GATEWAY INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES REPORT



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www.gatewayinternationalmissions.com Dr. Stan A. Frye, President

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

Dear Beloved GIMI Team Members,

Blessed late spring greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus! I trust that you are faithfully serving Jesus and that you have on your hearts what Jesus has on His-the souls of men, women, boys, and girls. In Luke 19:10, we find these words, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Also, let me share with you some more wonderful verses from Luke 15:4-7. Please notice the wonderful message in these verses. "What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbors, saying unto them, Rejoice with me: for I have found my sheep which was lost. I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just

persons, which need no repentance."

These wonderful verses tell us distinctly that Jesus has the lost world on His heart and mind, and so should we. As I mentioned in our last newsletter, time is truly running out, and Jesus will soon come again. Thus, we must be busy about the main thing, and the main thing is the Great Commission. This is the way every Christian should be living in these last days. As I said to a person I was talking to not many days back, "We are going to leave everything behind us here on this earth when we die or when Jesus comes. Therefore, we should be giving our attention to spiritual matters and not to the stuff of this world. Many years ago my pastor in Florida, Dr. Homer Lindsay, Jr., used to say, "If you are going to invest in heaven, then you must invest in the only thing that is going there, and the only thing that is going to heaven is the souls of men."

March Was A Month Of Enormous Harvest For GIMI And the Kingdom of God!

As I sit here writing today, I am so happy to share with you that this past month of March was one of the greatest months of harvest that GIMI has ever had. As most of you know, due to some more health problems on our long trip out to Texas, I was unable to travel back to Africa with my precious wife, Jo Anne. So, instead of our going, we were so blessed to have our GIMI Vice-President, Dr. Tommy Snyder, go to Kenya for two weeks in our place.

During his ten days of evangelism and labor with our Kenya Director, Mr. Sammy Mbugua, Pastor Tommy shared the Gospel message with 5,776 people in prisons, schools, and a couple orphanages. Out of this large number of recipients of the Gospel, 1,330 people prayed to receive Christ as their Savior in first-time decisions to get saved. Only God knows for sure how many did in fact get genuinely saved, but we know that scores did because of the changed lives and tremendous testimonies.

Also, I am thrilled to tell you that my son, Pastor Joel Frye, and Brother Bart Grant, a great singer, traveled in our place out to our beloved Uganda and shared the Gospel with 10,625 people in prisons, schools, and churches while working with our Uganda Director, Rev. William Ssentumbwe, for ten busy days. During their ten days of ministry, 3,082 people gave their hearts to Christ in first-time commitments to Him. We are still just praising God for the powerful way God used our two small teams in bringing people to Christ under the drawing power of the Holy Ghost. Jo Anne and I are so very grateful to God for His saving power through all the month of March. We would like to thank all of our national workers in Kenya and Uganda for the great job they did in lining up the meetings in both countries, and we are so thankful to Pastor Tommy, Pastor Joel, and Brother Bart for taking the time away from their families, jobs, and ministries to help GIMI share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Dear Brothers, you were truly a blessing to our African people, and yes, to this growing ministry. Thank you for your dedication to go, and also, for the way you let God use you.

Many of you know much about our great African

GIMI Is Off To A Great Year Of Harvest!

nationals who work so hard to keep telling the old, old story of how Jesus died for the sins of the world and how He wants to save everyone that will come to Him in repentance. We also know vividly how hard these dear African preachers preach so faithfully, and then, how our ladies teach the women and children in the prisons and schools, sharing with them the love of Jesus. Well folks, this year we need to express an even greater amount of thanks for the way they have been faithfully working this year. I am personally thrilled to tell you that already this year, January through March, through our nationals and through our recent mission teams to Kenya and Uganda, God has given to us the privilege of sharing the Gospel with 171,000 people in just three months, with 23,300 of these making first-time commitments to our Lord Jesus Christ. We are just ecstatic about what God is doing. We are very grateful to be a apart of this wonderful soul winning endeavor. We are going to give you a couple of testimonies in this newsletter from some who have been saved down through the years of our GIMI Ministry to show you just how God has truly changed lives. I hope and pray that you will enjoy them.

Testimonies From Some Who Have Been Saved Through The Ministry Of GIMI

Testimony #1

Janurary 20, 2019

Luzira Upper Prison Kampala, Uganda

Dear Dr. Frye,

Praise God! With great pleasure, I want to say a wonderful greeting to you and our beloved Papa. How are you doing now days in terms of ministry and how was Christmas? I hope that it was wonderful at your family and church in terms of worshipping and praising the Almighty God.

On our side, it was okay because we praised and worshipped Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, and because people confessed their sins and they got salvation.

For sure, Dr. Frye, whenever I and my fellow brothers at Luzira Upper Prison Church receive your GIMI greetings, the message or the Word of God from your ministry, and many others, we feel that we are not alone. Not only that, but you have enabled us to know that whenever we receive Christ into our hearts, He begins the process of destroying our old sinful selves and changing us into a new spiritual creation. Joyfully, we begin to experience the glorious freedom from guilt and condemnation, and the old life of sin becomes repulsive to us. We will see that one minute with God provides more happiness than a lifetime of being the devil's slave (II Corinthians 5:17).

Thank you Dr. Frye for everything you do for us. Please keep that spirit and may God bless you for your ministry; as we believe that our tomorrow is better than today.

Yours faithfully in Christ, Richard Kibirige, Inmate

Testimony #2

January 18, 2019

Uganda Prisons Upper Luzira Kampala, Uganda

To. Dr. and Mrs. Stan Frye Gateway International Missions, Inc.

Praise Jesus, our Lord and Savior who graciously called us into His kingdom for eternal life. I, Senior Pastor, Godfrey Kizito, a born again Christian of the Upper Prison Church in Upper Prison. I take this honor to appreciate and thank the Almighty God for having given you Gateway International Ministry. Through this ministry, I humbly extend my acknowledgement to you for the great work you have done in my life, as well as the church here in prison which I am pastoring.

The Gateway Ministry has done us well by sending materials towards improving our inmates welfare, but more so by providing help for a spiritual increase. You have equipped us with the message of encouragement, hope, joy and strengthening our lives. And the truth is, that Gateway International has been acting as the agent of my transformation.

Notwithstanding, when I was arrested in 2011 and incarcerated here at Upper Prison, I found denominations of all kinds in conflict over the interests and the desire for religious supremacy in some religious circles. So, through the Gateway Ministry represented by Rev. William Ssentumbwe, there has been a restoration of peace and civility between our different people.

Also, I want to tell you that I can't forget your beloved wife, JoAnne, and all of the years she has been coming with you into the prison with her sacrificing and freely rendering her valuable time carrying good tidings of our Lord Jesus Christ to us. Hence, I pray that the Almighty God will continue to richly bless the works of her hands and the entire family.

I am very grateful to inform you that this year, 2019, I will be leaving prison life and begin a new life of my freedom. And, it is my desire that the moment I get out of captivity, I want to join Gateway Ministry, in order to be able to do the work of God effectively and then therefore, fulfill the commandment of our Lord Jesus Christ found in Matthew 28:18-20.

On the other hand, it is my humble request to you that you may come back to Uganda because born again inmates are in a terrible mess, especially at Upper Prison, Luzira.

May the Lord God Almighty keep you well and the family, and may He provide for you and bless the works of your hands. Amen!

Yours faithfully, Senior Pastor Godfrey Kizito

We Are Resuming Our Bible College Classes!

A lot of you know that a couple years back, GIMI started our Gateway International Bible College which offered classroom work every Thursday evening here at our GIMI Headquarters. We also had more than 40 students enrolled in our Extension Program, most of which were located in Africa. God really blessed our work with some fine teachers helping me with the teaching, but because of so much administration, along with trying to pastor a church, plus all of the health problems I have, the work load just became too much. After much consideration, I decided that we would discontinue the Thursday evening classes to get out from under the stress of so much to do. My wife and I had been trying to oversee the GIMI Ministry for 20 years, plus, I was trying to pastor the church, and then, we were doing the Bible College work also. But recently, after encouragement from my doctors to get out from under so much stress, and after fervent prayer for over three months by my wife and myself, she and I came to the conclusion that we had to resign the church and concentrate on the African ministry which we have been doing for so long, because there was so much demand for the pastoral role. So, we resigned the church, and now we are back to just overseeing GIMI and trying to keep raising funds for this marvelous work.

Therefore, because many of our external students continued to do the extensions courses even when we weren't conducting classes "in house", we have decided to resume campus classes on Thursday evenings. I will have several people helping me to teach the classes. So, if you know of someone who lives in our area of North Carolina who would like to commute to our Thursday evening classes, please tell them to go to our GIMI website at: gatewayinternationalmissions.com and open the page for our Bible College. All of the information is there about the college, including the GIBC catalogue, the student application form, and some very relevant information for interested potential students.

