THE EVIL OF ABORTION By Andy Manning January 2020

I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. Every January Christians from all around the country will be taking the time to beg God's forgiveness for the sin of abortion in our land, and thinking about what we need to do to abolish the practice in America once and for all.
- 2. This month marks the 47th anniversary of the Supreme Court Decision Roe vs. Wade that made abortion legal in all fifty states for any reason at any point in the pregnancy.
- 3. The Pro-Life movement is making progress, especially now that the Supreme Court has a conservative majority:
 - More and more states are passing the Heartbeat bill, which makes abortion illegal as soon as the heartbeat can be detected (as early as six weeks).
 These include Ohio, Georgia, Louisiana, and Missouri.
 - ii. More and more states are passing abortion restrictions intended to decrease the number of abortions. These include:
 - 1. Requiring a woman seeking an abortion to view an ultrasound.
 - 2. Requiring abortion providers to have admitting privileges at nearby hospitals.
 - 3. 1 to six day waiting periods after the first consultation with the abortion provider.
 - 4. Increased health regulations for abortion clinics.
 - 5. Mandatory counseling from an anti-abortion crisis pregnancy center (South Dakota).
 - 6. Physician scripts: Doctors are required to read a prepared script to the patient to secure informed consent. For example, the script may inform the patient that abortion will increase the risk of breast cancer or psychological problems; that the unborn child will feel pain; and the increased suicide risk of abortion patients.
 - iii. Overall, abortions are declining in America.
- 4. The bad news is that babies are still murdered in America, on a very large scale.
 - i. Since 1973, over 60 million unborn children have been killed by abortion.
 - ii. In 2019 alone, 42.4 million babies were killed by abortion worldwide.
 - iii. The largest abortion provider in the country, Planned Parenthood has increased its number of abortions every years since 2008. Planned Parenthood performs 40 percent of all USA abortion. One child is aborted at Planned Parenthood every 97 seconds over 320,000 every year. Planned Parenthood kills the equivalent of two preschool classrooms every hour!
- 5. 3 Things Must Happen to End Abortion in America:
 - i. Christians must develop the conviction that abortion for any reason is sinful.
 - ii. Christians must develop the conviction that abortion for any reason should be criminal.

- iii. Christians must develop the conviction that voting for pro-choice candidates is a vote in favor of abortion.
- 6. So this morning I want to speak on the evil of abortion.
- 7. Typically, we argue that abortion is evil because it is murder; it is killing an innocent human being. But this morning I want to walk through the Ten Commandments to show that abortion is not merely the violation of one, but all ten of the commandments.

II. ABORTION AND THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. Exodus 20:3 "Do not have other gods besides me."

- i. Meaning: Only worship the true God. Do not worship other gods.
- ii. Abortion is the worship of the god of self. The deification of self. God has commanded the preservation of human life; He has declared the sanctity of human life; He has forbidden murder. The person who commits abortion puts her own will above God's, thus worshiping herself.
- iii. Netflix's Michelle Wolf (a writer for The Late Show with Seth Meyers and The Daily Show with Trevor Noah) recently encouraged listeners to get an abortion because she claims it made her feel powerful, and allowed her to play God. Quote: "You know how my abortion made me feel? Very powerful. You know how people say 'you can't play God?' I went in there like, 'Move over, Morgan Freeman, I am God." This is a person who has put herself in the place of God.
- iv. Some people worship abortion itself. In 2018 Ohio's largest abortion clinic ran a billboard campaign that started with the words, "Abortion is...," and then the rest was filled in with statements by real abortion patients. Here is what those patients said: "Abortion is sacred, a blessing, a family value, lifesaving, a second-chance, the best way to care for your family, the chance to graduate." These people have traded the real God for the god of abortion.
- v. Millions of people around the world have abortions because they want a boy rather than a girl. If that's not playing God, then I don't know what is.
- vi. Matthew 4:8-10 "Again, the devil took him [Jesus] to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. And he said to him, 'I will give you all these things if you will fall down and worship me.' Then Jesus told him, 'Go away, Satan! For it is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."
- vii. Abortion is a violation of the first commandment: "Do not worship other gods besides me."

2. Exodus 20:4 "Do not make an idol for yourself."

- i. Meaning: Worship God correctly. You must not create a picture of God and worship it.
- ii. Today people first decide who they want God to be, and then they worship Him. They worship the god of their own imagination.
 - 1. People don't like the idea of hell, so they imagine a god who doesn't send people to hell, and they worship him.

