

ABORTION SERVES THE CREATURE—NOT THE CREATOR!

A year ago—almost to the day—I introduced my sermon with these words: “Of all the Sundays in the year, this is my **least favorite** Sunday to preach. Why? Because today is Sanctity of Human Life Sunday”—and on this particular Sunday each year I feel it is my responsibility to remind us of the **horrific practice** of murdering the unborn.

Last year I also said this: “...this is **the first** Sanctity of Life Sunday that we can celebrate **no legal abortions—**or open abortion clinics—in Wisconsin!”

Unfortunately, it was **also the last!** Why? Because even though our current law **prohibits abortion**, abortions are still happening! **Why** are abortions happening in Wisconsin, even though it is against the law?

Because our laws **are being disregarded**...they are not **being followed**...they are **being ignored!**

The current statute plainly states: “Any person, other than the mother, who intentionally destroys the life of an unborn child is guilty of a Class H felony.”

Additionally, the **statute states**: “In this section ‘unborn child’ means a human being from the time of conception until it is born alive.”

Why is the law being ignored? Because the Wisconsin Attorney General—Josh Kaul—filed a lawsuit seeking to block the ban on abortions. Let that sink in. The Wisconsin Attorney General—whose job description includes “upholding the law, protecting the rights of citizens, and ensuring justice is pursued”

(<https://reyabogado.com/us/was-state-attorney-general/>)—filed a lawsuit against his own state!

So instead of **upholding** the law—and punishing those who **break** the law—our Attorney General is **choosing not to do that**. In fact, he has come right out and said that he **will not enforce** the law. Why? Because he doesn’t like the law! Sadly, we have come to the point—and have been there for a while—that government leaders **ignore laws** they don’t like!

What is behind this big push for abortions without restrictions—**besides the devil** himself?

Money, of course, is one of the motivating factors for those that **perform** abortions. From 2019 to 2021, Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers received nearly **\$2 billion** from the federal government! From 2021 to 2022, the Biden administration increased its funding to abortion providers through the Department of Health and Human Services from \$5.71 million to \$27.06 million—a 373% increase!

But **what about those** who don’t personally **perform** abortions and **make money** from the industry?

What **makes many** in our society—including men who **can’t have an abortion** and women who are **past the age** of becoming pregnant—so passionate about “pro-choice?”

Why do **they fight so hard** to want pregnant women to have the “right” to kill their unwanted child? I believe we have the answer in Romans 1. Please turn there and follow along as I read verse 19-25.

--In vs 19, we see that mankind is **created with** the knowledge of God. It is not something we **have to learn**—it is something we are already know because God **puts it within us**.

--In vs 20, we see that **creation points** to the existence of God. From creation, we understand some basic truths about God—that He exists...and that He is powerful...and that He is divine (which is the idea behind “Godhead”).

Now vs 21. Here we see... **1. The conscious rejection of the knowledge of God**

In spite of the **God-consciousness** that God puts within us—and **the creation** that is all around us—many still choose to **reject** the knowledge of God.

--Vs 21. “Because that, when **they knew God**, they glorified Him not as God...”

--Notice it doesn't say what they **learned about** God—it is what they **already knew** about Him!

--And in spite of what **they knew**, they glorified Him not as God—they refused to treat Him as God! I'll expand on that more in a little bit.

--Vs 28. "And even as they did not like to **retain God** in their knowledge..."

--They had an awareness of God, but they didn't want to **keep** that knowledge. Instead, they ignore it...and suppress it... and go against it.

--In vss 29-31, we have a list of sins that those who reject God will fall into—one of which is murder, by the way. Now vs 32. "Who knowing the judgment of God..."

We'll talk about what **the rejection of God looks like in a little** bit but think about what is being said. They have a knowledge of God but refuse to treat Him as God. They even know of the judgment of God—but still reject Him anyway!

2. The characteristics of those who reject the knowledge of God

What we're going to do now is go through this passage and look at the characteristics of those who reject the knowledge of God and see how they fit the mindset of those who promote "Pro-choice"—which is really the battle-cry for "Pro-death!"

First, A. They refuse to treat God as God (vs 21a)

We see that in the phrase "they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful..."

We touched on this just a moment ago, but I want us to think about it a little more. What does it mean to **glorify** God? And in what way does "pro-choice" not glorify God?

