

I. INTRODUCTION

II. DEATH AND LIFE

A. Death and Life Defined

B. The Origin of Life

C. Creation

1. Where does matter come from? (Genesis 1:1, John 1:3)

The Sovereign God created everything *ex nihilo* (out of nothing).

2. Where does life come from? (I Corinthians 15:39)

“the more I study nature the more I stand amazed at the work of the Creator.” Pasteur

3. The Imago Dei (Image of God) (Genesis 1:26-28)

- a. Human life is sacred because it represents God.

- b. Incommunicable Attributes

Self Existence (aseity) – Infinity – Immutability - Omnipotence – Omnipresence-
Omniscience - Eternity

- c. Communicable Attributes

Rational – Personal & Relational – Moral (Galatians 5:22-23)

4. Man’s Purpose (Genesis 2:7-9,15)

Man is created for God’s glory. (Isaiah 43:7)

How does man live his life to fulfill this purpose?

Four creation ordinances

- a. Procreation – Be fruitful and multiply. (Genesis 1:28)

- b. Labor – Fill the earth, subdue it, and rule it – God’s steward. (Genesis 1:28; 2:15)

- c. Sabbath – a day of rest, a time to reflect (Genesis 2:2, Exodus 20:8-10)

- d. Marriage – leave – be joined – become one (Genesis 2:24)

God is to be glorified in and take pleasure from our children, our work, our rest, and our marriages.

D. Death (Genesis 2:16)

1. Obedience is life-affirming – Disobedience brings Death. (Genesis 3)

2. Physical Death (Genesis 3:22-24)

3. Spiritual Death (Genesis 2:7, I Corinthians 15:45b, I Thessalonians 5:23a, John 4:24)

4. The Extent of Adam’s Sin (Romans 3:10,23; 6:23, Ephesians 2:1, Romans 5:12-21)

We need to be saved from our nature not just our deeds – we must be born again.

III. A CULTURE OF DEATH

A. Cain (Genesis 4:6-10) - Lamech (Genesis 4:23-24) – 21st Century

B. Sanctity of Life Sunday – Abortion destroys a human life. (Psalm 139:13)

1. Roe versus Wade – a scandalous case

2. A Day of Celebration

- C. Why is Killing wrong?
 - 1. The 6th Commandment (Exodus 20:13, Deuteronomy 5:17)
 - 2. It is an attack on God. (Genesis 9:6-7, Psalm 51:4-5)
 - 3. Jesus' definition of murder (Matthew 5:21-22, James 3:8-9, I John 3:14-15)

IV. THE AUTHOR OF LIFE COMES TO REDEEM

- A. Jesus comes that we might have life. (John 10:10)
- B. Jesus the true Imago Dei (John 1:14)
- C. Jesus the One Source of Life (John 4:6,8b)
- D. Jesus demonstrates how to live.
 - 1. Pleasing the Father (Matthew 3:17)
 - 2. Obedient to the Father (John 5:30, 6:38)
 - 3. In constant fellowship and communion with the Father (Mark 1:35, Luke 6:12; 22:41-44)
 - 4. Taking Satisfaction in the Father (John 10:29-30; 14:10-14)
 - 5. Bringing Glory to the Father (John 17:1b-2)
- E. Jesus fulfills His mission.
 - 1. He redeems His people - Paying the penalty of sin by dying. (1 Corinthians 15:3, Galatians 1:4; 3:13, Colossians 2:14)
 - 2. Taking on Himself the wrath of God (Romans 3:25, Hebrews 2:17, I John 2:2; 4:10)
 - 3. Breaking the power of sin and death (Romans 6:6-11; 8:1-3)
 - 4. So that the redeemed can live to Christ (I Peter 2:24) as new creatures alive in Him (Romans 8:10-11, 2 Corinthians 5:17-21)
- F. The Abundant Life
 - 1. Eternal (John 10:28)
 - 2. Cannot be taken away
 - 3. Intimate Relationship with God (John 17:3)
 - 4. Life from the Life Giver (Revelation 22:1-5)

V. CONCLUSION

- A. Are you dead in Adam or alive in Christ?
- B. Christ forgives sinners including those who kill.
- C. Live to the glory of God – sanctifying life and proclaiming the work of the Life Giver.

Scandalous Cases

Why were Roe versus Wade, Doe versus Bolton, and Planned Parenthood of SE Pennsylvania versus Casey Scandalous? Some of the reasons are:

- Because they were rooted in lies – the original plaintiffs subsequently both admitted that their attorneys used them and falsified the facts about their cases. Roe (Norma McCorvey) admitted that she lied about being raped while Doe (Sandra Cano) said that she thought she was signing divorce and child custody papers.
- Because they ignored and denied science which is clear about the humanity of the unborn child and was only becoming clearer with advances in genetics, embryology, and neonatology.
- Because they ignored and distorted history since abortion had been outlawed to some extent for centuries and throughout our country's history.
- Because they distorted the Constitution. The founders would have been shocked that anyone, much less the members of the Supreme Court, would have found a right to abortion anywhere in the Constitution.
- Because they lowered judicial standards abandoning two centuries of jurisprudence and judicial safeguards and distorting the role of the Supreme Court from a court of review into a legislative body contravening the Constitution and the founding principles of the Republic. This flawed jurisprudence would have devastating results in many future cases.
- Because they were rooted in death – a denial of God and a focus on man as being the standard by which we live.
- Because they were an attack on the creation mandate given by God.

BAPTIST FAITH AND MESSAGE 2000 ARTICLE 15 – THE CHRISTIAN AND THE SOCIAL ORDER

We should speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death.

BAPTIST FAITH AND MESSAGE 2000 ARTICLE 18 - THE FAMILY

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord.