

Field Manual For Abortion Ministry



**How to Stay Faithful in the Battle
without Harming Yourself or Others**

Rev. Rusty Lee Thomas

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And they overcame him by the blood of the lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

Revelation 12:11



The name Malachi means, “My messenger”

If I profess with the loudest voice and clearest exposition every portion of the truth of God except precisely that little point which the world and the devil are at that moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Christ. Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proved, and to be steady on all the battlefield besides is mere flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point.

Martin Luther

In light of this quote by German Reformer Martin Luther, a few questions are in order. Are you aware of where the world and the devil are attacking the truth of Christ in this generation? Specifically, are your eyes open to the horror of abortion? Does your heart break for the plight of the preborn child, made in the image of God? Does God’s Word convict you to intervene, love your neighbor as yourself, be your brother’s keeper, speak for those who cannot speak for themselves, and rescue those unjustly sentenced to death (Matthew 22:39; Genesis 4:9; Proverbs 31:8, 9; Proverbs 24:11, 12)? Are you living out your faith at the gates of hell, the place of child sacrifice and the shedding of innocent blood?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, let me officially welcome you to “the battle.”

The Battle of the Ages

This battle rages throughout the pages of Holy Writ. It began in the heavens, continued in the Garden of Eden, and manifested most profoundly at the time of Christ. We see this battle throughout redemptive history and is current in our generation.

Biblically, this battle is a clash between two seeds, the seed of the serpent and the seed of the woman (Genesis 3:15). How do you discern the seed of the serpent? Just listen. Jesus thundered, “Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? *For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks*” (Matthew 12:34, italic mine).

The seed of the serpent sounds something like this, “My rights, my body, and my choice. We do what we want to do; when we want to do it; and nobody is going to tell us what to do, not even God. Their second commandment is like it. “Thou shalt not judge.” They take the text of Scripture, as found in Matthew 7:1, out of context to make it pretext. The sinning seed of the serpent demands, “don’t judge me.”

And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Genesis 3:13-15

We were all formerly the seed of the serpent. As Christians, however, we were saved by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8, 9). At the cross, Satan bruised Messiah's heel and for his recompense, received a crushed head. Those who belong to the seed of the serpent remain under the curse of the Fall. Tragically, they rejoice to be a law and god unto themselves (Genesis 3:4). They glory in their shame and boast in their pride, even as their wicked cravings are thwarted by God. Conversely, the seed of the woman (the church) bows her head and humbly confesses, "Not my will, but Yours, be done" (Luke 22:42).

How important is obeying the will of God?

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; *but he who does the will of God abides forever.*

1 John 2:15-17

Like child training, it always comes down to the battle of the will.

The Battle from within and without

In this battle that rages for the souls of men, the lives of children, and the future of our bloodstained land, we must discern two battle-fronts: one that manifests from within and one that appears from without.



Drawing of the battle from my son, Micah, at age 10

The Apostle Paul, no stranger to danger, revealed the twofold nature of the battle. He declared, “For indeed, when we came to Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but were troubled on every side. *Outside were conflicts, inside were fears*” (2 Corinthians 7:5, NKJ, italics mine). My prayer is that this field manual will equip you for the “outside conflicts” and “inside fears,” spoken of by Paul.

For a person who has walked with the Lord for any length of time, Biblical battlefronts are somewhat easy to detect. Most born again children of God recognize and contend with the threefold enemy revealed in Scripture. These three evils are the sinful nature, Satan, and the illegitimate world system that is in rebellion against God’s loving and just rule. Some designate these enemies as “the world, the flesh, and the Devil.”

New Christians or even mature Christians who are unfamiliar with abortion ministry are often caught off guard by the enemy’s attacks. They are not prepared for the retaliation that inevitably comes in the wake of obeying God. Remembering you are in a battle will help you prevail. The truth is, if you deny yourself, pick up your cross, and follow hard after the Lord, (Matthew 16:24) you should know that the world will not receive your devotion anon with joy. Your friendship with God automatically makes you an enemy to this world (James 4:4).

R J Rushdoony commenting on this conflict wrote:

This peace, (God's peace) however, is more than the absence of hostilities: it is peace with God. Peace with God means warfare with the enemies of God. Christ made it clear that allegiances to Him meant a sword of division (Matthew 10:34-36). In a sinful world, some warfare is inescapable. A man must therefore pick his enemies: God or sinful man? If a man is at peace with sinful men, he is at war with God. Peace in one sector means warfare in another. God alone, however, can give inner peace now, and, finally, world peace through his sovereign law (Micah 4:2).

The key, however, is not to consider it strange when you are persecuted for living godly (1 Peter 4:12, 2; Timothy 3:12). We need to follow the example of the Apostles in that regard. They rejoiced that they were found worthy to suffer for the Lord's name (Acts 5:41). Sadly, the "American Gospel Enterprise" has made that mentality rare today.

The world hated the Lord and it will hate you (John 15:18), particularly if you are effective in serving Christ's Kingdom. This does not mean that you should develop a martyr's complex and look for persecution. If you misrepresent the Lord and manifest a wrong spirit, you have what is coming to you. You are merely suffering for your sins. If however, you are hated because you are loving God and your neighbor as yourself, then God's glory and Spirit rests upon you (1 Peter 4:14).

Obviously, our Lord did not come to Earth to win a popularity contest. In part, he came to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8). The Lord revealed that the primary works of the devil are lies and murder (John 8:44). It is not a coincidence that lies and murder perpetuate the slaughter of the innocent in our day.

The works of the devil reveal that abortion, at its core, is not a political/social issue. It is a Gospel/Kingdom issue. Abortion is a lie that leads to murder and damnation. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the truth that leads to life and life more abundantly (John 10:10). Therefore, every Christian who names the name of Christ should have a godly desire to plunder the powers of darkness, to set the captives free from the devil's murderous rampage. Ephesians 5:11 exhorts,

“And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.”

Child sacrifice is Satan’s crown jewel. The love of Christ compels us to plead the case of the fatherless to win it (2 Corinthians 5:14; Jeremiah 5:28). But, alas, here is the rub. If we dare take on Satan’s crown jewel, the battle will intensify in our lives. And who needs the added struggle, right? Who really wants to go into the dark lair where the dragon kills, steals, and destroys? A dragon breathing fire down your neck is never comfortable. Life is tough enough already without inviting more trouble.

A majority of the church intuitively knows this to be true. Thus, many Christians are silent and inactive because they know if they touch Satan’s most prized possession, it is going to cost (Luke 14:25-33). Deep down inside, they know there will be a price to pay.

What is the cost? Jesus taught, “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends” (John 15:13). Our Lord did not avoid this battle. Nor did he withhold the cost of love demanded to win the victory. Neither should we. 1 John 3:16 reminds us, “By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.” This Biblical admonishment aptly applies in the battle to end baby murder.

So what does this battle look like from a more practical perspective? You already know the flesh, the devil, and the world are against you. But is there a strategy the enemy initiates beyond the usual suspects? What can you expect when you preach the Gospel of the Kingdom at the gates of hell?

Tyrannical government, unjust laws, unconstitutional city ordinances, pro-aborts, sodomites, hostile media, corrupt culture, and an apathetic church are just some of the increased opposition you are likely to face. As Paul declared, you will be “troubled on every side” (2 Corinthians 7:5). Seemingly disparate forces will unite to discourage your commitment to defeat the culture of death savaging our nation. But what are these light afflictions in comparison to the glory which shall be revealed (2 Corinthians 4:17)? What are they compared to the greatness of the Lord’s glory, majesty, authority,

and power? Nothing! Truly, greater is He that is within you than all those who conspire to murder God's babies (1 John 4:4).

The Battle and History



Altars of Moloch

Throughout the Bible and redemptive history, whenever Satan raised his ugly head, he went after the seed of man. He murdered babies on a massive scale. It was true in the time of Moses (Exodus 1:15-22). It was also true in the time of Christ (Matthew 2:16-18; Revelation 12:1-6). In both cases, however, God was neither silent nor inactive. He was preparing mighty deliverers who would break the chains of bondage and set captives free. Both children (Moses and Jesus) survived Satan's onslaught, grew up, and collapsed the evil empires that targeted them for destruction.

Based upon this Biblical pattern, there is an awesome call on the survivors of the American holocaust. The monstrous lie of abortion has wiped out one-third of an entire generation. If the war babies, the survivors of Roe v. Wade, remain true to the Biblical model, they will be God's instruments of deliverance. They will bring down abortion's evil empire and set future generations free from its injustice. May it be so, Almighty God!

Clash of Worldviews



The conflict between the Kingdom of God and the culture of death is also a battle of worldviews. One worldview holds that human life is sacred. Jeremiah 1:5 states, “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.” The other worldview holds that the choice to abort is sacred.

Jesus says, “Let the little children come to me,” while the abortion camp demands, “No! Let the little children come to us.” The Lord blesses children, while the abortion industry, inspired by the Evil One, destroys them (John 10:10). The Lord declares, “This is my body.” The pro-choice movement also asserts, “This is my body.” The Lord’s broken body brings life and blessing, while the broken body of a baby brings death and cursing (Deuteronomy 30:19).