I want to tell everyone that we are enrolling external students from here in America, as well as in Africa. I would also remind you that except for the first application fee, all of our classes are Tuition Free if the student will agree in writing to work faithfully, stick with

it, and complete at least two years of the four year degree program. However, if a student starts and drops out before the two year completion, that student will be expected to pay tuition for what classes he or she has already completed in the past.

Now, some of you might be saying, "What is the need for another Bible College?" Well, I won't take up 20 pages and tell you, but in all of my years as a pastor, teacher, evangelist, and missionary, I have never seen such a mess coming out of our present day colleges and universities, many of which claim to be Christian and Bible-believing schools. What I am seeing is homosexuality and lesbianism being tolerated or even promoted on Baptist University campuses. There is the overwhelming push for hyper-Calvinism in numbers of the schools that really used to be solid soul-winning schools. There is a dearth of Expository Preaching training in many schools, so much so, that our churches are having stories told to them rather than the exegetical Word of God. But, as I stated, I can talk about this for a long time, but right now I won't. Therefore, I am just pushing to try and get a solid Bible College that believes and teaches the inerrant Word of God started and going strong before God calls me home to heaven.

We need you to help us get the word out to prospective students. If you would like to help us financially in order to provide Free Tuition for these students, please send your gifts to Gateway International Bible College, P.O. Box 667, Taylorsville, NC 28681 and designate the gifts for the Bible College.

I would also like to ask you to really pray for the school as we resume our classes and as we try to enroll God's servants who want to prepare to serve Him better. We really need your prayers and support for this new endeavor.



Gateway International Bible College

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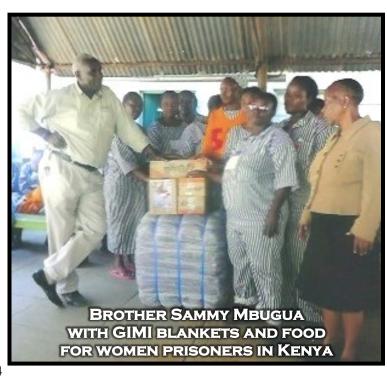
Email Address: office@gatewayinternationalmissions.com

Dr. Stan Frye, President

Operation Cover Up Is Still Moving Forward!

Dear Folks, I know that some of you have been helping us with our "Operation Cover Up Project" for quite sometime. If you don't know what this is, it is a project trying to raise funds to purchases hundreds of blankets for the cold and suffering women and children, plus some men, who are in some of the cold prisons in the mountains of Kenya and Uganda. I am aware that some people think Africa is always hot, but this is not true at all. In fact, upon Mt. Kenya, which is over 17,000 feet high, there is snow on all year round. And then, there are some cold damp places in the mountains of Uganda where it really gets cold, especially in the evenings. A lot of these women prisoners and their children in prison with them suffer tremendously because of the cold.

About eighteen months ago, we started our "Operation Cover Up Project," to try and raise funds for these blankets. By the time this newsletter goes out, we will have purchased over 1,000 blankets, and we are hoping to buy hundreds more. We do need you to consider helping with this project because there is no one else to purchase these blankets, not even the prison department which has very little money. So, will you consider helping us to make some prisoners and their kids warm and dry in the midst of cold evenings and dampness. If you would like to help with this project, just send your gifts into GIMI and designate them for the "Operation Cover Up Project." With the warmth of these blankets, we always share the warmth of God's love and present to every person the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!



A Huge Challenge Before Us With 54,000 South Sudanese In A Ugandan Refugee Camp

Dear Friends, I want to give you another copy of the email I recently sent to our email mailing list. Probably, a lot of you got this email, but just in case you didn't, I want to share it again because of the great challenge that we have before us right now.

"The reason I am writing this email today is to share with you a tremendous opportunity for GIMI to share the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ with thousands of people. Some of you may know that back in 2011, South Sudan broke away from Sudan in the North and became a new country in Africa. Things went very well for two years, but then, down in the South, civil war broke out again. Thousands have been killed in this war, and thousands more have had to flee the country. Right now, in Northern Uganda, there is a refugee camp with over 54,000 people in it. These people are living in absolute horrible conditions, and they have lost almost all hope. It is even hard to describe what these people are going through.

We have a dear Pastor Friend, Mogga Leju, who has worked with GIMI in the past, and right now, his family is living in this large refugee camp. He pastors a church in South Sudan, and he preaches in the prisons there. He only gets to see his family about every two months when he travels down to Uganda to the refugee camp. I feel strongly that God wants GIMI to help Mogga preach the Gospel to those in South Sudan, but especially, to the South Sudanese living in this huge refugee camp. In order to do this, we need additional financial support. I am just simply asking many of you to really prayerfully consider giving to this new effort, and to do so, just as soon as you can. We need to provide Bibles for Mogga's ministry and humanitarian aid for the suffering people. We especially need to minister to the hundreds and hundreds of mothers and their children in this camp. Presently, in addition to Mogga, we have one of our GIMI preachers living just South of the refugee came who wants to help Brother Mogga reach the camp. Our preacher's name is Patrick Ogaba, and he has worked with us for 34 years. We already support Patrick's prison ministry in Uganda, but now, we need to help him with some additional help to minister along side of Pastor Mogga. I do ask you as God's people to help us launch this special crusade to win thousands to Christ before they die lost in their sins.

So, I would ask that you prayerfully consider sending an additional gift to GIMI and designate it for the South Sudan Refugee Camp. We really need to get started with this effort, and we need to begin right away due to the severity of the suffering of these precious people. Just remember that we are taking the Gospel of our resurrected Lord to these thousands of people. It is our prayer that God might richly reward you for your investment in this overwhelming project. We thank you in advance so much for all that God might lead you to give."

We sincerely appreciate all of the small gifts, but this is a time that we really need some larger gifts too. I want to tell you that a few people have already responded; such as the wonderful people of New Life Baptist Church in Columbia, SC, where Brother John Hamilton is the dear pastor. Pastor John, we thank you and your people for helping us to get this great project started well. We sincerely love and appreciate you folks!

Some Very Special Prayer Requests!

Most of you know that for many years I have had some major health problems. There have been the heart problems with open heart surgery back in 2010. Since then, I have had five more heart catherizations with four stents in my arteries. Then, back in 2011, I came down with the incurable lung disease called bronchiectasis which the doctors believe I contracted from an airborne fungus in Africa. But, thank God, He healed this disease in 2013. In addition, for many years I have been a diabetic which requires me to take a lot of shots every week. I am on medication for high blood pressure and several other problems. I tell you this because I do want to request your prayers for my health, but also, that God will give me wisdom in planning our work, planning our trips, and in just how much He wants me to attempt to do with all of these difficulties.

Of course, I would not be where I am today, were it not for my wonderful wife, Jo Anne. She has truly been the greatest preacher's wife that any man of God could ever have had. So, please pray for her and her health as well so that both of us might continue to work as a team for as long as God will allow us to do so.

Also, I would like to ask that you help us pray about when to make trips to Africa and when to make long trips here in America. When we were young, all of this travel was not so difficult, but these days it requires much more. I would like to ask you to pray that God will give us discernment every day on what comes next.

Then, I would like to ask all of you pastors and churches to really pray that God will give us wisdom on what new doors to walk through, where we can get the most accomplished by winning the most souls to Christ, and how to be more fruitful in everything we do.

And, as I mention praying for wisdom about walking through open doors, I also want to ask you to help me pray about my ministry of writing and trying to get the Gospel message out through the written page. Even when my voice is not good, I can at least put the truth of the Gospel on paper and try to share it with a lost world. So, I would like to ask you to really help me pray about even enlarging our newsletter to provide some wonderful help for pastors and churches, and also for individual American Christians as well. I want this enlarged newsletter to be a great tool of assistance for every child of God, but especially, those who love winning people to Christ through world evangelism and world missions. Therefore, we need your prayers about this new step toward getting out the Gospel in even a greater way.

Please Pray For
Our 20th Anniversary
GIMI Celebration Banquet
Scheduled For Saturday, June 22, 2019.

As I have told you before, this year we are celebrating the 20th Anniversary of GIMI! Before it was called GIMI, this work was called the African Mission, and it was under the leadership of my dear friends, the late Mickey Parrisf and his dear wife, Alice. Jo Anne and I took over the work in December of 1999, and we changed the name in 2000 to GIMI. God has so richly blessed this ministry, and we are so very grateful to Him for what He has done. Therefore, we have planned this special celebration for Saturday Evening, June 22nd, at 5:00 p.m. We will be having a special dinner here at our GIMI headquarters, and then, we will have some special singing, a challenge from our GIMI Vice-president, Dr. Tommy Snyder, Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Batesville, MS. Pastor Tommy will also be sharing a report of his recent March trip to Kenya.