- 2. People don't like the idea of there only being one way to God, so they imagine that god that doesn't care about doctrine, and they worship him.
- 3. People don't want to repent of sin, so they imagine a god who condones sin, and they worship him.
- iii. Abortion supporters are so committed to abortion, that they have imagined a god who loves abortion, and they worship him.
 - 1. They have created a god who values a woman's right to choose, but not a child's right to life.
 - 2. They created a god who cares about endangered animals, but not the unborn children.
 - 3. They created a god who cares about "climate crisis", but not the crisis of abortion. The god they worship is not the God of the Bible.
 - 4. They claim their god is all about love, and acceptance, and tolerance, while at the same time claiming that their god condones childmurder.
- iv. 1 John 5:21 "Little children, guard yourselves from idols."
- v. Abortion is murder; the true God forbids murder (Ex 20:13). Abortion endangers the most weak and vulnerable; the true God commands us to protect the most weak and vulnerable. James 1:27 "Pure and undefiled religion before God the Father is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained from the world." Abortion supporters hate children; Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me (Mt 19:14)." Abortion is the ultimate expression of selfishness; the true God said, "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves."
- vi. Abortion is evil because it is violation of the second commandment: "Do not make an idol for yourself."

3. Exodus 20:7 "Do not misuse the name of the Lord your God, because the LORD will not leave anyone unpunished who misuses his name."

- Meaning: To misuse God's name is to do something that God forbids and claim that God has commanded it. For example, to rob a bank and claim that God told you to do it.
- ii. Many abortion supporters claim that abortion is God's work.
- iii. One popular t-shirt designed by Viva Ruiz says "Thank God for abortion," as if the right to abortion is a gift from God, a blessing from God. Ruiz says that the t-shirt is a "tool for celebration and agitation."
- iv. Last year The Atlantic magazine did a story on a pastor's argument for the morality of abortion. The pastor argued that supporting abortion is "faithfulness to Christianity." She said (a female pastor), "I believe every person I encounter, including myself, has the right to their body. When that bodily autonomy is taken away, to me, that is against Christian scripture, and is against the Gospel I believe in." She went on. "When people talk about 'Our body is a temple of God, and holy,' I see that as I have the right to

choices over my body, and the freedom to make the decisions that are right for me.... There's this little passage in the Gospel of John that continues to stay with me. Jesus says, 'I have come that they might have life and have it abundantly.' The Greek word that's used there for 'life abundance' is this word zoe, which means not just that you're living and breathing, but that God's plan for our lives is to actually have a meaningful life with loving contentment and satisfaction."

- v. <u>Dr. Willie Parker</u> is an abortionist here in the South. He wrote a book called, "Life's Work: A Moral Argument for Choice." He makes a Christianity-based argument for abortion access. He wrote, "I remain a follower of Jesus, and I believe that as an abortion provider, I am doing God's work." He believes that helping a woman have an abortion is simply following Christ's command to love your neighbor as yourself.
- vi. Colossians 3:23 "And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."
- vii. Abortion cannot rightly be done in the name of Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father.
- viii. Abortion is evil because it breaks the third commandment: "Do not misuse the name of the Lord your God, because the LORD will not leave anyone unpunished who misuses his name."

4. Exodus 20:8 "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."

- i. Meaning:
 - 1. The fourth commandment is the only one of the Ten that Christians are no longer bound to keep. The NT explicitly teaches this.
 - However, there is a principle in this commandment that still applies today: Let God be in charge of your finances. It was tempting for the Jews to work seven days a week to make ends meet, but God forbid it, and told them to trust Him. Let Him be in charge. Today we face the same temptation, to violate God's commands to make more money.
- ii. The reason many people have abortions is because of financial issues.
 - 1. They don't believe they can afford a baby. Translation: They don't want to lower their standard of living for a baby.
 - 2. Having a baby will interfere with their career plans.
 - 3. Having a baby will interfere with their educational plans.
 - 4. Ultimately, they don't want to let God be in charge of their finances; they want control. They want to be the boss.
- iii. People support abortion because they value money more than life.
- iv. 1 Timothy 6:9-10 "But those who want to be rich fall into temptation, a trap, and many foolish and harmful desires, which plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and by craving it, some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs."

v. Abortion is evil because it violates the fourth commandment: "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."

5. Exodus 20:12 "Honor your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God is giving you."

- i. Meaning 1: Respect and obey your parents.
- ii. Meaning 2: Make it easy for your kids to honor you.
- iii. Is it respectful to your parents to kill their grandchildren? Are you honoring your heavenly Father by killing your kids (His kids)? Are you being a good parent by killing your child before it is even born?
- iv. Abortion is evil because it is a violation of the fifth commandment: "Honor your father and your mother."