Psalms 139:13, 14 reveals, “For you formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother’s womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are your works and that my soul knows very well.”

Imago Dei is the Latin term for image of God. In the Christian worldview, man is made in the image of God; therefore man has inherent worth and dignity. This revelation from God's Word crushed slavery, human sacrifice, and other atrocities under foot, throughout mankind's bloody history (Romans 16:20). This revelation became the basis for Christian charities—hospitals, food kitchens, relief agencies, orphanages, almshouses, and rescue missions. George Grant commenting on this Christian ethic stated, "The hungry were fed; the naked, clothed; the homeless, sheltered; the sick, nursed; the aged, honored; the unborn, protected; and the handicapped, cherished."

Margaret Sanger, founder of Planned Parenthood and patron saint of abortion, detested this compassionate legacy. She decried:

Organized charity itself is the symptom of a malignant social disease. Those vast, complex, interrelated organizations aiming to control and to diminish the spread of misery and destitution and all the menacing evils that spring out of this sinisterly fertile soil, are the surest sign that our civilization has bred, is breeding and perpetuating constantly increasing numbers of defectives, delinquents and dependents.

According to this Angel of Death, the world would be a better place if the church would stop caring for the less fortunate and allow Planned Parenthood to cut them off. "More from the fit and less from the unfit" was Sanger's motto. Of course, she was the "goddess" who determined who was fit to live.

Hitler took to heart Sanger's eugenics philosophy and our world was plunged into a world war. Unfortunately, the war continues in our nation to this very day. America won the physical war in World War II, but the decriminalization of abortion proves Hitler and Sanger won the ideological battle.

The pro-abortion worldview holds that nothing is sacred, save the right to an abortion. Abortion supporters are fond of saying, "Every child a wanted child." This worldview is known as "quality of life." According to this view, human life finds its worth solely from utilitarian considerations. Man has value only if wanted and produc-

tive. Human life must never burden society. Usefulness, therefore, is the key to man's existence. God help you, if you fail to contribute.

This mentality is reminiscent of a slogan featured in concentration camps of Nazi Germany, "Work makes you free." If you are not a human *doing*, then you will die as a human *being*. In like manner, if babies are an inconvenience to their parents or society, under the abortion industry's management they are promptly eliminated. The "sub-human problem" or "product of conception" is incinerated or flushed down the sewer.

The pro-abortion worldview does not take into consideration that Satan will always give "good reasons" why men should participate in evil. Hitler believed he was ridding the world of "useless eaters." Sanger believed she was bettering the world by removing "human waste...an ever-increasing, unceasingly spawning class of human beings who never should have been born at all."

The devil does not stop at mass murder, however. He also works overtime to convince the church she should refrain from confronting evil. G K Chesterton commenting on this dilemma stated, "Unless a man becomes the enemy of evil, he will not even become its slave, but rather its champion. God Himself will not help us to ignore evil but only to defy and to defeat it!" You may have heard, "It is not loving," or "It is judgmental," or "It is not Christ-like," or "It is not the Gospel," or a host of other justifications for inaction. Yet the Bible calls you to act on your beliefs (James 2:20). If the church dares to say, "Abortion is murder" than the church should act like someone is truly dying. Otherwise, the church's witness rings hollow.

Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, died and rose again to obey His Father's will, save the lost, and repair the breach in His Father's Kingdom. Human beings, therefore, possess tremendous inherent value in the mind and plan of Almighty God. Jesus stated, "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul" (Matthew 16:26)? According to Jesus, all the wealth in the world pales in comparison to just one human soul.

Be Not Ignorant of Satan's Devices

As we enter the battle for life, we must remember that “we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places” (Ephesians 6:12). Regardless of your theology, the enemy is real and his attacks can prove devastating.

I know many Christians, of various theological persuasions, who started well in this battle. Sadly, far too many ended badly. Most of them are no longer engaged in the battle. Their lives imploded.

One of the greatest ploys of Satan is to separate, divide, and conquer. Jesus taught, “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolations, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand” (Matthew 12:25). This is not just true of Satan. It proves true for believers as well. If the enemy finds openings, he will retaliate, and exploit those openings to take believers out.

Many ministries, churches, marriages, and families have shipwrecked in this battle. They crashed and fell apart. Their focus was diverted from the real enemy, Satan and baby murder, and instead ended up focusing on something else or someone else. It was not long till these believers began turning on each other and tearing each other apart. Some had bad motives and good actions, while others had good motives and bad actions. Eventually, all of it was exposed.

Most who faltered did not know how to weather the storm of strife, contention, and confusion. Christian cannibalism, (spiritual biting, devouring, and consuming one another) grew to intolerable levels (Galatians 5:15). They soon learned this spiritual battle is no game. It is a battle with real casualties—casualties that include more than the dismembered baby in the womb.

Lessons of Warfare

I learned an important lesson of warfare, while serving in the 101st Airborne. As a grunt, my position was M60 machine gunner. My military instructor taught that the life expectancy of an M60 machine gunner was less than others in a rifle company. The reason came

down to this one reality: the M60 machine gunner brought more heat upon the enemy. It was, therefore, in the best interest of the enemy to take the machine gunner out first.

The same lesson is true in the arena of sports. A great athlete must be stopped to defeat his team. If the opposing team wants to win, the athlete's talent and skill demands more attention. I saw this vividly with my son, Micah. He was an all-star defensive lineman. He wrecked havoc in the backfield of opposing teams. A lone offensive linemen could not stop him. Coaches rearranged their entire offense based upon the outstanding efforts of my son. He was sometimes double or triple teamed. Sometimes the running backs would try to blindside him in their attempts to stop his relentless pursuit of their quarterback and other running backs.

These physical examples teach powerful spiritual truths. The Apostle Paul revealed, "And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure" (2 Corinthians 12:7). First, to the degree the Apostle Paul was effectual to that degree was he resisted. He was a man burning with revelation, but he was also a man with a feet of clay, a man that faced tremendous opposition (2 Corinthians 11:22-29). Who brought more Gospel heat upon the enemy than the Apostle Paul?

If we advance the Gospel of the Kingdom against the gates of hell, what was true for Paul will also be true for us. The more the Lord uses us to expose the hidden works of darkness, save the lost, rescue babies, and shut down death camps, the more we will experience conflict in our lives.

Below is a sampling of passages that expose the nature and schemes of the Adversary.

2 Corinthians 2:11 states, "Lest Satan should take advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices."

2 Corinthians 11:14, 15 records, "And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works."

Ephesians 6:11 proclaims, “Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”

1 Thessalonians 2:18 reveals, “Therefore we wanted to come to you—even I, Paul, time and again—but Satan hindered us.”

Ephesians 4:27 commands, “Nor give place to the devil.”

1 Timothy 3:6, 7 teaches, “Not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation of the devil. Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.”

1 Peter 5:8 warns, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”

James 4:7 admonishes, “Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”

This last Scripture from James brings to mind how the Lord Jesus dealt with Satan. Know this, when the enemy came for Jesus, he found nothing to exploit. Satan could not find a resting place to work his malice. There was no opening to deceive (John 14:30).

Yes, Christ is sinless and we are not. Yet, we can still live blameless. If we are to remain faithful in this battle, it behooves us to keep short accounts with the Lord. A life of holiness is not optional (Hebrews 12:14). Every known sin, which provides openings for the enemy to exploit, must be repented of and the door shut. Proverbs 28:13 promises, “He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.” Believe me, receiving the tender mercies of the Lord each morning are critical (Lamentations 3:21-23). They provide the “balm of Gilead” that heal the wounds this battle afflicts upon our souls (Jeremiah 8:22).

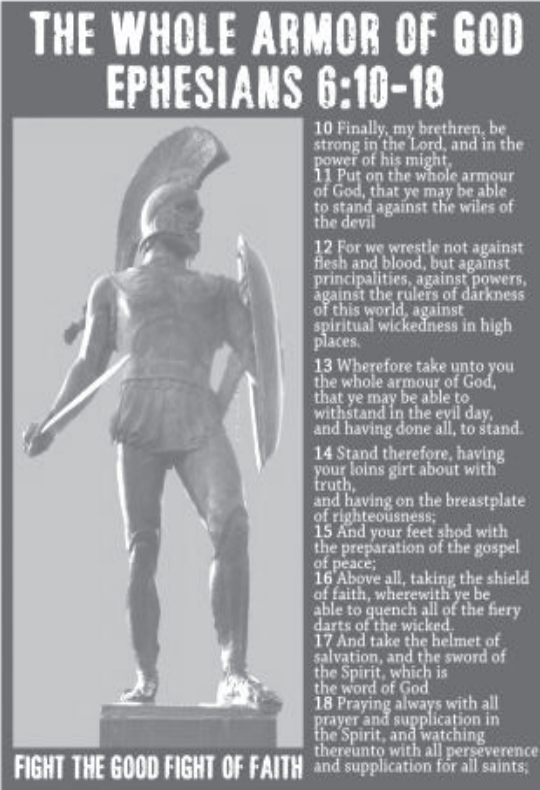
In this, we see the glorious ways of the Lord. He uses us to devastate the enemy’s camp, while forging Christ’s character in us and keeping us dependent upon Him. “Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out” (Romans 11:33).