We want to make this an open invitation for all of you to join us. The only thing we need is for you to let us know that you are coming and how many people will be here with you for the meal. We need this RSVP at least two weeks before the banquet Please call Sister Patsy Little, our Office Administrator, with your information!

Let me close my long article by thanking all of you again for your love and support of this wonderful ministry. Jo Anne and I sincerely love and appreciate all of you for what you do to help us keep presenting the Gospel message of the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ to thousands of people in Africa, but also in other countries of the world, including our very own U.S.A.

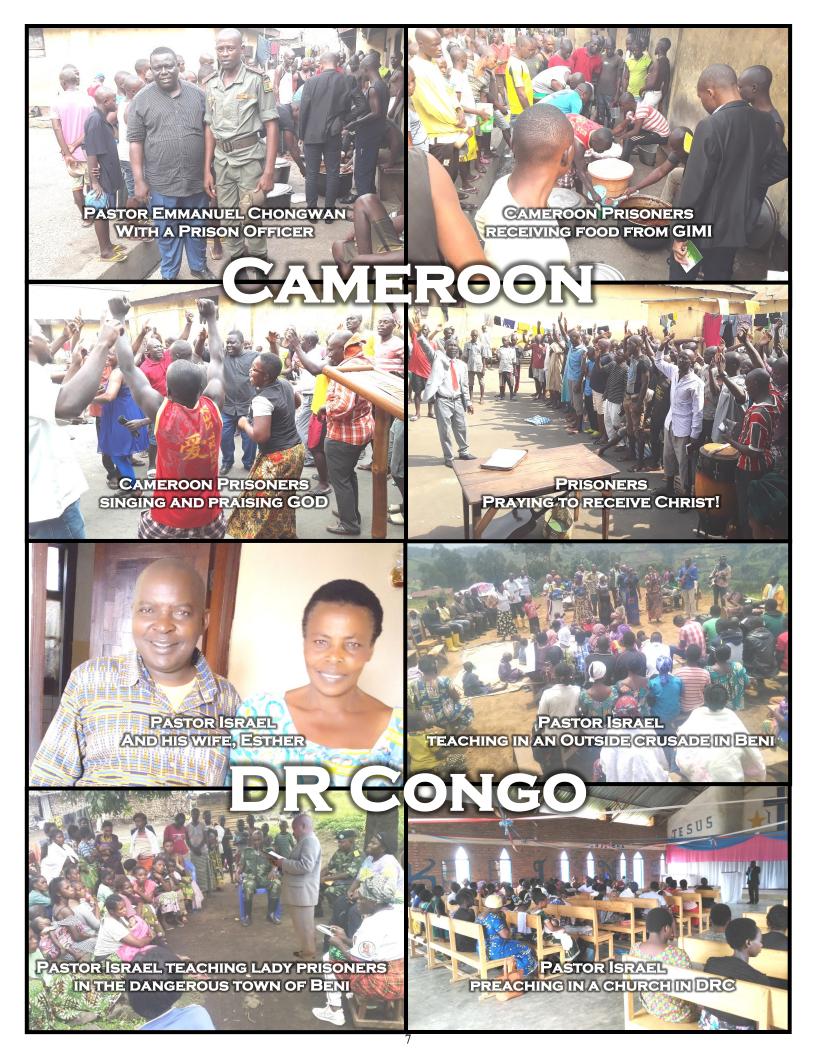
In the King's Service,

*Dr. Stam Frye*President of GIMI and GIBC
John 4:35 and II Timothy 2:15













"Why Abortion Is Murder!"

"The Blatant Hypocrisy Of An American Nation Which Has Murdered Over 60 Million Babies"
Scripture: Psalm 139:13-16

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Introduction

The article that I am about to write is one that lays heavily upon my heart; one in which I can't get out from under. We are told by statisticians that every day in America, 4,000 precious babies are butchered in their mother's wombs, and many of these just before they are born full-term. Since the beginning of so-called legal abortions back in 1973, over 60 million babies have been murdered by greedy doctors, confused young ladies, young men who are ashamed of their sin, supportive parents, scripturally ignorant professing Christians, and a violent radical organization called Planned Parenthood. And, all of these vile decisions to kill these innocent children are defended by the lie called, "Freedom of Choice." Since that infamous day back in 1973 when corrupt judges changed the Constitution in order to approve the murder of our babies, over 60 million children have been killed, but we must not forget that these kids will be in heaven at the judgment of God to bear witness against their murderers unless these killers get genuinely saved and repent of this dastardly deed. Wicked men and women might take this horrible sin casually, but be assured that God doesn't.

Most all of us remember the stories of the horrible holocaust that butchered six million Jewish people under the leadership of Adolph Hitler, and this was a terribly wicked thing. But just meditate upon the brutality that has killed ten times more than were killed in the holocaust. Just try to imagine the enormity of this inexplicable deed. Just think about the thousands and thousands of ill-informed young women, and also, scores of mid-life moms-to-be, who received the wrong counsel from so-called friends, from blatant and definite hypocrites, from money-crazy radicals like the people in Planned Parenthood, and yes, sad to say, but from some very screwed up phony religious people, including liberal preachers and pastors who offered their wicked advice which resulted in the death of multitudes of precious babies. And, I dare not fail to mention the scores of wicked politicians who are more interested in getting votes than they are in saving lives. Right now, we have many of these wicked conspirators in Washington, D.C., and in our state capitals who defy the truth of the Bible, defy those who stand against abortion, and most of all, defy God who gives life at the moment of conception. If rabid liberals had a thousand years on this earth to try to defend the murder of these babies, they would never be able to produce any argument which could give credibility to taking the lives of unborn and recently born children in the name of "Freedom Of Choice."

I have been a pastor for 53 years, and I literally could not tell you how many young women, middle-aged ladies, and yes, even some 60 year old plus women, who have come in to my office seeking help with the horrific guilt that they bear because they had their baby or babies killed. A lot of these ladies have terrific guilt, bad dreams, emotional upheaval, and some who came to see me were at the point of suicide.

For instance, I remember one dear lady who came to share with me that she got pregnant out of wedlock at the age of 16. With the pressure of the child's father and his family, along with some other so-called friends, this precious young lady went through with the abortion and had her baby killed. For over 40 years, this Mom had tried to live with the guilt to the extent that often times she would wake up at night hearing this dead baby cry, and even sometimes, envisioning what the child would look like at its age today, had it been permitted to be born. Then, many women have told me that every year on the projected birthday of their dead child, they would wake up thinking about what they might have been doing today on his or her birthday if the baby would have lived. Their lives will never be normal, but there is hope for them if they will truly give their lives to Jesus and be forgiven of this terrible mistake; better called, sin. Jesus' precious blood will wash away all sin, even the sin of murder which any person who performs or gives consent to an abortion blatantly commits.

You see folks, for the past 40 plus years I have worked in prisons all over this world; especially 34 years in Africa. I have dealt with thousands of murderers, even Ted Bundy, and scores just like him. But, I have never told any inmate that God wouldn't forgive him or her if he or she would truly repent and turn from their life of sin. But, it is amazing to me that scores of professing believers think it is terrible that others in prison ministries, like myself, go to try to get these murderers saved before they die or are executed, and at the same time, a huge amount of these professing Christians don't think that killing 4,000 babies everyday

through abortion is bad at all. This wicked double standard is straight out of the pits of hell, and, people without a doubt, are going to be held accountable for this horrible sin which has contributed to this conspiracy to butcher babies.

Before moving on to the exegesis of this passage of Scripture on abortion, I want to share some more information with you about the Roe v. Wade decision way back there in 1973.

"Norma McCorvey (Jane Roe) Became The Sacrificial Lamb"

"Sarah Weddington was a graduate of the University of Texas Law School and a friend of the campus radical liberals. While in law school she had become pregnant, and because this would interfere with her career, she and her husband decided to abort the child. Since abortions were illegal in Texas, they traveled across the border to the Mexican town of Piedras Negras.

Part of the campus group's birth control project was counseling women on how to obtain Mexican abortions. They wanted Weddington to give them legal advice on whether giving this advice exposed their group to criminal prosecution. The discussions led rapidly to the idea of filing a Supreme Court suit.

