard to hear as the language of this **Psalm**.

We need to watch the videos about what Abortion really is and what Abortion really does. We need to stare at beautiful pictures of the unborn.¹ We need to read the statistics of over 57 million babies killed by Abortion since 1973 -just in our country alone- with over 90% of the abortion clinics in urban centers- that wipes out massive numbers of minorities (over half of all abortions) with a kind of “ethnic cleansing” that pro-choice people cannot dare to think about. We need to know the procedures (suction-aspiration, dilation and curettage, saline abortion, intact dilation and extraction, RU-486, intrauterine cranial decompression, or partial birth abortion).

Psalm 106 is as raw as it could get before photography and DVD. And the point is this:

There are some sins that cannot be comprehended
without raw language or raw pictures.

I once read in the Times Picayune that if all Americans could be made to watch a live execution (electric chair or lethal injection), capital

¹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O2l1-kvKong>

punishment would be abandoned. Now I don't know if that is true. But if it is, the same thing applies all the more to Abortion. If we were made to watch a doctor pull off the little baby's legs and arms one by one and place them on the table like a dentist removing cotton from your mouth- if all Americans were made to see what Abortion really is- the pro-life goal of Abortion being unthinkable (not just illegal) would be much nearer.

So this **Psalm** is raw when it comes to child sacrifice. And there are at least four parallels with Abortion.

1. It Is Called "Sacrifice"
2. They Are Our "Sons and Daughters"
3. There Was "Innocent Blood"
4. It is to "Demons"

1. It is Called "Sacrifice"

Psalm 106:37a

They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters...

Now the word "Sacrifice" means: *willfully giving up something ordinarily considered valuable (a sheep or a bull) to gain something better- from a deity*. So while Abortion in America is *not* done consciously with any desire to get a blessing from a deity- it *is* done to gain something "better" than the baby. And that is *exactly* what the whole debate is about.

Is the "gain" of no longer having to deal with the child "greater" than the "loss" of killing it? And we need to be sure to see it in those terms. So however you want to slice it or dice it- the life of a real human being is being sacrificed for *something*. And what that "something" is- is what defines the barbarity of our culture.

And I say that knowing full well how unimaginably difficult many unplanned pregnancies are. And I say it with full knowledge that some pregnancies end up with Down's babies that require enormous energy to love and raise. And so I do not make light of that. But the issue is:

How precious is the child?

... and can we trust God to make a way?

2) They Are Our Sons and Daughters

Second, the child sacrifice in **Psalm 106** is described as the sacrifice of our sons and daughters. So these were *not* sheep or oxen. These sacrifices were little girls and boys. And they were the little sons and daughters of the very ones who were sacrificing them. So the parents were pouring out the blood of their *own* children! So the fathers of these sons and daughters slit the throat of their own children and let the blood pour out over the altar- which is actually *more* humane than the horrific dismembering or the excruciating burning that happens to babies every day in Mississippi, and 125,000 every day around the world. So something *grotesque* happened to the souls of the parents in order for them to sacrifice their children, and *that* is why we call those people "pagans". They willfully and joyfully worshipped false gods who demanded that they sacrifice their own children! And I will tell you that something grotesque has happened to the souls of mothers and fathers in this nation as well that they can murder their own children in the "name" of some perceived "right".

Rebellion, craving, jealousy, idolatry, despising God's good gifts, unbelief, necromancy, murmuring, assimilation among the nations, serving their gods, sacrificing their children. The list *could* have gone on. So why did the psalmist stop with this? Because most human beings would understand that killing your own children was the very bottom of the downward spiral of the dethroning of God and the dehumanizing of man. These people killed their own children. And we must know that Abortion kills our children.

Now the psalmist could have said "children." But he didn't. He made it appoint to say "sons and daughters." And this draws attention to two things:

- A. They were sexually *different*. They were little boys and little girls- created that way on purpose by God
- B. They were family. This baby that is being sacrificed is family. And so it is with Abortion. It is *always* a little girl or a little boy. And it is *always* family.

3) There Was Innocent Blood

Psalm 106:38

And shed innocent blood, The blood of their sons and their daughters, Whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; And the land was polluted with the blood.

This blood is called “**innocent blood**” here. Now this *doesn't* mean that the children had no sin. We know that Original Sin is inherent even in babies. That isn't what the phrase “**innocent blood**” means. This same phrase was used of adults as well. For example, in **Jeremiah 26:15**, the Prophet told the people who hated him,

... if you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood on yourselves, and on this city and on its inhabitants; for truly the Lord has sent me to you to speak all these words in your hearing.

... and we know that Jeremiah was *not* sinless.

What “**innocent blood**” means is that in relationships among people- this person has *not* committed a crime that is worthy of death. So in that sense- he is “innocent”. And that is the very essence of the Sixth Commandment: “**You shall not murder**” (**Exodus 20:13**) — you shall *not* take “innocent” life. You shall not kill somebody who has not done anything worthy of death.