The Battle and the Individual

And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 12:17

There are two things I can promise you in this battle against the culture of death. First, spiritual warfare is going to take on a whole new meaning in your life. Whatever you intellectually or theoretically envisioned concerning spiritual warfare, it will expand. You will achieve a greater understanding. Second, you will experience the Lord in ways you never thought possible on this side of heaven. The Word of God will come alive, as you follow in the footsteps of the prophets, our Lord, the Apostles, early Church Fathers, Reformers, Martyrs, and every righteous spirit redeemed by our Lord's great salvation.



THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD
EPHESIANS 6:10-18

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might,
11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil
12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.
14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;
15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye be able to quench all of the fiery darts of the wicked.
17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God
18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH

Those before us ran their lap of the race, fought their many battles, and bequeathed to us a legacy of liberty rooted and grounded in the Christian faith (Hebrews 11:39, 40). They are dead and have graduated to the Church Triumphant. We remain the Church Militant and it is our turn now.

As you enter the fray, keep in mind the Apostle Paul recommended we adorn ourselves with the full armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-20). Sadly, most Christians do not threaten the enemy, so they take lightly this admonishment. Far too many Christians dress inappropriately for battle. They are not prepared for warfare. It is important that you are not one of them.

As a refresher, the Apostle Paul described the heavenly armor as a belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, sword of the spirit, which is the Word of God, and prayer (Ephesians 6:14-18). All these will be necessary, if you are to survive the assaults of the wicked one.

Luke records an interesting episode that took place when itinerant Jewish exorcists attempted to cast out demons. Apparently, the Jewish exorcists had witnessed Paul's success in delivering people from demonic possession. As a result, they became curious about spiritual warfare. Unfortunately for these "would be demon busters," they were not saved, covered in the blood, or clothed with the full armor of God. Full of presumption, they declared, "We exercise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches." Soon afterward, they were treated to some shock and awe. One man, full of the devil, rose up and beat them so hard they fled wounded and naked from the encounter. Interestingly, before they pounced, the demons taunted "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you" (Acts 19:15)?

How would you fare in a similar demonic assessment when it comes to the American holocaust? Is your faith circumscribed to a church building? Or are you loving and leading people to Christ in the places of death and despair? Have you gone to the altars of Baal, like Elijah, to challenge the prophets of Baal. Or do you cower by the Brook Kidron waiting for someone else to defeat idolatry? Would the demon-

ic realm know you like Jesus and Paul or would they question your identity?

For the most part, Satan's crown jewel of baby murder, is undisturbed. There is an awkward tranquility between evil and the church, as children die horrifying deaths. Clearly, these things ought not to be. May I suggest that once a Christian's name is secured in the Lamb's book of life, his name needs to be registered in the enemy's camp (Revelation 21:27). If you take on the altars of Moloch and Baal, this name recognition will happen in short order.

Bring Every Thought Captive to the Obedience of Christ

2 Corinthians 10:3-6 further instructs:

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and having ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

God's wisdom admonishes that we guard our hearts, for out of it spring the issues of life (Proverbs 4:23). As we seek the Lord to stop baby murder, the battle in our mind will intensify. At its core, baby murder is demonic. Psalm 106 warns that when babies are sacrificed, the demonic realm is active. God's Word reveals, "They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons, and shed innocent blood, The blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; and the land was polluted with blood" (Psalms 106:37, 38).

Have you ever tried taking something away from a person who delights in that object? The battle is on. Be assured, if you are effective in binding the enemy, plundering his goods, and delivering children from slaughter, the assault against your mind will increase (Mark 3:27). Sins from your past may burden your thoughts or inflame your imagination once again. Temptations may increase as the *Accuser of*

the Brethren applies pressure. Guarding your mind by bringing every thought captive to the obedience of Christ is key to overcoming the devil's schemes.

"You cannot keep birds from flying over your head, but you can keep them from building a nest in your hair." This quote, attributed to Martin Luther, is a reference to sinful thoughts that come to mind. We may not be able to stop sinful thoughts from coming, but we can make sure they do not develop into a sinful pattern that provides ammunition to the enemies of the cross to blaspheme the Lord. God's Word warns, "You who make your boast in the law, do you dishonor God through breaking the law? For 'the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you,' as it is written" (Romans 2:23, 24).

The battleground of the mind is where many leaders in this movement failed. They became involved in scandals that dragged the Lord's name through the mud. They were tempted and gave place to the temptations. If you do not want to find your portrait hanging in the Christian hall of shame, consider these simple precautions. Never counsel the opposite sex alone. Use care when opening suspicious mail or email. Place a filter on your computer to block out pornography. Enemies of the cross are not above hacking into your computer or sending pornography to your home address.

Abortion clinic staff, deathscorts, witches, warlocks, and sodomites may target you for seduction, intimidation, or violence. They may vandalize your vehicle, home, and property. They may show up at your house with guns or string up a hang man's noose in your yard. They may place a body bag in your vehicle. A caravan of abortion supporters may drive slowly by your home at odd hours as a show of intimidation. A group may creep on your property in the middle of the night with lead pipes. They may hire security guards to intimidate you with threats of physical violence. When you suffer the loss of a loved one, they may rejoice, mock your pain, and curse your dead loved ones to hell. You could be spit on, cursed, pushed, punched, robbed, kicked, or purposefully hit by a car. You may receive death threats.

In addition to these very real physical threats, abortion supporters or the government may target you for character assassination. They may hire private detectives to investigate you. They may contact your place of employment, neighbors, or relations to bully or embarrass you. You could be arrested on trumped up charges or for minor infractions. In fact, you could be fined or jailed on a regular basis. Your name and picture could end up in your local police department as “criminal and subversive.”

The Feds could show up at your church to serve you papers. Why the church? If the government goes after you, it would not be for just a “legal” purpose. They would attempt to cut off all spiritual and moral support. They would send an unmistakable message to the brethren: Having nothing to do with this man or his cause or this will happen to you. The church could betray or abandon you. You could enter the dark night of the soul, where you think that even God has forsaken you.

Furthermore, as you continue to advance the Gospel of the Kingdom, your home could be attacked by demons. Your picture could end up in satanic covens, surrounded by demonic paraphernalia. You could be the target of curses and superstitious witchcraft. Proverbs reminds us, however, “Like a flitting sparrow, like a flying swallow, So a curse without cause shall not alight (Proverbs 26:2).

There could be other schemes unleashed. Do not allow these potential threats to scare you. Throughout Scripture, the Lord encourages His people, “Do not fear,” “do not be afraid,” and “let not your heart be troubled” (Matthew 10:31, Luke 12:32, John 14:1). Instead, let these possible scenarios sober your mind and equip you for battle.

When you go on the offense to defeat this evil, make sure you guard your strengths and shore up your weaknesses. Watch out for pride. If the enemy cannot get you going bad, he will try to entrap you by doing good. Self righteousness and a Pharisaical spirit can easily find an opening that will pollute the well of your salvation.

Lastly, beware of believing that you are entitled to personal liberties because of your great sacrifices. Many prolife leaders opened the door to that mentality. They are gone today. James 3:1 cautions, “My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.” Jesus mentioned, “To whom much is given, from him much will be required” (Luke 12:48). It is important to remember these principles when you minister at the death camps, lest the enemy gain the advantage.

The Battle and the Family



Rev. Rusty Lee Thomas and Family

A Portion of the Thomas Nation ministering at the Gates of Hell

The building block of society is the God-ordained family. As goes the father, so goes the family. As goes the family, so goes the church. And as goes the church, so goes the nation. We live in a day where the family has suffered great harm. Abortion, homosexuality, divorce, financial struggle, adultery, government replacing God and father in the home, and a host of other ills have served to diminish home and hearth in America.

Family is the proving ground for effective service in His Kingdom (1 Timothy 3:4). It is the launching pad for public ministry. Why is this

important? It is hard to export what is not working at home. If we are not faithful to our bride and kids, God will not cut us loose on His.

This *is* a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; one who rules his own house well, having *his* children in submission with all reverence (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?)

I Timothy 3:15

These Biblical standards for family are primarily to qualify men for church leadership. Yet, Reverend Flip Benham advocates, “The theology of the church must become biography in the streets.” If you seek to fulfill this mandate, should there be a concern for your home, marriage, and children? The answer is a resounding YES! Besides the church, the family is a primary target for the Evil One, if you dare intervene to save the ones he has targeted for destruction.

Waging a successful warfare against the forces of darkness means making family life a priority. Men are called to courageously lead their families with the Word of God. Husbands and fathers must love their wives and raise their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4). This is why it is important to never use ministry as an excuse to abandon responsibilities at home. Men’s hearts must be turned towards their children to be effective in saving other children from certain death.