To accomplish this, they needed a plaintiff—a woman who was already pregnant and needed an abortion for reasons the Court would find compelling. The problem was that most women who wanted an abortion wanted to get it over with as soon as possible. A court case, they knew, could take years. Weddington and her co-counsel found the plaintiff they were looking for in Norma McCorvey, who would become "Jane Roe" of Roe v. Wade."1

"The twenty-two-year-old McCorvey had been married and divorced twice. She'd had a child by each husband and had passed both children onto be raised by relatives. Now she was pregnant again by a man she wasn't married to. She was desperate to get an abortion. Her life was in chaos. She was a drug abuser, homeless, sexually confused, emotionally unstable, and fragile."2

"Sarah Weddington's political goal was to make abortions as available as contraception, and she was willing to use any means necessary to do so, even offering to help a woman in dire circumstances and then betraying her. Because of the requirements of the legal case, instead of recommending an abortionist, Weddington persuaded the impressionable McCorvey not to abort her baby pending the Court's decision, even though she was well aware that McCorvey would deliver her baby long before the case was concluded. As it turned out, it took three years for the case to reach the Supreme Court. In the meantime, McCorvey gave birth to a girl and put her daughter up for adoption."3

"Years later, Norma McCorvey had a change of heart (she got saved), renounced her role in Roe v. Wade, and joined the antiabortion camp. In 1997 she wrote an account of what she felt was the shabby treatment she had received from Weddington and her feminist colleagues:

Though Sarah had passed herself off as my friend, in reality she used me. When I sat down with her and discussed the possibility of getting an abortion, Sarah knew where I could get one because she had gotten one herself three years before. When I asked her if the court's decision would come in time for me to get an abortion, she gave me an evasive answer. And she did so with full understanding that it would come way too late to help me. If Sarah Weddington was so interested in abortion, why didn't she tell me where she got hers? Because I was of no use to her unless I was pregnant.

Weddington,s behavior outraged even a pro-abortion reporter for the Texas Observer, who wrote: "By not effectively informing Norma of where she could get an abortion, the feminists who put together Roe v. Wade turned her into Choice's sacrificial lamb."

Well friends, do you see what really happened in this Roe v. Wade scandal. A wicked woman, Sarah

¹ The Dark Agenda, by: David Horowitz, Humanix Books, page 85.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid, page 86.

⁴ Ibid, pages 86-87.

Weddington, used a troubled and confused woman, Norma McCorvey, as a sacrificial lamb to appeal to the emotions of the Supreme Court Justices, and in the end, they misread the Constitution and enacted a law that never should have been enacted. They approved this new law to kill babies under the disguise of "preserving privacy," which is not even insinuated in the Constitution.

So, since that terrible day in 1973, an entire generation of babies have been butchered. And, it is sad to say, but Hollywood, the radical leftwing media, and defiant wicked politicians keep killing children under the phony interpretation of the Constitution, and for most of the 325 million people in America, very few people are ever really convicted enough to take a stand against this blood bath. It is time for people to stand up against abortion like my dear friend, Jerry Falwell, did many years ago before he went home to heaven. And, it is time that we squash this liberal wickedness and violence by going to the polls and voting out those who believe in murdering babies. Folks, it only stands to reason that it is no wonder we don't have enough funds to pay for Social Security when in fact, we have killed a generation of would-be tax payers who would have been here if this wicked nation had not killed them. When we have butchered almost 20 percent of the present population of the United States of America, how could we expect anything less than a financial crisis. And too, the sad thing is that it always seems that the older generations suffer tremendously when there is no younger generation coming along to help take care of them. But, we have caused this horrible ordeal because we have killed over 60 millions babies. Can you hear them crying right now, and maybe even saying Mama, Daddy, doctors, "Why did you take my life, I didn't do anything to hurt you?"

Now folks, I am going to spend the rest of this article interpreting our verses. Please pay attention to what God wants to show us concerning the horrible sin of abortion.

I. ABORTION IS MURDER BECAUSE OF THE TIME OF DIVINE CONCEPTION. v. 13

I am one of those pastors that believes emphatically what the Bible teaches about conception; or when life really begins. This truth has been debated over and over down through the past 46 years since the Roe v. Wade decision. When does life really begin? Well, if a person is honest enough to believe the Bible, then this question should not even have to be asked. When male sperm comes together with the female egg, then God creates life and an embryo is formed with 23 female chromosomes and 23 male chromosomes if the baby is normal; right then, not four or five months later, or not even 6 weeks after conception. Therefore, at the moment of conception, life is, and life is, regardless of how we want to deny it or even argue with God in His Word.

A. At the time of conception, the baby is given precious ingredients. v. 13a

Pay close attention to the first phrase in this verse. "For thou has possessed my reins." The word possessed here is a little confusing because it implies that when God creates us, we belong to him, which in fact is true. But there is a greater meaning to the word "possessed." In the Hebrew this word means to erect or to set up. In my mind it is the word build. What the Psalmist is saying is that at the moment conception takes place, the baby is given precious ingredients which God provides and He starts the process of erecting each of us as an individual person. So, whatever God uses to create us, then we are composed of tremendous ingredients because everything we are, or ever hope to be comes directly from our creator.

Now, as we come to the word "reins" in this verse. This word is an unusual word as well. In the Hebrew the word literally means kidneys. This might seem a little confusing in the age in which we now live, but in the mind of David who wrote this Psalm and other Jewish people, thought of the seat of emotions when they heard the word reins or kidneys. In Barnes Commentary on Psalms, the writer mentions the following. "The word reins means literally the kidneys; and then, it comes to denote the inward part, the mind, the soul, the seat of desires, affections, and passions."5

In other words, the Psalmist is saying that when God creates a human being, He builds him or her with all kinds of emotions (love, hate, anger, even lusts or desires). "The meaning here is, that God had made him;

⁵ Barnes' Notes On Psalms, by: Albert Barnes, Baker Book House, page 294.

that the innermost recesses of his being had been constituted as they are by God; and that, therefore, he must be able to see all that there is in the very depths of the souls, however it may be hidden from the eye of man."6

These thought are just remarkable. David the Psalmist in this hymn was singing about the creative power of God, and how that God knew everything about him, even from the time of his conception. God knows our minds, our souls, our passions, our desires, and everything about us from the moment of life. Why of course He should know these things because He gives us these characteristics.

B. At the time of conception, the baby is formed by a precise initiative. v. 13b

In the last part of verse 13, we find these words, "Thou hast covered me in my mother's womb." The word covered here once again gives a different definition that we usually associate with it. The Hebrew word renders it to interweave or knit together. Now, don't miss what God is trying to show us here in this great verse. Under the inspiration of God, David is saying that from the moment of his conception, God wove him into a special human being as a weaver who weaves a beautiful piece of cloth. In other words, God was right there with each of us in the creation of our different parts. Therefore, this precise initiative by God made each of us uniquely different, which has been proved by even the different genes and fingerprints that we have. As my Daddy use to say about me, "Stanley, there is not another like you." Well, that may have been a veiled criticism, but the truth is that each of us is made especially different, and I can tell you that He made us for himself. May I say right here that we are not an afterthought of God, but before the foundation of the world God planned our birth, and everything that He would use in building us just like His plan. Jeremiah said in Jeremiah 1:5, these words: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Wow, what a tremendous verse to remind us just how important to God we are. In His Divine plan, God prepared for our birth and life, and His plan could not be changed because He is truly Sovereign.

II. ABORTION IS MURDER BECAUSE OF THE TRUTH OF DIVINE CONSTRUCTION. v. 14

As we continue this wonderful study on why abortion is indeed murder, we need to really look closely at what David says here under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. He starts out this verse with a moment of reflection and praise. Obviously, when David was writing this great text, he must have been somewhere contemplating how great it was to know that God Almighty created him, and that because of that creation, he had been created to bring praise and an awesome respect and reverence for God. David indeed starts out by praising God, and then he proceeds on to tell God why.

A. Once more, David says that as a baby he was specially constructed. v. 14a

It just seems that David was indeed overwhelmed by his awe for God because of the way God had built him. He states in the second part of this verse. "For I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Let me give you again Albert Barnes' interpretation of this verse. "The literal translation of this—as near as can be given—would be, I am distinguished among thy works by things which tend to exalt my ideas about God, and to fill my soul with reverent and devout feelings. The idea is, that he was distinguished among the works of creation, or so "separated" from other things in his endowments as to work in the mind as a sense of awe. He was made different from inanimate objects, and from the brute creation; he was so made, in the entire structure of his frame, as to fill the mind with wonder."

So, David realized that God had truly made him uniquely different from all of the other creation, and he realized that he was made for God's purpose and to bring pleasure to the heart of God. What a difference it would make if every born again child of God could come to understand that when God made us, He did so for the purpose of eventually saving us when we reached the age of accountability for the purpose of being

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid, pages 294-295.

God's special vessel in His service. Therefore, when any woman, doctor, nurse, father or mother decides to kill a baby, it is far more than just being some tissue from the body of the mom. It is killing a unique and special being made in the image of God with a Divine purpose that God had planned for this child. I sincerely believe that if a mother or father aborts her or his child, and then never gets saved and forgiven, at the Great White Throne Judgment, that aborted child may just be around the throne to witness against its mom and dad. What a tragic day that is going to be.