To **glorify** God means to **honor Him** because of **Who** He is and **what** He does. It is to acknowledge that God is God—and we are not—and that certain things are due Him because He is God. 3 reasons to glorify God:

1) God is the Creator. Ps 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."

What should our response be toward God because He created us? In a nutshell, we should praise Him! **Isaiah 43:21** "This people have I formed **for myself**; they shall **shew forth my praise**."

What is the pro-choice mindset regarding God **as the Creator**? I believe it is something like this: 'God didn't create us—we just evolved! And because we evolved, there is **no one**—and **no thing**—to praise!'

Not only is God the Creator, **2) God rules over men.**

Dan 4:25 "...till thou know that the **most High ruleth** in the kingdom of men..."

Ps 83:18 "That men may know that thou, whose name alone is Jehovah, art **the most high** over all the earth."

What **should our response** be toward God because He rules over us?

Obey Him...please Him...try to serve Him!

What is the pro-choice mindset regarding God as the most high? One of two things!

It is either: 'There is no God!' or, 'We will not have this God rule over us! We will do what we want to do!'

Not only is there a refusal to acknowledge God as the Creator and ruler over mankind, there is also a refusal to recognize that... **3) God is the final Judge.** He is, isn't He?

In Gen 18:25, Abraham refers to God as the "Judge of all the earth."

Eccl 12:14a "For **God shall bring every work** into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."

Rev 21:12 "And I saw the dead, small and great, **stand before God**..."

What **should our response be** toward God because He will judge us?

Fear Him...obey Him...learn what pleases and displeases Him!

What is the **pro-choice** mindset regarding God as our final judge?

Again, it is either: 'There is **no God!**'...or 'He does **not care** what we do'...or 'He does **not know** what we do!'

No wonder God had both David and Paul write: "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

Characteristic #1 of those who reject the knowledge of God? ***They refuse to treat God as God!***

Characteristic #2? B. They treat themselves as "God"

When people refuse to treat God as God—when they reject the truth that He is the Creator...and their Ruler...and their Judge—they have to go elsewhere for truth. Where do they turn? ***To themselves!***

We see that in vs 22: "**Professing themselves to be wise**, they became fools,"

They become their own **source of wisdom**. To "profess" means to "claim." They were claiming—in their own minds—that they were wise. Proverbs 3:7 says, "Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil." They were doing **the opposite!** They **were wise** in their own eyes...and they were **not fearing** the LORD... and they **did not depart** from evil. Instead, they **participated** in it!

Notice what happens when people become wise in their own eyes.

First, **1) They become vain in their imaginations**. We see that in the middle of vs 21 (read). The Greek word that "vain" comes from is used only once in the NT—right here. It **doesn't mean** vain—as **in conceited**. It means **aimless or foolish**. In other words, they imagine foolish things against God.

2) Their foolish heart was darkened. We also see that phrase at the end of vs 21. That does not mean their heart became blacker. It means that **their thinking**—instead of becoming clearer—became more and more clouded—and foolish.

3) They became fools. We see that in vs 22. Quite a progression, isn't it. When you reject God as the source of wisdom—and become wise in your own eyes, you **imagine foolish things**. When you **think on foolish things**, you don't become wiser—you become more foolish. And when your **thinking is foolish**, God says you have become a fool!

Let's think about **how foolish**—how illogical—some of the laws and arguments are in our very own state.

1) "Dependent" status. In November 2023—just a couple of months ago—the WI State Senate passed a bill that allows a preborn baby—with a detectable heartbeat—to be claimed as a "dependent" for tax purposes.

But...also in Wisconsin—someone else can have their unborn baby—with a detectable heartbeat—killed in an abortion clinic. So in one case the unborn child is considered a human—and thus a dependent—but in the other case it is apparently not considered a human—thus it can be killed.

Does that make any sense at all?

2) Abortion vs feticide. Dane County Judge Diane Schlipper has stated that the current state statute in Wisconsin **doesn't apply** to abortion—it only applies to **feticide!**

What is **feticide**? The intentional killing of a fetus. What is **a fetus**? A baby inside their mothers' womb! So what is the **difference** between an abortion and feticide? **The feticide law** states that if a person kills a woman who has an unborn child—and the unborn child also dies—the killer will be charged for the **death of two people**—not just one.