Abortion violates the essence of Biblical manhood, which is partly defined as protecting, providing, and caring for women and children. By “law,” fathers must stand idly by, while the unspeakable happens to their children. This injustice screams to the heavens and tragically reinforces the inherent sinful nature of men—irresponsibility and passivity in the face of evil. Fatherlessness created the environment

for the mass slaughter of children. It has unleashed a dreadful curse upon the land (Malachi 4:5, 6). Preborn children scheduled to die have no fathers to protect them.

God is a Father and the helper of the fatherless (Psalms 10:14). Throughout the Bible, God demands justice and intervention for the fatherless (Psalms 10:18, 82:3; Isaiah 1:17). Yet most Christians ignore these commands. Our silence inadvertently grants consent. Through inaction, Christians unconsciously aid and abet the powers of darkness savaging children made in the image of God. Historically, anytime the church ignored evil of this magnitude, it strengthened the oppressors and prolonged the victimization of the weak.

As you lead your family into the battle, it is wise not to create two worlds—the world of ministry and the world of family. It is best they comport into one world. Many a minister lost his children by creating disparate worlds, a breach for the enemy to exploit. Just as in all ministry, abortion ministry, should be a family endeavor. The husband leads, the wife submits, and the children obey. Divine order is crucial to protecting your family in the battle (1 Corinthians 11:1-3). A three-fold cord is not easily broken (Ecclesiastes 4:12).

Nehemiah called the Jews who were rebuilding Jerusalem to go to the “exposed areas” as families. God’s Word states:

Therefore I positioned men behind the lower parts of the wall, *at the openings; and I set the people according to their families*, with their swords, their spears, and their bows. And I looked, and arose and said to the nobles, to the leaders, and to the rest of the people, ‘Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, great and awesome, and fight for your brethren, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your houses.’”

Nehemiah 4:13, 14

It is important that we follow this Biblical pattern in the battle we face today. America’s walls are down and her gates are burned (Nehemiah 1:3). Abortion is the main exposed area in our nation today. We must go together as families to rebuild the wall and restore the gates. Grandpa, grandma, father, mother, and children all stand-

ing in the gap and making up the hedge strikes fear in the heart of the enemy. Children are the greatest signs in front of abortion clinics.

Psalms 127:3-5 reminds God's people:

Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb is a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth. Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them; they shall not be ashamed, But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.

Besides the obvious benefit for others, family ministry is a tremendous blessing for families. It is a winning way to disciple children. Leading them on the offense against evil is the best defense against evil. Too many Christian families tell their children what *not* to do without leading them what *to* do. This leaves them on the defensive where they can become easy pickings for the spirit of the age. When children actually see their parents, pastors, and elders taking a public stand against evil, evil loses much of its lure. They are not just hearing the message preached, they are witnessing adults model the message. In addition, the public witness strengthens their faith and helps them take ownership of Biblical truths and principles. This makes all the difference in the world as we prepare them for future service to God.

The Battle and the Church



Church at the Gates

As we explore the church and her role in the battle, one clarification needs to be made. The state was established by God to protect life—to stop the shedding of innocent blood.

The Sword of Civil Government

In the Bible, the first mention of civil government comes in the wake of the flood. Before the flood the thoughts and actions of men were continually evil. Man's great wickedness made the Lord "sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart" (Genesis 6:6). After the waters receded and Noah stepped foot on dry land, God commanded, "Whoever sheds man's blood, (criminal) by man (civil government) his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man" (Genesis 9:6).

Civil government is to protect life. *Roe v. Wade* violates government's sacred trust. The divine purpose of civil government is to ensure that man never descends back to the pre-flood wickedness that invoked God's wrath. However, since 1973 magistrates in America have defended the indefensible. The sword of justice that was ordained by God to punish evil doers and protect those who are good has been inverted. Our government now uses the sword to protect those who murder and punish those who save innocent life. Civil government has moved from being God's minister to a willing dupe of the Evil One (Romans 13:4). The legality of abortion raises the question, if our government will not protect man's most fundamental right to life, what other rights are secure?

The Keys of the Church

"And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 16:19).

The civil institution ordained by God to protect babies, now tragically assures their destruction. Due to this betrayal, the responsibility

to defend innocent life has fallen to the church. This has proven problematic.

For over 41 years of bloodshed, the state and the majority of the church have failed in their responsibility to protect preborn children. God, however, cannot deny Himself. When the Lord deals with this kind of evil, He usually does it with a heavy hand. This is the hard lesson America is learning under the disastrous Obama administration (Psalms 106:34-43).

There is a connection between our moral and spiritual condition and the litany of woes upon us. There is a correlation between baby murder, unjust laws, and the rise of tyranny. No justice for the pre-born, no freedom for us. Therefore, it behooves the church to stand in the gap and make up the hedge (Ezekiel 22:29-31). We must give God a reason to show mercy to our nation drowning in a sea of blood and perversion.

If these children are to have any defense, those who name the name of Christ must be the ones to intervene. It is folly to think that the world influenced by sin, selfishness, and the devil will ever come to their aid. This, however, is exactly the point where the battle becomes thorny. I know many Christians who have borne the weight of battle alone at the gates of hell.

The church distanced herself from these faithful rescuers. Some churches considered them “radical” for intervening to rescue those unjustly sentenced to death (Proverbs 24:11, 12). Other churches were suspicious. Many churches considered rescuers an embarrassment. Some pastors went so far as to state, “Your involvement against abortion is worse than abortion.”

With the absence of the majority of the church, a miniscule remnant was left to do the heavy lifting, spiritually speaking. In cities that had death camps defiling the land, the church not only ignored the pleas for help from fellow Christians but more tragically, she ignored the plight of the little ones made in God’s image. Many in the church believed they were not called to or did not feel led to participate in

saving lives. Deceived in to thinking saving lives required a “special calling,” the church, for the most part, disobeyed God’s clear commandments.

Naturally, Christians living out the “Good Samaritan” ethic felt abandoned by the church (Luke 10:25-37). Some of them developed a root of bitterness and became “Lone Rangers” for Jesus. They left the covering of the church and branched out on their own. Eventually, bitterness defiled them and spread to others (Hebrews 12:15). According to many of these hurt brethren, the ends justified the means. Since they had a good motive (end the slaughter) their actions did not matter. God, however, is concerned not only with the ends we achieve, but the means we use to achieve them. God is looking for right, right; a right motive and a right action. If we fail to use God’s methods, we become a danger to ourselves and to others, whatever our good intentions may be.

In a Catch-22, contradictory rules create a dilemma. We see this dilemma in regards to abortion. The more the church turns a blind eye and a deaf ear to the plight of the babies, the more she refuses to address the blatant injustice, the more resentful pro-life Christians become. The angrier rescuers become, the more the church feels justified in her silence and inactivity. This vicious cycle must end if we want the Lord to reclaim His church as an instrument of justice and mercy to end the American holocaust.

If you are engaged in the battle, you must recognize some vital truths when it comes to the church of Jesus Christ. First, to have authority (to fight and win this battle) you must be under authority (Matthew 8:9). Each rescuer needs to be in submission to a local church. We all need the accountability, covering, and blessing of the church. We need the church to send us out to wage a good warfare against the powers of darkness. Church covering is vital for our spiritual wellbeing in the midst of increased conflict.

If you have been hurt by the church while in this battle, it is important to spit out the *scandalon* that creates a root of bitterness.

Scandalon is the bait that leads to an offense. From *scandalon*, we get the word *scandal*. Picture a big game hunter looking to capture a lion. He digs a pit, covers it with foliage, and then sets up a wooden apparatus for bait. When he's finished, he hangs a piece of bloody red meat over the pit. The lion is not aware of the pit, he is only aware of the meat. According to nature, he feels justified in pouncing upon the meat. But to his lament, he soon discovers he is captured. This is an apt picture of what happens to many Christians who obey God in this battle.

Too many prolife Christians feel betrayed by the church and therefore justified, according to nature, to harbor an offense. This attitude does not inspire the church to repent and get involved. In addition, it has the potential to leave Christians engaged in the battle in a pit of despair.

In this battle, forgiveness is not optional. Jesus plainly taught, "And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses" (Matthew 11:25, 26).

The attacks from within and from without are manifold. The problem with most engaged in the battle is that they forget to hold the shield of faith up when it comes to the church, family, and friends. When the Evil One's fiery dart is shot by someone close, most of the time it hits the heart and it hits hard. Wounded warriors can often end up causing great damage to those they love, though they remain convinced of the justness of their cause.

Romans 12:18 teaches, "If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men." We are supposed to do good to all men, but especially to the household of faith (Galatians 6:10). To stay sane in this battle, good soldiers of Jesus Christ must understand that our duty is to keep sowing, loving, intervening, helping, reaching out, preaching, and fighting the good fight of faith, regardless of whether or not others join in the work. We stay faithful any-

way. John Quincy Adams had the right attitude. He stated, "Duty is mine, the results belong to God." We can do no less.