B. Once more, David says that as a baby he was separately constructed. v. 14b

I have used the word separately in this point to affirm the fact that when David meditated upon his special creation as a man, he came to the conclusion that not only did God the Father want him to understand how wonderfully made he was, but he also came to the conclusion that God had built him for a unique purpose and that he was not his own, but he had been separated by God to worship and serve the Lord faithfully. I suppose we might call this separation a preliminary view that David had of sanctification. Why? Because God creates and then saves every person who will respond by faith unto salvation in order to be a vessel or ambassador for King Jesus.

In the last two statements of verse 14, David extolls the work of God in an even greater way. Right in the midst of his meditation and reflection, he just comes out with a tremendous proclamation. I believe David may have even shouted up to God when he makes the statement, "Marvelous are thy works." David was so excited about what God had done for him that he was truly ecstatic about the goodness of God. We too should be very excited about the fact that God made us with a purpose for His glory in order for us to bring honor and praise to His name. Thus, we need to quit feeling sorry for ourselves and just stop and realize that God did create us, and that we all have worth because of who created us, and to whom we belong.

The very last statement in this verse is a strong statement that David was totally convinced without doubt that God created him, and that he had a purpose for being here. And, please don't forget, our Lord places upon us much worth and value if we have totally and completely surrender to Him for His purpose and will for our lives. I do hope and pray that God has truly touched your heart about how important each one of us is, although I just heard a preacher say the other day, that God doesn't need us, and that He could get along right well without us. Well, this might sound somewhat spiritual because we do serve the omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient and immutable God, but God would not have paid the price for our redemption, and then, cast us away as if He got a bad deal. God does love us, and that was shown when He supernaturally made us at conception, and especially, when He died on the cross for our salvation. At the risk of sounding a little proud, I am convinced that every child of God here on earth is important to God the Father until He is through with us here, and we go home to be with Him forever.

III. ABORTION IS MURDER BECAUSE OF THE TOUCH OF DIVINE CHARM. vs. 15-16a

The word charm, which I have used in this point, directs our attention to someone or something that has much charisma, appeal, beauty, or attractiveness. In other words, this person or item seems to draw people's attention to itself just because of its presentation. In verse 15, the first word that draws our attention is the word substance. This word in the Hebrew language means bones or structure. The idea that God is giving to us through David is that after conception in the womb of his mother, God was watching over him in his structure, even when no one else could see the growth or development that was taking place. Of course, in David's day there were no ultrasound machines for the expecting mother to go to the doctor and see progressive development of the baby inside the womb. But yet, when no one else could see the baby growing, God could because he knows and see everything, and because He conceived this little baby, He is there watching it all the way through the nine month gestation period. In other words, this little baby girl or boy is very charming, even when no one else can see it. But, we need to remember that the Mom who is carrying this little treasure in her womb feels readily every movement of this child. So, through this movement and the reality that the baby is there, Mom and the baby are building a unique relationship that will last for a lifetime. Now, let's look at this charming little gift from God; not a blob of tissue which merits

being destroyed by some greedy doctor or maybe by a very sinful and fearful girl or lady who doesn't want to assume the responsibility for bringing this child into the world.

A. This charm is revealed in the baby's skeleton. v. 15a

I have already mentioned that the word "substance" here means bones, body, or as we see here, the skeleton of the new baby. Thus, David is stating that when he had been conceived in the secret womb of his mother without anyone else being able to see him, God was watching over the building of his skeleton or structure as a God-created child. I want to say again that when a child has been conceived when the father's sperm and the mother's egg comes together, this is not just a blob of fetal tissue that can be destroyed without conscience. But, this child has been given life by God Himself, and as this child grows through the nine months of pregnancy, God is watching everything that is going on because He is the one that is building this child.

B. This charm is revealed in the baby's spectrum. v. 15b

The word spectrum simply means to see the composite combination of everything put together. This idea comes from the phrase "curiously wrought", which means to weave with various colors and knit them together properly. There is truly nothing more charming than a beautiful baby which has been created by God bringing all the tissues, the blood vessels, the nerves, the muscles, the skin, the body organs, the brain, and every last part together in a beautiful embroidered human being brought together in the image of God.

Therefore, what David was trying to express to God was that he wanted to praise the Lord because he had stopped to reflect upon the glorious and precious garment which had been colorfully woven together in the form of a child by the only One that could possibly have done this. And that is none other than God Himself. What beauty, what charm, and what a marvelous creature a precious baby is in the womb of his or her mother. May I just say here, that it takes a very naïve or willfully ignorant person to believe that a living baby in the womb of its mother is not a genuinely living person. But still, who is crying out on behalf of these helpless kids who are being murdered by the tune of 4,000 per day here in America? If anyone is going to stand for those who can't stand for themselves, it has to be truly saved and dedicate believers who will say, "enough is enough," and we are not going to stand silently by while these precious children are put to death daily.

I think this would be a good time for me to remind all of you that in the Old Testament, when the Israelites began to offer their children to the false god, Molech, God Jehovah was enraged. Please notice the following Scriptures given as a warning to the Israelites. "And thou shalt not let any of thy seed (children) pass through the fire to Molech, neither shalt thou profane the name of God. I am the Lord (Leviticus 18:21). Also, notice the next verse, "Again, thou shalt say to the children of Israel, Whosoever he be of the children of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn in Israel, that giveth any of his seed (children) unto Molech; he shall surely be put to death: the people of the land shall stone him with stones. And I will set my face against that man, and will cut him off from among his people, because he hath given of his seed (children) unto Molech, to defile my sanctuary, and to profane my holy name (Leviticus 20:2-3).

Now, if we can't see from these verses how serious it is for God's people to offer their children on the altar to other gods, then we have to be willfully blind. But of course, there are some of you who don't believe we should live by the rules of the Old Testament, while other of you might say, this was not abortion, but this was child sacrifice in the worship of another god. May I tell you dear friends, that abortion is no different because what we are doing is killing our children because we are worshipping at the altars of self-centeredness, immoral pleasure, wicked rebellion, and downright heathenism which is rampant not only here in America, but in other parts of the world like Europe, China, Russia. It just seems that these who are killing millions of babies just don't believe that they will have to answer to the same God that told Israel to stone to death every person who burned their children alive in the fiery belly of a huge statue or god. But, let me say that the impending judgment for people in this New Testament era is going to be worse than could possibly be expected, because we have been given so much grace and forgiveness by the death of

Christ on the cross. The killing of babies is a serious matter!

C. This charm is revealed in the baby's substance. v. 16a

Well, here is that word substance again. But this time, it has somewhat of a different meaning. Let me give you what Albert Barnes says about this in his great commentary on Psalms. "This whole verse is very obscure, but the idea in this expression clearly is, 'Before I had been shaped or formed, thou didst see what I was to be.' The single word in the original Hebrew was 'golem". This is the only place this form of the word is used in the Old Testament. The noun then means that which is rolled or wrapped together; that which is folded up, and, hence is applicable to anything folded up or undeveloped; and would thus most aptly denote the embryo, or the fetus, where all the members of the body are yet folded up, or undeveloped; that is before they assumed their distinct form and proportions. This is the idea here. Before the embryo had any such form that its future size, shape, or proportions could be marked by the eye of man, it was clearly and distinctly known by God."8

Folks, when I read this verse and Barnes' definition of the verse, I just about shouted with excitement. Why, because this is a tremendous picture of the precious and beautiful little baby in the womb of its mother waiting until Mom delivers the child, but, the baby is not alone because God knows everything about this little gift of joy and beauty. And nothing will please God more than to let this mom birth this beautiful baby, then, to see this child grow up and eventually get saved, and after this, to see this created gift from God to be used in the service of our Master.

IV. ABORTION IS MURDER BECAUSE OF THE TABLET OF DIVINE CALCULATION. v. 16b

We now come to the last part of verse 16, which states, "yet in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them." This late phrase in our study is one that is bothersome to a lot of people. But, I truly don't see why there is such confusion when we interpret the phrase in the context of all the verses we have studied here in Psalm 139. In this phrase David just seems to be stating that even before he was conceived in the womb of his mother, God not only had a plan which he was keeping in a book concerning his conception, his development, and eventually his very completion. I like to think of this as the architecture drawings for the creation of a special human being. In other words, David is stating that he doesn't believe he was an afterthought of God, nor did he believe he was just an accident which happened. Truthfully, David just seems to reveal that he is praising and worshiping God because God had a plan book for his construction, and he didn't have to worry about the final results of how God made him.

You see folks, I don't believe that a house can be properly built without the correct drawing for the proposed building. So, it seems to me, just like it did to David, that when a child is conceived, it is not just the result of a man and woman's physical relationship, but because of God's Sovereignty and His tremendous omniscience, He already has the plan for the building of this special baby, and for the growth and development of the child; both physically and spiritually. Therefore, I sincerely believe that we don't need to think that any child is an accident, but even if the child is conceived out of wedlock between to people who might even be living in sin, God still knows all about it, and He has a divine purpose for this birth. Now, I say this because there are some rabid Calvinists who believe that if a child is born out of wedlock, then God caused the sin between the two unmarried people. But, absolutely not! We just need to realize that in God's foreknowledge before the creation of the world, He knew every person that would ever be born, and He had a record of this coming child even if the child was to be born out of wedlock. Foreknowledge is not the same as foreordained regardless of how many Calvinists try to say it does.