And this is the main difference between the Canaanites- who God said were to be *punished*- and babies- who God said are to be *protected*. So this phrase “innocent blood” is *not* a statement about Original Sin or the lack of it. This is the ordinary, legal statement that we all depend on in court:

Did I do something to *deserve* the punishment that other people are about to execute on me?

... and unlike other innocent people who may be falsely accused and wrongly judged- babies are *always* innocent, and so *all* judgments against *all* babies by other human beings- is *always* wrong. Babies *never* deserve to be mistreated by other human beings.

Now God Himself has an absolute Right to give life or take it. And we may be sure that if God takes a little one- then He deals with them

according to what they could know (**Romans 1:18-20**). And *that* is why I believe that babies are saved.

But no human has the right to take the life of a baby. In relation to us- they are innocent. And that means we are guilty if we take their life.

Now- I insert a qualification here so you will know where I stand. But there is no time in this sermon to develop this qualification fully. If God is already sovereignly taking a baby's life inside his mother- through some catastrophic anomaly or mishap- and if it is crystal clear that the baby *cannot* live outside the womb and that leaving the child will imperil the mother's life- under *those* circumstances- the Principle of "self-defense" comes into play, and so I do not think in those cases we sin against the baby or God by taking the baby and saving the mother. Now that doesn't mean that they *have* to take the baby- the parents may decide not to. It only means that they *could*. But we have to know that that is *not* the case in 99+% of the Abortions.

4) It Is to Demons

Psalm 106:37&38

**37 They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to the demons,
38 And shed innocent blood, The blood of their sons and their daughters,
Whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; And the land was polluted with the blood.**

Now over in **1 Corinthians 10:19&20**, the Apostle Paul deals with this connection between idols and demons. And he said,

1 Corinthians 10:19-20

19 What do I mean then? That a thing sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything?

20 No, but I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God; and I do not want you to become sharers in demons.

In other words, Paul doesn't see any true God behind all idols- but he *does* see a "*world* of demons" that promote idolatry, and, therefore, without the worshippers even knowing about it, these demons receive tribute from their sacrifice. And that means that the sacrifice of our

sons and daughters today is in a very true and profound sense a sacrifice to demons. And when children are sacrificed to demons- the Bible goes on to say that parents and the priests — the abortionists — are playing the whore.

Psalms 106:39

Thus they became unclean in their practices, And played the harlot in their deeds.

Now in the Old Testament, Israel is pictured as God's wife, and God as her Husband. And so idolatry is equated in Scripture as being "spiritual adultery". Or, in extreme cases, like this one- prostitution, whoredom, or "playing the harlot". And when you are cheating on your husband- the last thing you want is a baby. So to satisfy the idolatrous demands of the system- you don't repent of your adultery- you simply eliminate the baby. Sons and daughters, innocent blood, sacrificed to demons, like an unfaithful wife getting rid of an unwanted pregnancy.

So the parallels between **Psalm 106** and Abortion are pervasive. These children in the womb today are our sons and daughters. They are innocent of any crime-deserving death. Their blood is being poured out in the most gruesome procedures of dismemberment. And we can be sure that the demonic forces behind the abortion industry, and behind the cultural fabric of so-called "reproductive freedom", and behind the otherwise inexplicable blindness to the daily violence against the weakest persons in the world — we may be sure that the demonic forces behind this are glad for every dead baby and every guilt-ridden mother, and father, and grandparent, and church. And that was true before we knew that they were actually selling baby parts. Jesus said of the devil:

John 8:44b

... He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

And in sacrificing our children to the demons of deceit, on the altar of abortion, in the temples of Planned Parenthood, we play the whore. We cheat on God, and give our heart to another.

And someday we will see this. And we will be as amazed that it could have endured so long as we are that the enslavement of Africans lasted as long as it did.

Now what we have to understand is that the issue of Abortion is today just as clear as the issue of Slavery was back then. It uses the same logic and has the same benefactors. We must remember that it was *not* the Government or the lawyers or the scientists or the business owners or the politicians that labored to make slavery- not only illegal- but unthinkable. It was the Church. God's people rose up in moral disgust that we could buy and sell other human beings, and we are the ones who moved to stop it. The lawyers *defended* the system of slavery, the business owners *profited* from it, the scientist *confirmed* it, the politicians *legalized* it, and the Government *enforced* it.

We must never forget that in 1857- in the Dred Scott case- the Supreme Court of the United States ruled that black people were *not* human beings and thus were *not* entitled to life, liberty, or the pursuit of happiness or due process. And that very same logic applies today with Abortion.

In 1973 in the Roe Versus Wade Case- a single Supreme Court Judge- who didn't have single day of medical training- arbitrarily ruled that unborn babies were *not* human beings, and thus *not* entitled to life, liberty, or the pursuit of happiness or due process. There was no law passed. The cowards in Congress have *never* voted on the issue of Abortion. But the lawyers *defend* the system of Abortion, the business owners *profit* from it, the scientists *confirm* it, the politicians *legalize* it, and the Government *enforces* it.