This is the tightrope Christians must walk, the divine tension experienced in the battle. Christians must live consistent lives, in word and deed, without causing church splits, making disciples unto ourselves, or usurping the role of Biblical elders (1 John 3:18, Acts 20:30). Conversely, the church should spiritually cover and bless the ministry. The church should send missionaries out to engage in the battle. If others come under conviction to join you, praise the Lord and pass the spiritual "ammo." If not, sing the old hymn, "Though none go with me, still I will follow."

As you move forward to challenge, inspire, and convict the church of her responsibility to end this evil in our land, you must do it with love, respect, and the right spirit. Sometimes it is not what we say, but how we say it that makes all the difference in the world. Out of all the gates of the land God may send you, this one must be approached with far more fear and trembling. God loves His church and we must love her as well. As we do with the sinner, we must love the church enough to tell her the truth (Ephesians 4:15).

We see this example in the life of Jeremiah. God called Jeremiah to go to the gate of the Lord's house to confront the people. God admonished His people, "Do not shed innocent blood in this place" (Jeremiah 7:1-10). Our nation is shedding innocent blood just as Israel of old. Like Jeremiah, Christians need to go to the different gates of the land and call our nation to repentance.

In the Bible, gates represented the three-fold seat of governmental power. Gates referred to the seat of political authority, the seat of judicial authority, and the seat of commerce. As you faithfully minister at these gates, keep in mind, there is still the gate of the Lord's house. You must go there as well, but go with a plea, rather than a protest. You need to call them with a Macedonian call to "come help us" (Acts 16:9) In the case of abortion, "Help us end this evil and restore America's righteousness." Proverbs 14:34 states, "Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people."

Lastly, when it comes to ending baby murder in America, God does not have plan B. He only has plan A. Jesus promised, “And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it” (Matthew 16:18). The gates of hell will prevail against every institution of man. It will not stand against the church of the living God.

We are beyond a political solution to what ails our nation. We cannot expect politicians to stop the evil that is savaging this generation. We cannot expect them to fight a battle against sin and Satan and prevail. Only the church is equipped and empowered to take Satan on and take him out. As the church rises up and wins the battle in the heavens and on the streets, our laws will change. Our government will one day reflect the victory. Civil government can be restored back to its divine calling, which is protect life and stop the shedding on innocent blood. The church’s responsibility is to regain her prophetic voice to be the moral conscience of our nation once again. Reverend Flip Benham stated it well, “Abortion will come to an end in America when the Church of Jesus Christ makes up her mind it will come to an end. And not one second sooner.”

The Battle and the Death Camp



**Artist Rendition of the Planned Parenthood Building
in Houston, Texas**

Tophet, in the valley of Hinnom, was also known as the *valley of slaughter*. It was the location in Israel where the altars of child sacrifice were set up. Some Old Testament references mention this place as Gehenna, which Jesus taught as a reference to hell. Taken together, the altars of child sacrifice were literally hell on earth. This helps to explain why abortion mills in our day are referred to as the gates of hell.

Regardless of their fancy buildings, brilliant architecture, elevator music, pleasant pictures on the wall, or contemporary medical technology, abortion clinics still house an ancient evil. They are the modern day altars of Moloch and Baal.

Tophet derives its meaning from the word *drum*. While children were offered in sacrifice, drums beat to drown out their cries. The fire that consumed the helpless babes came roaring from the idol's hollow belly. Homer W. Smith, author of *Man and His Gods* explains, "The custom of burning children long persisted at Jerusalem." Smith describes how the young victims "were rolled from the hands of a bronze image of the god into a pit of fire."

Baal and Moloch, pagan deities, seduced the children of Israel to pass their children through the fire. Their lying message appealed to the basest nature of men. They convinced many in Israel to place their children upon these pagan altars so all would be well with them. These false idols promised prosperity if people would shed the blood of their children.

Though thousands of years have passed, few pagan altars, high places, and tree groves of idolatry remain today. The pagan ritual, however, persists. These ancient rites continue through clinics established by organizations such as Planned Parenthood in the abortion industry. The setting has indeed changed, but the lying message and brutal practice remains the same. Can you hear its voice today? "You are too young." "You have to think about your schooling and career." "You cannot afford a baby." "It will leave stretch marks," and nausea. Moloch and Baal still whisper, "Give your child to me and all will be well with you."

Throughout Scripture God called his people to remove these altars of child sacrifice. In fact, all the kings of Israel, both good and bad, were judged by how they dealt with the high places in their day. Very few kings completely removed the high places and ended the bloody idolatry. Has God changed his mind about these altars? I think not (Malachi 3:6). They need to be removed in our day as well.

The Battle and the Deathscorts



The owner and deathscorts at the last remaining death camp in Mississippi

Not every death camp employs deathscorts. Some of them are so radical, the death camps ban them. For those unfamiliar with the term *deathscorts*, they are the misguided souls that shield perspective abortion clients from the truth. As sidewalk counselors attempt to speak to women as they enter the clinic or handout life saving literature, deathscorts physically surround the women to drown out the Gospel. They seek to prohibit women from receiving the truth they need to make a right choice—a choice that leads to life not death, blessing and not cursing (Deuteronomy 30:19).

The ultimate goal of a deathscort is to make sure a woman does not change her mind about the abortion when they arrive at the clinic. Some deathscorts treat the time at the abortion clinic like a party, as

children are massacred. They laugh, blast loud music, while some even dance.

Other deathscorts treat the time at the abortion clinic like a “war.” They are there to stop what feminists call the “war on women.” They stand at attention like soldiers, use their bodies as battering rams to push you around, turn water sprinklers on to drench you, use leaf blowers to overpower your voice, steal your signs, hold an open umbrella or other objects in your face to block your witness.

Other deathscorts will yell and mock your faith. Some are prone to utter vile blasphemies while they “bravely” defend a “women’s right to choose.” Sometimes deathscorts become violent as Christians share the Gospel in an attempt to rescue women and children from the horrors of abortion. How should Christians handle this aspect of the battle? At times, passions will run high as you encounter deathscorts who purposely push every button imaginable in an attempt to discourage, mock, and intimidate. God’s Word must govern your passions.

2 Timothy 2:23-26 provides sound counsel:

But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife. And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

Proverbs 15:1 also reminds us, “A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger.”

Jesus taught, “Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven” (Matthew 5:43-48). The Lord promised, “Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake” (Matthew 5:11). When you are persecuted for

your faith in Christ, you are to rejoice for “great is your reward in heaven” (Matthew 5:12). You will have ample opportunity to live out these Christian realities at the death camps and any other place you expose the evil of abortion.

The Old Testament prophet, Elijah, confronted the prophets of Baal. In a very real sense, you will face the offspring of those idolatrous priests today. And make no mistake about it; the issue remains the same. God’s Word declares, “How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord *is* God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him” (1 Kings 18:21). America has to decide if the Lord is God or Baal is god. As long as abortion remains “legal,” our nation officially sides with Baal.

Abortion has morphed America from One Nation under God, the true and living God, to One Nation under Moloch. Moloch demands child sacrifice. It is the ultimate act of worship in an idolatrous religious system. A sacrifice of this magnitude requires a total state sanctioning. We see this infidelity in the history of ancient Israel. To accommodate this evil ritual, the government of Israel “legalized” child sacrifice. Tragically, the practice not only polluted the true worship of Jehovah but it also transformed Israel into a different political and religious system—a pagan system that defied God’s government in the earth. America is repeating the same transgression and the deathscorts, or prophets of Baal, are determined to make sure it continues.

Finally, as you confront these deceived individuals, it is imperative that you follow the example of our Lord. 1 Peter 2:21-23 states:

For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: “Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth”; who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously.

Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6). When he walked on earth, Jesus boldly declared the truth, lived the truth, and personified the truth (Ephesians 4:21). The world hated him for it. Our sin smashed him on the cross, yet he did not retaliate. In fact, while hanging on the cruel cross he groaned, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do” (Luke 23:34).

This loving declaration in the face of cruel persecution unleashed God’s forgiveness in the world. As Christians follow the Lord’s example in this battle many on the opposing side come to saving faith in Christ. There are testimonies after testimonies of lawyers, judges, reporters, prisoners, prison guards, pro-aborts, sodomites, police officers, and federal marshals who surrendered to the Lord after they witnessed gentle Christians endure trials. So how do you respond to deathscorts? You boldly stand for the truth, suffer persecution, and respond with love and forgiveness. This breaks the powers of darkness and helps set the captives free.

The Battle and the Police



Walk Across America Prophetic Tour

As stated previously, the state is complicit in the sin and crime of abortion. The civil government has betrayed its sacred trust. Instead of protecting innocent life, civil government protects those who take innocent life. This incongruity is evident in all levels of government, but most notable at the local level. Local law enforcement will sometimes harass Christians in the exercise of their First Amendment rights.

Police are called to protect and serve, especially the most vulnerable among us. Police officers, as all Americans, are staggering under the weight of bloodguilt. God will eventually judge all nations on how they treat their weakest members. Police officers can claim they are just “doing their job” but that defense will not stand at the bar of God’s justice on the Great Day of Judgment.