So, I sincerely believe that before the creation of the world God had a record of every person who would ever be born on this earth. And, it would be by God's construction plan that the child would come into existence.

8 Ibid.	pages	295-2	96.		

A. The tablet that is mentioned contains the register of the baby's limbs.

Now, I will go as far as to say that I sincerely believe that God not only had our personal building plan for our bodies physically, but He also has a tremendous spiritual plan and purpose for our lives. However, because He loved us enough to give us the choice to make about whether we accept Him as our Lord and Savior, or if we desire to say no to His plan and reject His plan of salvation and His purpose for our lives. And I will right here say, that I believe probably 95 percent of the church people today have no clue what God's purpose or plan for their lives is.

While I continue on with this commentary on this passage, I would like to say that for over 53 years I have been a full-time pastor, evangelist, and or missionary. And, during all of my years of hearing preachers preach and choirs sing, I have heard what I believe to be a false conclusion about our salvation I hear all of these sermons and songs about our names being written in the Lamb's Book of Life at the moment of our salvation. But folks, I believe that every human being that was ever to be born had his or her name written in the Lamb's Book of Life before the foundation of the world. And, it is only when a person grows up and gets saved that that name is sealed in the Lamb's Book of Life. But, if a person dies lost without Jesus, then, that person's name is blotted out of the Book of Life. Let me give you a couple Scriptures that seem to verify what I am saying.

The first verse concerns the day when the Antichrist rules the world under the power of Satan. Thus, the verse I am going to give you tell us that during that tribulation period, those who have their names in the Book of Life will not worship the beast (Antichrist) because they do have their names in the Book of Life, and the verse seems definitely to imply that God's plan for Jesus to die on the cross for our sins was initiated before the foundation of the world, and this causes me to believe that this is when our names are placed in the Book of Life. Now, please notice this verse: Revelation 13:8 says, "And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him (the Antichrist), whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." So, if in God's plan for the redemption of those who would come to Christ was planned before the foundation of the world, then it seems very logical that our names were written in the Book of Life back then as well. Also, please notice another verse. Revelation 17:8, "The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is."

Before moving on to the next point, let me address a question about young children dying before the age of accountability. Do they go to heaven, and when are their names sealed in the Book of Life. The Bible doesn't state this clearly, but do you remember when David and Bathsheba's baby died? Please remember that this baby was conceived through adultery. But when David was weeping and mourning the death of his child, he said the following: II Samuel 12:22-23, "And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether God will be gracious to me, that the child may live? But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me." David was truly inferring that his child had gone to heaven from infanthood, and that he would have to go to heaven to see this child again. Therefore, the implication is that the child's name was sealed in the Lamb's Book of Life when he died in the safety of our Lord, and thus, he arrived in heaven safely just like every child does that dies before the age to know genuinely that he or she is truly saved. So the truth is, that if our names were written in the Lamb's Book of Life before the foundation of the world, and I truly believe they were, then either at an age before the age of accountability when a child dies, or later if the child becomes old enough to be saved, then, that child's name is sealed in the Book of Life forever.

B. This tablet contains the record of the baby's life.

Even before a child has ever been conceived, God has a written record of the plan for the baby's body and appearance, and He also has a written plan for the life of this child. So, my dear friends, we need to pay attention to the fact that God had our birth, our development, our growth, our purpose in life before the

beginning of the world. Therefore, we can rest assured that He will finish his plan for us until the very end of our lives, or until Jesus comes again. If any of you doubt your importance to God, maybe you should go to God in prayer and ask him to pull up your birth plan and certificate on His divine written plan before the foundation of the world. Of course, I am joking just a little here. But for sure, we need to reflect upon God's genuine plan and purpose for our lives, and when we envision what His plan and purpose for our lives has been and is, then, our response should be total surrender of our bodies and our lives in order to be a greater servant of God.

There is one more thing I want to mention here. In Malachi 3:16, we find the following words: "Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon His name." This, my friends, is a very scary verse. Malachi is telling the rebelling nation of Israel that the judgment of God is going to come upon it, and that God is keeping a record of how every person was going to be held accountable for their lives before the Lord. In fact, the prophet says that in God's book of remembrance, that He is keeping a written record of the very thoughts we have about the Lord; whether good or bad. So, if our father in heaven is keeping a daily record of our behavior and even our thoughts about God, then surely, we should not disbelieve that God had a record of our birth, a plan for our development or growth, and, a plan for our future as well. Therefore, we are extremely important to God, and we must never forget that. And, we must never forget that we don't get by with our rejection, rebellion, disbelief, or any other thought or deed that we might produce without being held accountable for it. God is truly watching over us.

Conclusion

In conclusion to this article I am going to give you a wonderful discussion of these verses of Scripture here in Psalm 139, written by the late Dr. John Philips, one of the world's greatest Biblical commentators. Dr. Philips is now in heaven, but the truth and help He has given us is phenomenal. Please read carefully the following summary of **Psalm 139:13-16**.

"If David knew enough to be awed, what about us? We know that every living creature is made up of microscopic cells so small that the letter "O" on this page would contain between thirty to forty thousand of them. Each microscopic cell is a world in itself, containing an estimated two hundred trillion tiny molecules of atoms. Each cell, in other words, is a micro-universe of almost unbelievable complexity. All of these cells put together make up a living creature.

Each cell has its own specialized function and each works to an intricate timetable which tells it when to grow, when to divide, when to make hormones, when to die. Every minute of every day, some three billions cells in the body die and the same number are created to take their place. During any given moment in the life of any one of these cells, thousands of events are taking place, each one being precisely coordinated at the molecular level by countless triggers. The human body has more than a million of them—a million in each square inch of skin, thirty billion in the brain, and billions of red blood cells in the veins.

Obviously, such a complicated and unerring development of cells cannot possibly be the result of chance or evolution. David exclaimed, "He created me!"9

So, my beloved Christian friends, how on earth could any rational, common sense, or decent person ever want to be guilty of killing these precious little indefensible babies? How could Democratic or Republican law makers and law enforcers ever pass laws and require them to be enforced that suck a beautiful baby being made by God in His image from its mother's womb, and then be sold for tissue, body parts, and to fulfill the greedy hearts of wicked people. It doesn't matter even if its Hollywood stars, hero athletes, elite politicians, and even the lowest of the lowest class people in the ghetto, or even the perfect fake or phony news people, IT IS MURDER TO KILL ANY UNBORN OR RECENTLY BORN BABY OF ANY CLASS,

⁹ Exploring the Psalms, Vol. 5, by: Dr. John Philips, Loizeaux Brothers, pages 177-178.

ANY CULTURE, ANY ETHNIC GROUP, OR ANY PROGRESSIVE OR EVEN FAR RIGHT PERSON. I will promise you that if God's has the plans and the records for our lives, as we know He does, then, any abortionist murderer will answer to God ashamedly and embarrassed, if that person doesn't repent and get genuinely forgiven of the sin of murder. And, as I told you earlier in this article, I worked for several years with Ted Bundy in Florida State Prison, where this man bragged to a friend of mine that he killed more than one hundred women. This was a horrible, horrible thing that Ted Bundy did. But, I believe that the butchering of over 60 million unborn or recently born babies who couldn't defend themselves is a far worse than the blood trail that Ted Bundy left.

I Want To Shout: Stop Killing Our Babies!!!

Some Lessons On Soul Winning

"The Difference In Leading A Soul and Winning A Soul To Christ"

I. HELPING A SOUL TO CHRIST.

- A. By giving out Gospel tracts, books, CD's, DVD's, films, etc.
- B. By supporting missionaries and missionary projects.
- C. By supporting radio and television programs that are giving out the Gospel.

II. BRINGING SOULS TO CHRIST.

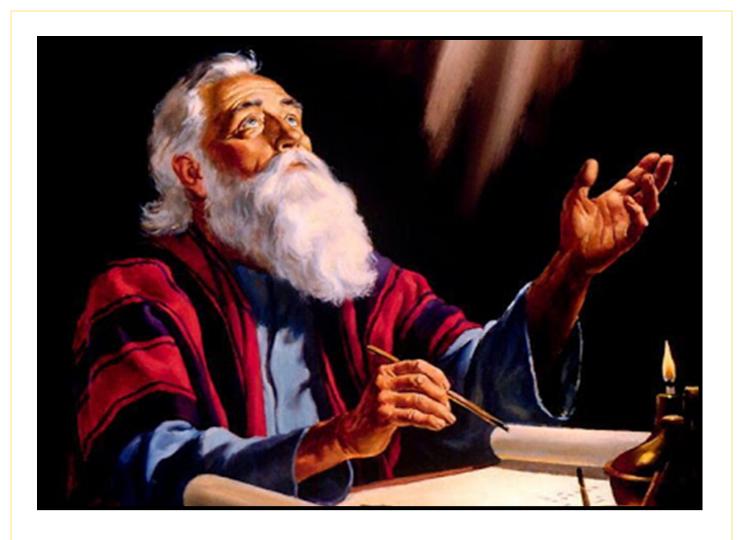
- A. By getting the lost in the atmosphere of the Gospel.
- B. By bringing them to church and revival meetings.
- C. By bringing them to the preacher or staging a get-together with some soul winner.