But if the mother **wants her child killed**—and goes to an abortion clinic for that purpose—that is somehow okay. Again, I ask, does that make any sense at all?

3) My body, my choice. Is that a good argument? It's not, is it? Here's why. Does a pregnant woman **gain a second heart** when she becomes pregnant? No! One is **hers**; one is her **baby's!**

Does a pregnant woman—with an unborn **baby boy** inside of her—now have both male & female private parts? No! One set of private parts belongs to **the mother**; the other set to **her son**—who has his own body.

My body, my choice is fine when it comes to whether or not you should **wear a mask**—or take a shot—but it does not apply to a pregnant woman with **another body**—with totally different DNA—inside of her. She can decide what happens to **her** body—but she cannot decide what happens to the body of an entirely different human being that is inside of her.

That it is **not her body**—it is someone else's—and it is **not her choice!**

Characteristic #1 of those who reject the knowledge of God? **They refuse to treat God as God!**

Characteristic #2? They treat themselves as “God”

Another characteristic of those who reject God is found in the beginning of vs 25 “they changed the truth of God into a lie.” For the sake of time, though, we are going to skip that one and look at the middle of vs 25. Here we see: C. They worship and serve themselves more than God

They “worshipped and served the creature”—meaning the created—“more than the Creator.”

This, in my mind, is the crux of the abortion issue: **mankind**—the created—worshipping and serving **himself more than God**.

--If a woman—or a couple—decides to have their unborn baby killed because it will **take too much work**—or **too much money**—they are serving and worshipping themselves

--If a woman—or a couple—decides to have their unborn baby killed because they can't afford to have **the wife stop working**—they are serving and worshipping themselves

--If a woman—or a couple—decides to have their unborn baby killed because tests show the baby will **be born with medical problems** that they don't want to deal with—they are serving and worshipping themselves

--If a young woman—and her boyfriend—decide to have their unborn baby killed because it would be **too embarrassing** for the young unwed girl to tell her parents—they are serving and worshipping themselves

--If a doctor—who knows in his heart of hearts that he is killing an innocent child—continues to do so **for the money**, he is serving and worshipping himself

Question: Am I wrong in suggesting that any intentional abortion—for any reason—has at its root a **desire to serve and worship ourselves** more than God? I don't think so!

Lastly, let's consider... **3. The consequences for those who reject the knowledge of God**

--What happens to those who continually, willfully, reject the knowledge of God?

--What happens to those who refuse to treat God as God...and make themselves a god...and worship and serve themselves?

God tells us—three different times—what happens.

--Vs 24 “Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness...”

--Vs 26 “For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections...”

--Vs 28 “And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind...”

What does that mean? Does it mean God **gives up on them** and that they are “unsavable”—and beyond forgiveness? Some suggest that is what it means—but I wouldn't go so far as to say they can't be saved.

Many women who have had abortions repent and trust Christ—and many abortion-performing doctors also get saved. What these verses mean, though, is God gives them over to their sin. He no longer restrains them—He lets them have their own way. Dr. Ligon Duncan wrote: “The apostle Paul is saying, God's judgment against sin is when He delivers you over into your own desires....And what Paul is saying is when a human heart says, I rebel against you God, I want to be my own god, I want to do it my own way, then God says, okay, have it your way.”

What about us? There is a heart of a rebel in each of us. We can have a heart that says, “I want to be my own god, I want to do it my way.” We can make that choice—even as a child of God!

--That will only last so long, however. If you are a true child of God, God will chasten you to bring you back. But...if God never chastens you—if God never brings “discomfort” into your life to get your attention—it is probably because you are not His child.

Remaining in your pride—remaining in the attitude of wanting to be your own little god—will result in you being separated from God forever in hell. Don’t let that be you!

In light of what we have heard today from God’s Word, what does God want us to do?

1. First, honestly evaluate whether or not you have been forgiven and are a child of God. Every one of us will meet God someday and if you die unforgiven, God’s wrath will fall upon you.
2. Pray that God will work on the hearts of those that are involved in abortions.
3. Vote for pro-life—not pro-choice—candidates. Be educated on where candidates stand.
4. Financially support—and pray for—organizations that fight abortion and offer alternatives.
5. Don’t be afraid to engage people in conversations about these things.