When personhood is removed from certain people groups, making them a target of genocide, law enforcement typically responds with a “I’m just doing my job” mentality. During the Nuremberg trials this defense was called “Superior Orders” or in German phrase, “Befehl ist Befehl,” meaning “orders are orders.” This defense maintains that an individual should not be held officially responsible for actions that were ordered by a superior officer or a public official. After all, “orders are orders.” This defense was rejected by military tribunals. Nuremberg Principle IV states, “The fact that a person acted pursuant to order of his Government or of a superior does not relieve him from responsibility under international law, provided a *moral* choice was in fact possible to him.”

In the military code of conduct, soldiers are expected to obey all lawful orders from their superior officers. Soldiers are also commanded to disobey unlawful orders by the same code of conduct. Jesus asked the Pharisees, “‘Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?’ But they kept silent” (Mark 3:4). This was a rhetorical question. It is a question to which all sane people know the answer. Yet our civil officials remain complicit while babies are butchered to death under their watch.

If you are effective in ministering the Gospel of the Kingdom in this culture of death, the police will be at the beck and call of the death camp. It is extremely important to be men and women of your word. In other words, if you communicate to the officers something you will or will not do, keep your word, even if it hurts. In the long run, you will gain their respect.

Most police you deal with will be professional. They will have legitimate concerns about safety, especially traffic safety. If you honor their concerns, usually there is no problem. Some may be sympathetic to the cause of life. Some may be Christian brethren. Others, however, can be post-abortive, homosexuals, anti-Christ, and exercise power rather than authority. These officers may bully, intimidate, and look for ways to harass. There have been cases of Christians arrested for preaching on public sidewalks. Once they were taken to jail, it was then the police concocted the charges to justify their arrests. Most of the times, these trumped up charges do not stand up in court.

When it comes to the abortion industry, it will not take long to discover the double standard of law enforcement. In general, law officers and agencies treat prolife Christians differently than the pro-aborts. If pro-aborts make a complaint against Christians, it is taken very seriously when the police arrive. When Christians make complaints of assault, theft, or some other violation the official police response is often, "If you weren't here, none of this would happen to you." In other words, "You deserve it."

For the most part, the police ignore injustices committed against prolife Christians. It is not hard to figure out why. If the police will not defend children scheduled to be murdered, why would they be concerned about defending those seeking to save lives? What is true for the police is also true for the courts and other agencies. A Christian's presence on the street, in the courtroom, or in a jail cell serves as God's rebuke to our government for violating its divine calling.

In spite of these injustices, Christians should demonstrate proper respect for law enforcement. You should do this, even if the one

wearing the uniform, disgraces it. In the case of abortion, it is wise to remember, government is the law breaker. Christians are to remain law keepers. Those who name the name of Christ are not anarchists or rebels. The call is not civil disobedience, but Biblical obedience. When the laws of men conflict with the laws of God, Christians must obey God rather than men (Acts 5:29).

Lastly, never surrender your constitutional rights. Many times law enforcement will infer that your First Amendment rights are impermanent. Some officers may imply, “We respect your First Amendment Rights, but not here, not now, and not that message.” The public sidewalk, however, is a hill you must be willing to die upon. If you surrender there, you forfeit future freedoms not only for you, but for those who come behind you.

Remember, the First Amendment guarantees free speech in public forums like streets, sidewalks, and parks. It guarantees your right to approach pedestrians on public sidewalks with leaflets and information. As long as you leave sufficient room for pedestrians to pass, you are good to go and go you must.

The Battle and the Culture



Abortion display at a Little Rock, Arkansas High School

Theologian Henry Van Til famously quipped, “Culture is religion externalized.” In other words, discover the priorities of a culture and you will detect its gods. For this reason and many besides, the battle over abortion in our culture is vital. It reveals powerful truths and raises disturbing questions. What does Christianity look like in a nation that murders its own children? Has the church failed to be pro-life or have we failed to be Christian when it comes to rescuing our neighbors scheduled to be dismembered?

When Israel was steeped in blood guiltiness, God spoke through the prophets:

When you spread out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you; Even though you make many prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood. Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow. Come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord, Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

Isaiah 1:15-18

Jeremiah 22:3 commands, “Thus says the Lord: ‘Execute judgment and righteousness, and deliver the plundered out of the hand of the oppressor. Do no wrong and do no violence to the stranger, the fatherless, or the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place.’” The Psalmist concurs, “Defend the poor and fatherless; Do justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the poor and needy; Free them from the hand of the wicked” (Psalms 82:3, 4).

God commanded Ezekiel to *show* Israel her abominations (Ezekiel 22:2). We live in a nation that commits the same ancient evil. Have God’s expectations changed? Does God now desire we cloak this sin by refusing to expose it? I think not. Jesus expected his church to receive the same treatment as the prophets of old. Matthew 5:11, 12 reveals, “Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and

be exceedingly glad, for great *is* your reward in heaven, *for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*” James agrees, “My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience” (James 5:10). Does he truly expect you to act differently?

Remember Ezekiel was told to confront Jerusalem with her abominations (Ezekiel 16:2; 23:36). Be forewarned, if you follow his example, some will be supportive of your public witness, while the majority will be upset. This is part of bearing the reproach in a nation that condemns the innocent and rewards the guilty (Hebrews 13:13).

It is important to realize that abortion has established a double abomination. Proverbs 17:15 reveals, “He who justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the just, Both of them alike are an abomination to the Lord.” If you expose this dual duplicity, rest assured, you will be opposed.

Some you meet will be post-abortive. In fact, you may meet a lot of women and men who are post-abortive. Your public witness reveals the hard truth. It will remind them of their sin against God and crime against their own children. It will remind them of something they are desperately trying to suppress (Romans 1:18). As they fall under conviction and their sin rises to the top, they may attack you, flip you off, or curse you. They may try to rip the sign from your hands and pounce on it. Jim Pouillon, a friend of this author, was shot dead outside a school holding a pro-life sign. He was killed for his public witness.

After reading this booklet, you might be asking yourself whether or not, it is worth the sacrifice. The trials, the temptations, the regular and burdensome awareness of the evil that is abortion—is this battle worth it? Yes! It is your privilege to serve God in this dark culture. In addition to the babies who are saved, many souls are saved as well.

The good news is that after the awareness of sin has risen, there is a wonderful opportunity. Once the sinner calms down, the Gospel can

be ministered. The sinner promptly learns “shooting the messenger” does nothing to relieve his guilty soul. Many have come to the Lord’s saving grace through these public confrontations.

The law of God is a schoolmaster that leads men to Christ (Galatians 3:24). God’s Law convicts men of sin. In so doing, it eventually shuts their mouths (Romans 3:19). Where there is no law, there is no sin (Romans 4:15). And if there is no sin, who needs a Savior? In this culture of death, your call is to show America her abominations. Your call is to present God’s law, “Thou shall not kill,” and pray that mouths are stopped. The quieter a convicted soul becomes, the more hope that God is at work transforming his soul.

The Gospel saves individuals. God’s Law utilized lawfully preserves nations and cultures (1 Timothy 1:8). This is why you need to minister at other gates in your communities, in addition to the death camps. Schools, parks, parades, neighborhood events, campuses, streets, and other public venues provide ample opportunity to engage your culture. As you minister the Gospel, take signs, literature, a sound system, fetal models and anything else that visibly demonstrates the truth about abortion. Above all else, bring your Bible. Unsheathe the Sword of the Spirit and proclaim the Gospel of the Kingdom in the highways and byways (Matthew 22:9).

While ministering, your signs and witness should expose the sin of abortion and the need for God’s great salvation in Christ. Romans 6:23 states, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” If you can only bring two signs with you while you minister, the two best are Malachi (a graphic picture of abortion) and a living baby (a beautiful picture of a newborn). These two pictures, side by side, provide a stark contrast. They provide a pictorial essay and object lesson that removes the cloak hiding America’s sin (John 15:22).

The first sign, the picture of Malachi, means, “My messenger.” This little boy, cruelly murdered by abortion, has much to teach our bloodstained nation. Though dead, his life still speaks (Hebrews

11:4). Malachi reveals the horrific reality of abortion. It graphically demonstrates the cruelty associated with the violent death of children made in God’s image. In this, we witness the “wages of sin is death.”

On the other hand, the living baby sign reveals the “gift of God is eternal life.” One sign points out what happens to a nation that violates God’s laws. Violating God’s law leads to death, both physical and eternal. Sin is ugly, horrible, and deadly. The other sign points out what happens to nations that honor God’s law. Keeping God’s law honors life. Righteousness is beautiful. It is the right choice.

Deuteronomy 30:19 states, “I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live.” America’s problem is that she thinks she can choose death and still experience the blessings of God. The idea is preposterous and extremely dangerous. We cannot enhance our lives at the expense of dead babies. At the empty tomb of Christ, the angel asked, “Why do you seek the living among the dead” (Luke 24:5). We cannot find life among the dead. If we choose death, God’s curse is sure to follow. If we desire God’s blessings, we must choose life. The message to our culture is that simple. Go forth and preach it in Jesus’ name!