III. LEADING SOULS TO CHRIST.

- A. By pointing those who are already convicted to Christ.
- B. By praying with those who come forward seeking in the invitation.
- C. By giving guidance and scripture to those who are ready.

IV. WINNING SOULS TO CHRIST.

- A. By persuading those who are in interested.
 - Prov. 11:30 "He that winneth souls is wise." III Cor. 5:11 "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men."
 - Acts 18:4 "And Paul reasoned in the synogogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks."
 - Luke 14:23 "Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in that my house may be filled."
- B. By travailing in intercessory prayer for those who are hardened.
 - Isaiah 66:8 "For as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children."
 - Gal. 4:19 "My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you."



The Prophet Isaiah Begging His Nation To Repent "God's Final Appeal To A Wicked Nation"

Scripture: Isaiah 1:1-20

Introduction

I want to start off by saying that I am very proud to be an American. Every time I have ever been over seas and come back to the U.S.A., I get a really special feeling when the plane sets down in the greatest nation on earth, except Israel. I am telling you all of this because I am going to share with you that our great nation is in a desperate condition, and unless we repent of our sins and turn back to God, America may be breathing its death rattles. Yes, I do believe that Jesus is coming soon, but I also know that God's patience eventually wears out with any nation that turns its back upon Him.

What I am going to share with you from the text above is that just like Israel experienced the judgment of God in the days of Isaiah because they would not repent and change their ways, we are going to see this happen to our beloved land. The list of things that Isaiah indicted Israel for in this chapter one is a vivid description of the condition that America is in. I am calling this message, "God's Final Appeal To A Wicked Nation". It could very well be that because we did not respond to the blessings of God upon our nation with thanksgiving and humility that God has given us horrible political leaders who now are oppressing us with bad news and scare tactics every day when we turn on the TV. We have reached a point to where there is no

good news outside of the Word of God. And, because of this I have not lost hope. I am believing God to bring us to repentance of our sins as a nation, and then to see God open the windows and bless us again. If there has been the early rain, there must be the latter rain for the harvest to be complete.

Let's take a step now to dig into this wonderful passage of warning from God's precious Book. This message must be heard, believed, and applied through genuine obedience and surrender to God. To do less at this serious time in history, may just result in the destruction of our nation as Israel received because of their stiff necks and hardened hearts. May we not follow their example!

I. PLEASE NOTICE THE CHARGE THAT INITIATED THE APPEAL. vs. 1-3

Let me begin by saying that when God Almighty indicts any nation or individual, it is a serious matter! This is especially true when the people are His own people. In verses 1-3 of this text, Isaiah just jumps right in with God's accusation toward His beloved Israel. Because of their willful disobedience to God's Word, they are told that they have invited the chastisement of God. Isaiah starts off like a prosecutor who is charging an accused suspect with a serious crime. In other words, God through the prophet wanted Israel to know the charges and come to understand why they were being charged. Let's take a look at these three verses and see what God is trying to tell us today.

A. Please notice the recipients implicated in the charge. v. 1

The recipients are none other than God's children who have decided to not □act like God's children. If this sounds paradoxical, it may just be. Yet, throughout America today we find thousands of people who profess to know and follow Jesus Christ, but their actions and behavior negate what verbal testimony they might give. This is what the Bible calls hypocrisy and it is absolutely hated by God. If you don't believe this, read the account of Ananias and Sapphira in **Acts Chapter Five**. These two members of the early church made vows to give a certain percentage of their money to God from the sale of some land, but they lied to God and before the people. God killed them instantaneously. So, we need to recognize that any of us as God's children can get so far out of God's will that we try to live a lie and be a hypocrite. But, we must remember that God doesn't tolerate this very long. It was proven to the early church and it will be proven to us as well in some way.

B. Secondly, please notice the rebellion indicted in the charge, v. 2

Folks, can I tell you something? God hates rebellion! He has always hated it and He still does. He hated it in the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve rebelled against His command. He also hated it I Samuel 15, when Samuel told King Saul that rebellion was nothing more or less than idolatry and witchcraft. He hated it II Chronicles 36:16, when Zedekiah, the puppet king of Babylon rebelled against *God "until there was no remedy"*. The result of this man's sin brought about the killing of Zedekiah's sons and then the putting out of his eyes by the Babylonian king who led the third attack against Jerusalem. The entire city of Jerusalem was ransacked and razed to the ground because of this king's rebellion. Rebellion will always bring the judgment of God, and this was what Isaiah warned Israel of, but they fail to repent.

The sad thing about rebellion that is brought out in verse two is the fact that when we rebel against God as His children, we do so against his wonderful love and blessings to us. God told Israel, "I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me." We can't possibly understand the heartbreak of God when His children rebel against Him, but we can at least relate to it when our hearts have been broken by our rebellious kids.

God has been so good to America, but we have willfully and with insolence rebelled against His love and goodness. We cannot deny it, and neither can we stop the judgment of God which may be coming unless we fall on our faces in brokenness and repent of our sins.

C. Please notice the rejection illuminated in the charge. v. 3

Verse three in this text is one of the most incriminating verses in the entire Bible. In this verse God tells Israel through Isaiah the prophet that a dumb ox (cow) knows his owner and appreciates him for feeding him more so than does a child of God who forgets that God is the source of life and provides all he needs. This verse also accuses the people of Israel of being less conscience of God's goodness and provision than does a donkey. The donkey knows for sure where to go to find the feed because he knows where his owner feeds him. Thus for this donkey to rebel and go somewhere else would be extremely foolish. So it is with the child of God who rebels against his loving heavenly Father.

II. PLEASE NOTICE THE CONDITIONS THAT INSPIRED THE APPEAL. vs. 4-15

Why would God destroy a nation that He had built and blessed so mightily? Why would He bring an enemy army into the capitol and take away the people and their children and completely destroy their homes and the place of worship? I am going to show you from these verses what God did following Isaiah's stern warning, and why He will do it again unless America repents. Reading these causes in Isaiah's day is like reading the newspapers in America at this very moment. Don't ever believe that we couldn't follow in the footsteps of Israel for one minute. If God did it to His own chosen nation, we must know that we will not be the exception. By the way, God has brought judgment on every nation down through the years since the days of Isaiah as we can read in the history of every civilization. Let's now take a good look at these next verses and see what caused Israel's fall and probably will cause the fall of America soon if we don't turn back to God.

A. Israel was a nation filled with sinfulness. v. 4

Verse four in our text is one of the most solemn verses I have read in the Bible. God tells His people through the prophet that their country has been so filled with sinfulness and iniquity that their leaders, their parents, and even their children are so bad that they are rotten to the core. Their sins had become so bad that everyone was oppressed by the heavy burden they bore.

Sin is a terrible taskmaster, and America right now is under the oppression of sin in our political leaders, our church leaders, and in the homes and families of those who sit in our pews. And the sad thing is that like Israel, we are provoking God's anger toward this great country. Why? Because we have turned our backs on God, asked God to leave us alone, and we have been resolute on doing life our own way. Therefore, how dare we act shocked when catastrophic events take place which we can't define or describe. Think of the huge storms we have been having. Consider the hurricanes, the floods, the wild fires, the tsunamis, the unbelievable snow storms, etc. I assure you these have not happened because of global warming, but they have come our way because God has unleashed the angels of judgment on our land. And folks, if we don't repent and turn back to God, we haven't seen anything yet.

Just think about the eleven million illegal aliens who have come across our borders from other countries and have come in to take over our country without even applying for citizenship. Does this not sound like Babylon taking over Israel in the days of Israel? Could it be that in fact we are imploding within as Joel Rosenberg says in his new book, "Implosion"? I think we are seeing the judgment of God measured out to America because of our wicked tolerance of sin and our cesspool of immorality.