But the big difference between slavery and Abortion is that babies can't run away. The "underground railroad of Abortion" is *entirely* dependent on you- not them.

More than 57 million children have been slaughtered in the 43 years since the Supreme Court literally *created* a new "right" in the Constitution that none of the Founding Fathers put in there. And if any benefit can be found in the rivers of blood that have been spilled- it is this: Abortion has exposed three things about us:

- ✓ Who we really are
- ✓ What we really value
- ✓ How the enemy of our Faith operates

For example:

Abortion shows us that we are racist to our core. Black babies and Hispanic babies are killed at two to three times the rate of white babies.

Abortion shows us that we hate those with disabilities. When discovered in the womb- more babies with certain disabilities are killed than born.

Abortion shows us that we target the weak and underprivileged. The abortion industry has carefully located its services in the neighborhoods where young minority women and poor women are most likely to live.

Abortion shows us how deceptive we are in our communications. Is a legislature considering a post-20-week ban on abortion? Then use opinion pieces of popular media to talk about the “need” for late-term abortion because, after all, disabled children aren’t discovered until after 20 weeks. Follow this up with stories about a child with multiple disabilities and portray that family’s lot as something to be avoided.

Abortion shows us we are greedy. There is big money to be made in pandering to our prejudices. Whole new businesses have been created with the purpose of discovering children with certain genetic traits for the purpose of eliminating those children or selling their dead bodies.

Abortion shows us that our most educated citizens can actually become enemies to our true welfare. Philosophers and ethicists in our best universities are debating which people actually “merit” the identity of “person”. And apparently babies (not just those with disabilities) and people with certain cognitive disabilities of any age are found to be “lacking”. And so infanticide and assisted suicide of children is actually being openly discussed as a responsible option by the very people tasked with protecting children.

Abortion shows us just how twisted the justice system can become. The courts protect the abortion industry. Human judges — who are to serve

as a model of God's Justice and protection of the weak — practice a murderous caricature of Justice and become the enemy of the weak. To show how clearly the courts and our own prejudices are working together, in December a jury awarded a family \$50 million dollars because a lab didn't identify a genetic anomaly in their unborn son. Pause over that one: *a jury awarded the parents of a living child \$50 million because the parents didn't have the information they needed to kill their son.* Since they would have aborted their son if they had known about his genetic makeup, somebody needed to pay for that "mistake" of his being born. You can imagine that health care administrators across the United States were forwarding memos about this case to doctors and nurses in their clinics and hospitals. We do not need to wonder why doctors emphasize terminating babies with disabilities.

Now that's the *downside* of **Psalm 106** and its relation to abortion. But it's *not* the "main point" of the **Psalm**. This **Psalm** didn't begin and end with "**Praise the Lord**" because Israel had rebelled and sacrificed their children to demons.

No, there is *another* Thread in these verses. It is a scarlet thread of Divine Mercy. And that is what we all desperately need- whether you have had three abortions yourself or have been indifferent to the millions of other abortions.

Remember verse 1: **Praise the Lord! Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; For His lovingkindness is everlasting.** And *that's* the main point of this **Psalm**. Because that is what we need. Listen to God's Mercy, God's "everlasting lovingkindness" in this **Psalm**.

Remember verse 8: They rebelled, **Nevertheless He saved them for the sake of His name, That He might make His power known.**

Remember verse 10: **He saved them from the hand of the one who hated them, And redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.**

Remember verse 23: **Therefore He said that He would destroy them, Had not Moses His chosen one stood in the breach before Him, To turn away His wrath from destroying them.** God *relented* at Moses' prayer.

Remember verse 30: As the plague was spreading, **Phinehas stood up and interposed, And so the plague was stayed.** God responded in Mercy to Phineas' zeal for the Lord.

Remember verses 43–46: **Many times He would deliver them; They, however, were rebellious in their counsel, And *so* sank down in their iniquity. Nevertheless He looked upon their distress When He heard their cry; And He remembered His covenant for their sake, And relented according to the greatness of His lovingkindness. He also made them *objects* of compassion In the presence of all their captors.**

In other words, time and time again, the people of God *deserved* to be utterly destroyed, but God passed over the sin of many- *including* the sin of child sacrifice. God had Mercy. He kept Covenant. How could He do that? How can He do it for you? How could He do that for Abortion?

As the Apostle Paul looked back over God's Mercy for centuries, he gave the answer in **Romans 3:25-26**,

25 ... God displayed [Jesus] publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was* to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;

26 for the demonstration, *I say*, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

So the Reason God could forgive repentant sinners in the Old Testament, and the reason He can forgive us today- for abortion, or for indifference to abortion- is that the Death of Jesus, the Son of God, for sin shows that God does *not* sweep sin under the rug or take it lightly. Because forgiving our sin cost God the Life of His Own Son. So by faith we receive Christ as the Payment for all our sins. And *this* is what Jesus Christ came to achieve for all who will receive it.

Amen. Let's pray

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The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen. Be watchful and quicken your pace. Soli Deo Gloria. For the Glory of God alone.