6. Exodus 20:13 "Do not murder."

- i. Meaning: Murder is "the willful killing of the innocent (Mark Rooker." It is "the unauthorized, malicious, and intentional killing of human beings."
- ii. The central reason that abortion is wrong is that abortion is murder, and murder is wrong.
- iii. In the news we often hear stories of innocent human beings being killed, and there is a universal consensus that killing innocent human beings is wrong. Whether the victim is 2, or 18, or 70 years old is not what makes it wrong; it their humanity. Human beings have the right to life.
- iv. Scientists confirm that human life begins at the moment of conception, or sperm-egg fusion. The sperm and egg by themselves only contain half the genetic material to form a human being; but when they are fused together, a new human being who is genetically distinct from both parents begins its life.
- v. So why do abortion supporters say it is not okay to kill a 1-year-old, but it is okay to kill an unborn child?
 - 1. Size: Some say size the unborn, for example at conception, is microscopic. But is a 1-year-old less valuable, less human, less alive because it is much smaller than an adult?
 - 2. Level of development: Some say level of development the unborn, for example, is not fully developed. But neither is a 1-year-old, or even a 13-year old, for that matter.
 - 3. Environment: Some say environment. Because the unborn child is in the mother's womb, it does not have the right to life. Environment does not determine human rights. Is there any environment in which theft, or rape, or adultery, or slavery are permissible? No.
 - 4. Degree of dependency: Some say degree of dependency since unborn children are dependent on their mothers for life, they don't have the right to life. 1-year-olds are dependent on others for life, and are unable to survive on their own.
- vi. Abortion is evil because it breaks the sixth commandment: "Do not murder."

7. Exodus 20:14 "Do not commit adultery."

i. Meaning 1: Do not have sex outside of marriage.

- 1. Many abortions are the result of sexual sin; people have sex outside of marriage, resulting in an unwanted pregnancy, and decide to abort the child.
- 2. Hebrews 13:4 "Marriage is to be honored by all and the marriage bed kept undefiled, because God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers."
- 3. Sex outside of marriage is wrong; but murder is even worse. The way to atone for one sin is not to commit an even greater sin.
- ii. Meaning 2: Be faithful to God.
 - 1. As Christians we are the bride of Christ. We are called to be faithful to God. Any sin is an act of marital unfaithfulness. Abortion, which is murder, is an act of spiritual adultery.
- iii. Abortion is evil because it breaks the seventh commandment: "Do not commit adultery."

8. Exodus 20:15 "Do not steal."

- i. Meaning: Do not take something that doesn't belong to you.
- ii. Abortion is an act of theft on multiple levels:
 - 1. Robbing the child of its life.
 - 2. Robbing God of His child.
 - 3. Robbing other family members of the child.
 - 4. Robbing the world of the potential good that the child will do in the earth.
 - 5. Robbing yourself of the blessing of the child. Psalm 127:3-5 (NIV) "Children are a heritage from the LORD, offspring are a reward from him. Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one's youth. Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them."
- iii. Ephesians 4:28 "Let the thief no longer steal. Instead, he is to do honest work with his own hands, so that he has something to share with anyone in need."
- iv. The point of the eighth commandment is not just to avoid stealing, but to be generous. So how sinful is the act of abortion, the stealing of an innocent human life!
- v. Abortion is evil because it violates the eighth commandment: "Do not steal."

9. Exodus 20:16 "Do not give false testimony against your neighbor."

- i. Meaning: Do not lie.
- ii. Abortion supporters tell lies to support abortion. This is how they convince themselves that it is moral.
 - 1. An unborn child is not alive.
 - 2. An unborn child has no human rights.
 - 3. Abortion is perfectly safe.
 - 4. Abortion is a woman's right.
 - 5. Abortion has no victims.
 - 6. An aborted child will feel no pain.
 - 7. Abortion is a "women's reproductive health issue."
 - 8. Pro-lifers are anti-women, anti-freedom, anti-choice.

- 9. A 2019 New York Times editorial by a late-term abortionist argued that "Pregnancy kills. Abortion saves lives."
- iii. Proverbs 4:24 "Don't let your mouth speak dishonestly, and don't let your lips talk deviously."
- iv. Ephesians 4:25 "Therefore, putting away lying, speak the truth, each one to his neighbor, because we are members of one another."
- v. What is the truth? Abortion is murder. It is brutal. It is tearing a child apart limb by limb with forceps. It is infanticide. It is painful for the unborn child. It is dangerous for the mother. It is anti-women, because at least half of aborted babies are little girls.
- vi. Abortion is murder because it is the violation of the ninth commandment: "Do not lie."

10. Exodus 20:17 "Do not covet."

- i. Meaning: You must not have wrong desires. To covet is to desire the wrong things things that are sinful; things that God doesn't want you to have; more than God wants you to have; desiring the right things for the wrong reasons; desiring the right thing too much.
- ii. Abortion is always the result of covetousness. It is desiring the wrong things.
 - 1. It is the pregnant woman's desire not to be pregnant; or not to be a mother.
 - 2. It is the boyfriend's desire not to be a father; or not to support a child.
 - 3. It is the abortion industry's desire to make money off of the murder of unborn children.
 - 4. It is the politicians desire to have less dependent and disabled children on the government dole.
- iii. Abortion is a violation of the tenth commandment: "Do not covet."

III. CONCLUSION

- 1. Is abortion evil? Absolutely.
 - i. Christians must not have abortions.
 - ii. Christians must not encourage or support abortion.
 - iii. Christians must not vote for pro-choice politicians, which is a vote for infanticide.
- 2. What can we do?
 - i. Educate yourself. Start with Why Pro-Life? By Randy Alcorn.
 - ii. Vote Pro-life.
 - iii. Speak up. You have influence; you have relationships; you have a platform; use it to defend the unborn.