B. Israel was a nation fermenting with sickness. vs. 5-6

In point B, I have used the word fermenting to depict the process of wine turning to alcohol and it becoming more destructive and lethal as the process continues. And so it is with sin which continues to get worse and worse and when it goes unrestrained and unconfessed in any society, tragedy will come. The implication in verse 5 is that the people of Israel's sin was getting worse and worse, and that every part of their bodies was sick because of their sins. And, because of the sins that are listed in these next few verses, I

Am inclined to believe that their sickness was the result of their sins. Plus, their sins were so serious that their hearts or very beings were wicked and corrupt. This is true for any person who rebels against God. Whatever comes out in a person's life is definitely in his or her heart. So, we must always remember what **Jeremiah said** in **Chapter 17:9-10**, where he tells us that our hearts are desperately wicked, and only God knows the contents of our hearts. So, I believe that we could say that Isaiah was declaring that Israel was sick in body, in mind, and in spirit.

In verse six Isaiah goes on to expand his description of the sickness in Israel. He stated they were sick from the souls of their feet all the way to the top of their heads. They had bruises everywhere, and their putrefying sores were running profusely and contaminating others. These sores were wide-open sores. They were sores that had not been treated and they were getting worse by the hour and by the day. Obviously, the people of God had thrown all restraint to the wind and were living like immoral perverts.

C. Israel was a nation flooded with sadness. vs. 7-9

Folks, let's just read these three verses and see the depths of Israel's sins. Isaiah 1:7-9 - "Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers. And the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city. Except the Lord of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah." I hope the truth of this passage has sunk in for you. Just get a picture of what was happening in Jerusalem and the land of Israel and you can see a vivid picture of what is going on in our own land today.

Isaiah said in these verses that Jerusalem would be very temporary just like a little shack in a grape vineyard and a cottage in a cucumber garden where guards sleep in these little buildings to watch over the crops. When the harvest time is over these cottages and shacks were then torn down. So, because of the sins of God's people, judgment was coming just like it did for Sodom and Gomorrah. And as Isaiah states in verse ten, God warned the people of Jerusalem because they were acting like Sodom and Gomorrah. Just try to imagine what was going on in God's own city by the wicked citizens and strangers who lived there. God's patience had just about worn out.

D. Israel was a nation fevered with sexuality. v. 10

Having just mentioned this verse, the only other thing I will say is that sexual sin of every nature was rampant in Jerusalem, and God was about to close the curtain on the city because of its wickedness. Every kind of perversion and debauchery was present there, and so is it in America today. God admonished the people to repent and return to God's Word, but they rebelled, mocked His Word and His prophet, and because of their sin, God eventually brought in the enemy and killed thousands of people, and carried the rest into Babylonian Captivity. I just want to say that there is always a payday someday for the sins we commit.

America may be coasting right now thinking that as we become more secular and humanistic like Europe, we will one day reach perfection by our own efforts. We will be fair and treat everyone with tolerance, and we will overlook and support every kind of sexual perversion known to men. But I assure you that God is keeping the records, and He will have the last say in this matter.

E. Israel was a nation formalized in spirituality. vs. 11-15

Have you visited many churches lately? My wife and I have, and we are appalled by the two extremes. On the left we have found wild emotionalism trying to work up the Holy Spirit and on the other side there is dead ritualistic orthodoxy. Israel was in the same condition. In verses 11-15, God gives a lengthy dissertation on the type of worship that was going on in Jerusalem, and how God rejected their worship because it came from sinful empty hearts. They were going through rituals and trying to impress God, but God would not accept their ritualism. Truthfully, God was just sick of the people's empty worship then, and I believe He is today.

God even told the people that they were raising their hands to Him in prayer, but that He could not answer their prayers because their hands were full of blood. What was happening was that in idol worship thousands of babies were being offered to the pagan god Moloch. They would take these precious little babies and lay them in the burning fiery belly of Moloch as an act of worship. Because of this senseless killing of babies, God said enough was enough. Doesn't this sound like what is happening in America? Since 1973, over 60 million babies have been butchered on the altar of choice and convenience by abortion. Our hands in America are dripping with the blood of these innocent kids while their selfish moms and money hungry doctors brutalize these children with seemingly no conscience at all. I suppose that they believe that they are smarter than God and that they will never have to answer for their sins, but we know that they will. God can and will forgive, but there has to be repentance and going in another direction. Isaiah preached the Word of God and warned the people, but they rejected the message and ultimately received the judgment of God.

III. PLEASE NOTICE THE CURE THAT WAS INCLUDED IN THE APPEAL. vs. 16-20

It is very sad for me to write about, but we must remember that the people of Israel did not repent of their sins and God brought judgment upon them just like He had predicted through His servant. The people could have repented and saved their land if they would have only turned back to God. They were very obstinate in their wills, but Isaiah had given them a cure for their sins had they listened and responded to His appeal to repent. So, today I want us to take a look at the cure that God through Isaiah gave Israel, and hopefully we will not make the same mistake that Israel made. The cure for sin is always repentance and confession of sin, but if we fail to listen and obey, we will pay the price for our rebellion. Now, let's see what God is trying to say to us and our country.

- A. Notice the requirements for the cure. vs. 16-18
 - 1. First, there must be an attitude of repentance. v. 16

This verse could change the world if God's people would apply it. In this verse we are told to make ourselves clean by genuine repentance and putting away the evil from our lives. This repentance must start with an attitude of brokenness and recognition of the wrong we have done. There will never be repentance in action until there is repentance in our hearts because God has been wronged. So much of our repentance in America is because the guilty got caught, but true repentance is not just sad remorse, it is an acknowledgement that God has been offended and we must get right with Him.

2. Secondly, there must be actions of righteousness. v. 17

I love this verse. In this verse we are admonished to put our words into action. If we have really repented and gotten right with God, then we must show it by our actions and ministry to others. Instead of selfish self-centered behavior, if we repent there will be ministry to orphans and widows in order to alleviate their suffering. In other words, from a life of self-centered conduct, we will now have a life that demonstrates that we have on our hearts what Jesus has on His, and we will share His love and ministry with these hurting people. Righteous living will produce righteous conduct and action on the behalf of others.

3. There must be an appropriation of redemption. v. 18

In this verse God is calling the guilty sinners to come and sit down for □ a reasonable discussion about their sins. God promises them if they come to Him in repentance, He will wash away their sins and redeem their souls. If this verse was adhered to in America, we could save our land from impending doom. I appeal to all of you to join me in coming to God on behalf of our country and beg God to redeem this land from its bondage of sin. May God help us to really get serious about this matter.

B. Notice the rewards for the cure, vs. 19-20

Our Lord is an awesome God! He never requires us to give up anything but where with He also rewards us for repentance and the action we take. In these last two verses in our study for this time, God promises to Israel and I believe to us as well that He will reward us if we will repent and turn back to Him. I am totally convinced that this is for us as individuals, and also for us as a nation collectively as well. Let's look at the rewards He has promised to us.

1. There will be national prosperity. v. 19

In this short verse, God just simply tells Israel through Isaiah the prophet that if they would repent and obey His Word, He would pour out His blessings and prosperity on the land. God made this great promise to Israel, but they rejected His love and promise. Instead they wanted to go on doing it their way, and as a result they lost every thing and their homeland was destroyed. I pray this doesn't have to happen to us as a nation. If we want national prosperity, we must turn back to the one Who alone can provide this prosperity.

2. There will be national preservation. v. 20

As I look at the news every day here in our land, I am very much prone to believe that we as a nation are hanging over a precipice dangling by a thin thread waiting for the thread to break. I sincerely mean this because of the way our leaders are leading us, and because of wickedness in the hearts and lives of our people. It seems that our very existence as a nation is in jeopardy. Have we sinned away our day of grace like Israel did? I surely pray not, but if there is any hope for the preservation of our land as a prosperous nation, then we must get on our knees and plead with God for repentance and beg Him to forgive our sins and heal our land. If we don't do this, we may soon be found to house the rubble of a blessed past. It would only take one or two dirty bombs detonated by terrorists to bring us to our knees. Let's not wait until this has to happen, but let's pray for God to forgive our sins and preserve our nation. Our children's and our grand children's future hangs in the balance. Will you join my family and me and help us pray for national revival? I beg you to do so.

Conclusion

Has God made His final appeal to America? I am not sure, but it seems that He is truly trying to get our attention as He did during the days of Isaiah the prophet. What we do with His Divine message to us through His Word and preachers will determine the outcome of our land. We can have a new land with the healing of God, or we can lose our land to some wicked terrorist group or rogue nation like North Korea or Iran. For too many years we have sat back and fiddled while Rome is burning. Don't you think it is time for us to stop the fiddling and fall on our knees in repentance? Then, once we have gotten right with God, we need to jump to our feet and cry out that enough is enough and take back this country from the perverse homosexuals, the debauched and corrupt national leaders, the left wing liberals in Hollywood and Washington who cram their sins down our throats, and expect us to cower down to them in fear. The time has come for us to take back our land with old fashion sin killing, hell shaking, devil defeating revival and true spiritual awakening. The Satanic army that opposes us is not able to stand against us if we stand in the power and authority of Jesus Christ and His Word.

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