The Battle and the Media



Introducing the States of Refuge Campaign in Charlotte, NC

I remember the first time the media approached me in the battle. I was leading a rescue in Florida in January of 1989. The reporter came to the rescue and asked me several questions. My response to one of his questions was, "I am pro-choice in that regard." The answer knocked the reporter back on his heels. I elaborated, "I believe a woman has a choice to put the baby up for adoption if she becomes pregnant and does not want to raise the child. But the greater choice is to remain celibate until marriage. Abortion, however, is not an acceptable form of birth control."

The next day, the article quoted me as saying, "Rev. Thomas does not believe women should have sex." Women should "remain celibate until marriage" became "women shouldn't have sex." There you have it. Now you know the rest of the story. Since then, I have learned many lessons on how to deal with the media.

Media coverage forms how most people see the world and what they consider to be important. And because the media has moved from "objective reporting" of the twentieth century to "interpretative reporting," where journalists explain the meaning or significance of the facts or an event, it habitually shields the abortion industry.

They are indeed the "Prodigal Press." In the 1800s, reporters called abortionists, "Blood sucking hyenas" and drove them underground. Today, much of the media views abortionists as heroes. This is why, the media, for the most part, is not your friend, regardless of feigned smiles. Most reporters are ideologically aligned with the abortion industry.

Tragically, instead of being a watchdog for liberty or an institution that investigates news and impartially reports it, the media has become a lapdog for the left. By determining which stories get covered, the news media sets the agenda.

Typically, if reporters cover your activities, they will ask a lot of questions in the hopes you will run your mouth. Afterward, they will return to their studios and splice together the interview. What they leave in or what they take out determines the essence of the story.

It resolves whether you are shown in a good or a bad light. Most of the time, they will place you in the latter position.

Shakespeare once quipped, “Brevity is the soul of wit.” Taking the complex and making it simple is one of the signs of God’s wisdom. Brevity will serve you well in the battle as you engage the media. Make sure that you do not ramble when being interviewed. Seek the Lord for a couple of good quotes, Scripture references, or Biblical principles and stay on track. If the media tries to steer you in another direction, bring them back to your message. Keep the main thing, the main thing. You want the Holy Spirit to lead the interview, not the worldly biases of the reporter. If you allow the reporter to direct the interview and set the agenda, you will end up portrayed in a way that justifies his worldview. Let God be true and every man a liar (Romans 3:4).

The Battle Bonus Article



**St. George and the Dragon: Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co.:
of Art Illustrated” (1878)**

This teaching is taken from a chapter in our first book called the *Kingdom Leadership Institute Manual*. For more of an extensive study on abortion ministry, our second book *Abortion Violation: America's Premier National Security Issue* is available.

“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’ Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit.” (Isaiah 14:12-15).

The idea of the church militant, of a conquering, battling church advancing the cause of Christ, has become a faded memory for most American Christians. Too often we compromise, concede, cater, and coddle in the hopes of winning souls to Christ, instead of conquering evil that enslaves them. In America's present backslidden condition, it would be prudent to recall the necessity of conflict.

Dr. Augustus Neander, in *Memorials of a Christian Life*, wrote:

As the whole life of the Christian, from the beginning to the end, is a conflict with the world and the powers of darkness, a conflict within and without, the kingdom of God in this world must appear as militant, and must make its way by conflict; so that often, in Holy Writ, the calling of the Christian is compared to that of the military life, and the Christian is represented as the soldier of his Lord. This image was very clear and familiar to the first Christians. Though Christians, in later ages, may have been led to forget the nature of their calling as one of conflict, amidst external tranquility and prosperity, yet in primitive times their entire outward condition served to remind them of the spiritual warfare; for the church found itself on all sides in conflict with the heathen world, and the public profession made by Christians compelled them to take a share in this conflict. “Christians rejoiced to consider themselves as the soldiers of God and Christ (*milites Dei et Christi*), against the hostile powers of darkness, against

everything which appeared to them as belonging to the kingdom of Satan, against the service of sin and of false gods.

Through the years, our ministry has been privileged to be on the cutting edge of the spiritual and cultural battle vying for the souls of men and the future of America. In this incredible journey of faith, the Lord has been gracious not only to strip away the layers of sinful fortifications that have surrounded our own hardened and deceitful heart, but he has also been faithful to strip away the layers of satanic deception that is defiling our great land.

Through the blood, sweat, and tears, a few truths have been learned that will hopefully benefit others. In this teaching, the goal is to strip off the mask of the adversary and peel away the layers that he has meticulously constructed to conceal his works of darkness. Much like a battering ram against a fortified wall of a castle, we will use the Bible to break down the strongholds of the enemy in our nation.

The Early Church

The early church was no stranger to danger. She was birthed in battle. There were heresies from within and great persecutions from without. In the book of Acts, the two points of conflict are revealed that concern this cosmic battle. God's Word states:

But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, "These who have turned the world upside down have come here too. Jason has harbored them, and these are all acting contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king—Jesus (Acts 17:6, 7).

According to this passage of Scripture, the battle comes down to two vital issues: Who is Lord, and whose laws are to govern in the affairs of men? Will it be Almighty God or Caesar? Will it be the flawed laws of men, which in many cases decriminalizes evil, or the holy, righteous laws of God that protects the liberty Christ died to secure for the sons of men?

Notice that the accusation against the early church that turned the world upside down was not, "There is another Savior who loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life." No, the early church suf-

ferred great persecution and martyrdom because of the revelation of “another King.” This was the clear and present danger that threatened the political tyrants and religious oppressors of their day.

We must understand that this new sect called Christianity did not endanger Rome religiously. Rome was threatened politically. There was religious freedom under Roman occupation. You could worship the god of your choice. Every land, nation, and tribe that Rome conquered, however, was required to speak a loyalty oath to Caesar. This idolatrous practice was utilized to secure Rome’s conquests. Caesar demanded that every knee bow and every tongue confess that he was Lord. It was a full manifestation of emperor-cult worship, which flourished under pagan rule. Before the true God/Man, Jesus Christ, who received all authority in heaven and earth was born into the world, a satanic counterfeit was set up in Rome (Matthew 28:18–20).

The Jews of the day submitted to this idolatrous heresy. Though the Jews were still free to worship Jehovah in the temple, once they left the temple, they were forced to confess Caesar is Lord! Did they do so willingly? God’s Word testifies they did, especially when Caesar as king came into direct conflict with the revelation of King Jesus. John 19:15 states, “But they cried out, ‘Away with *Him*, away with *Him*! Crucify *Him*!’ Pilate said to them, ‘Shall I crucify your King?’ The chief priests answered, ‘We have no king but Caesar!’”

Man struggles with this same choice today. If Jesus is not the Sovereign King, men resort to two failed options. The state is therefore king, which has led historically to unprecedented murderous regimes that crushed the people they claimed to serve or the individual is sovereign, which inevitably leads to chaos, confusion, and anarchy. Only “One Nation under God” can secure the delicate tension between authority and liberty. Only “One Nation under God” can provide a proper social order on one hand with maximum individual freedom on the other hand. There is no other worldview or faith that can accomplish this in our fallen world.

The Boast of Satan

In every war, intelligence plays a major role. It is one of the major keys to victory. Ask any veteran of war, knowing the enemy's position, leadership, strengths, weaknesses, communications, supply lines, ammunition dumps, and a host of other crucial information determines to a great degree success in battle.

In the opening Scripture passage, Isaiah 14:12-15, God allows us to obtain some intelligence data on the enemy that we contend against. It is crucial to our understanding. Notice that Lucifer makes a fivefold boast accentuated by arrogant declarations concerning his self-will. Proudly he announces, "I will," without any regard for the will of his Creator. This promotion of the devil's will is one of the major demarcation lines that exposes the battle that is raging today—a battle between two seeds and two competing worldviews.

Satan's final boast reveals his ultimate agenda, "I will be like the most High." In light of this admission, a few ramifications need to be explored. First, Lucifer has been in the presence of the Almighty in eternity past. He witnessed the very personhood, attributes, and divine characteristics of the Triune God up close. That vaunted position gave him a limited understanding of what the Most High is like. He knew enough of God's greatness to become jealous but apparently not enough to know rebellion against him was doomed to fail.

The Tender Mercies of the Wicked Are Cruel

Based upon this imperfect knowledge of God, Satan seeks to counterfeit and pervert the attributes of the Most High to further his own demonic agenda. The Apostle Paul warned of this spiritual treachery in the New Testament. 2 Corinthians 11:14–15 states, "And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works."

Satan, with regularity, uses religion as a demonic instrument of deception to mask his intent to kill, steal, and destroy. This is why the powers of darkness and the enemies of the cross parade "ministers"

around to grant religious endorsement to legitimize their abominations. These so-called “ministers” are a part of a propaganda machine utilized by Satan to dupe the masses. Unfortunately, many have fallen under their deceptive spell.

In the name of love, compassion, tolerance, and mercy, Satan is killing, stealing, and destroying the humanity that Christ died to redeem. G.K. Chesterton summed up well this sorry state of affairs by stating, “The modern world is full of old Christian virtues gone mad.” Chesterton’s statement reveals how man, duped by Satan, misapplies and misappropriates the virtues of Christianity to justify wickedness.

Proverbs 12:10b concurs, “But the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.” This truth manifests in the horrific practice of abortion and the perverse advancement of the homosexual agenda. Behind the deadly influence of Planned Parenthood lurks the *Angel of Light*. Aided by his human puppets, *ministers of righteousness* who clothe themselves in compassion for women, Satan is able to commit the unspeakable with impunity. These ravenous wolves in sheep’s clothing rip apart the very image of God. They throw away precious children like pieces of trash, all the while smiling and assuring the children’s mothers they are only there to help.

The liberal religious establishment ushered in birth control and abortion-on-demand in the 1960s and 1970s. Today, Planned Parenthood promotes abortion as a “sacred choice,” and their spokespersons contend that to restrict abortion is to restrict religious freedom. My wife, Kendra, documented these truths in her book, *Abortion Rites: How Feminist Spirituality is Reframing the Abortion Debate*. In great detail, she reveals how abortion advocates went to great lengths to provide religious cover to their movement steeped in blood.

In the same cunning fashion, the homosexual rights juggernaut continues to crush everything moral, decent, and holy in its path—all in the name of love, tolerance, and compassion. Homosexual young people make up thirty percent of completed suicides. One in five HIV positive men today were infected during adolescence. Unmistakably, these monstrosities are savaging our children.

In addition, America's largest corporations are being blackmailed to capitulate to the ever-increasing demands of the political arm of the homosexual rights movement. Tolerance is touted as the supreme American virtue, as homosexuals establish a caucus in Congress. Worst of all, Christians who preach against homosexuality are being classified as a "hate group" by our culture of George Orwellian New-speak.

The tactic of the enemy to misapply and misappropriate the virtues of Christianity has been highly successful in the court of public opinion and in the judicial courts of America. While wrapping immorality in the American flag and "Christian virtues," the enemies of the cross appear to have effectively neutralized the church (who wants to appear judgmental in an age when the idol of tolerance rules the day?).

Satan's Targets in the Battle

"And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born." (Revelation 12:3-4).

It is significant to note that this particular child received the full attention of the devil himself. Obviously, the child struck such terror in the heart of the enemy. To the point that he felt compelled to deal with this child before this child dealt with him. With great malice, the dragon positions himself before the woman to destroy her child as soon as he is born.

The devil does not send an imp, a principality, a power, or a ruler of darkness to devour the child. No, he has reserved the dastardly deed for himself. His worst fears are upon him and he cannot afford to send one of his cronies. What is the source of his dread? Revelation 12:5 states, "She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne."

The Bible teaches and history affirms that Satan failed in his attempt to destroy the Christ Child. Eventually, he did bruise Christ's heel,

but received a crushed head for his trouble. Although a defeated foe, the devil still attempts to either neutralize or destroy two remaining targets. The first is revealed in Revelations 12:17, “And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”

This Scripture makes known the enemy of our souls is not enraged or concerned about the pagan, the unbeliever, the liberal apostate church, the lukewarm or carnal Christian. Just as with our Master before us, he becomes livid about those who obey the commandments of God and hold fast to the testimony of Jesus Christ.

In this battle, you must understand a true child of God was picked out to be picked on. If you love God by obeying his commandments and holding fast to the testimony of Jesus, you might as well paint a bull’s-eye on your chest because you will become a target. Why? Because you threaten the enemy by following the one who is Conqueror and is conquering.

The Apostles provide great examples on how they responded to the attacks of the Evil One. After they were beaten, threatened, and commanded not to speak anymore in the name of Jesus, the Bible declares, “And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name” (Acts 5:41). They rejoiced to be found worthy to suffer harm for the Lord’s sake.

There is a marked difference between the saints of the past and today’s church. If, God forbid, we ever suffer hurt in the struggle, we tend to murmur, complain, or retreat. Perhaps, it is time that we grew up and matured in the faith. After all, saving faith is what overcomes the world (1 John 5:4).

The second target of Satan is the seed of man. It is important to realize the fierce dragon is no longer waiting for the child to be born. The dragon is reaching into the very sanctuary of the womb to devour children daily. Biblically and historically, whenever Satan rears his ugly head, children die.

Matthew 18:1–3 grants some insight into his murderous ways. The Apostles were bickering and competing over who was to be greatest in the Kingdom of God. Jesus placed a child in their midst and used him as an object lesson so that they might understand the mystery of the Kingdom. In essence, Jesus asserted lest they become like this child, they would not enter the Kingdom.

In another passage, Jesus made a more startling comparison between children and the Kingdom. In Matthew 19:13–15 the Bible describes how families were bringing their little children to the Lord. They were seeking his blessing upon them. Instead of the disciples welcoming the opportunity, they rebuked the families and tried to send them away. Jesus, somewhat angered by this folly, declared, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

This statement reveals why Satan goes after the seed of man with such fury. Jesus equated children with the kingdom of God. Our adversary understands the implications of this compelling statement.

Satan can coexist with the message of salvation, but he cannot afford to allow the revelation of the Kingdom to grip the hearts of the seed of man. For in the revelation of the Kingdom is the toll of his demise.

We must understand that Satan is like the Mafia in this regard. It is not personal; it is just business. The Mafia can know, and even like, the one they contract to kill for a price. They murder all the while assuring the victim, "It's not personal; it's just business!"

Satan operates under this same premise. To him, it is just good business to destroy the seed of man. If this is the case, than what is Satan's business? Most Christians would say his business is to kill, steal, and destroy (John 10:10). That answer, however, is not sufficient enough to explain the underlying reasons for his lying, murderous ways.

Simply stated, Satan's business is survival! He understands what is at stake in this battle, much more than the church of Jesus Christ. His agenda is to kill or be dispossessed. This reveals why abortion at its core is not a political/social issue, but a Kingdom/Gospel issue. Satan

knows what the church, either through ignorance or denial, refuses to acknowledge. Each child destroyed is one who may become a threat against Satan and his schemes.

Psalm 127:3–5 proclaims, “Behold, children *are* a heritage from the Lord, The fruit of the womb *is* a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So *are* the children of one’s youth. Happy *is* the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed, But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.”

Satan fears the fulfillment of that Psalm. He cringes at the mere thought of families having many children/arrows shot from the bow of family and church. He fears Kingdom children who will arise to possess the gates of their enemies, to take him on and take him out.

Why do you think our culture and even the church, adopts an anti-child bias? Why are children the least favorite “blessing” of professing Christians? Why in our day, is barrenness a “blessing” and a fruitful womb a “curse” in the minds of many?

In God’s Word, the complete opposite is true. In fact, godly women of old wept at the prospect of a barren womb (1 Samuel 1; Genesis 30:1). They exceedingly rejoiced when blessed with many children.

In 1912, the average American family consisted of nine children. Today, the national average is 2.2 children. How can this be, when God declares, “Happy *is* the man who has his quiver full of them” (Psalm 127:5). The actual number of a “quiver full” is not the issue. The real concern is that we are in a battle and children are God’s kingdom ammunition. When in a war zone, how many bullets do you want, 2.2 or as many as God will bless you with?

Satan has worked overtime to dupe man into accepting abortion-on-demand, contraceptives, day-care centers, and government-sponsored schools. If he fails through contraceptives, abortion, and homosexuality to prevent children from being born, his contingent plan is to separate them from father and mother after they are born. In this way, he can continue his dastardly schemes against the seed of man. If he cannot destroy the seed of man in the womb, he has a whole array of schemes set up to waylay our young outside of the womb.

War in Heaven

“And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him” (Revelation 12:7-9).

From this passage of Scripture, we glean the first sin was actually committed not in the garden with Adam and Eve but in heaven with Lucifer. It was there that the kingdom of God suffered the initial split. As a result, God banished Satan and his imps from heaven and confined them to planet Earth.

Do you not find it strange that God created and strategically placed innocent man in the same neighborhood with his nemesis? What can we make of this difficult situation? Was God subjecting man to the wiles of this fallen angel as a cruel joke? I think not! We have to dig a little deeper to discern God’s strategy. If we fail, we will lose sight of our purpose and remain blind to God’s redemptive plan.

For years, I have cried out to God, “Lord, you have the power to annihilate the enemy. You can just say the word and his reign of terror would cease to exist. Why do you allow the struggle to continue? Why all the blood, sweat, and tears century after century?” This mystery is revealed in the vision and mission of Jesus Christ. God became flesh and dwelt among us as a man to defeat Satan and redeem man from sin.

Based upon this truth, I believe God chose to redeem man so he could take the victory of Christ and defeat the enemy. This earth is the battleground and man upon it has a God-ordained destiny. Ultimately, it is to repair the breach in God’s kingdom in heaven before the world began.

For many Christians, this is a foreign idea. They think the primary purpose of their creation is to worship God on Sunday by singing hymns. Is this the primary purpose for the creation of man? God has a myriad of angels to sing his praise. Obviously, God wanting a contingent choir to sing on planet Earth cannot possibly define the

whole purpose for this battle. Does God truly need a backup singing choir, in case he is not satisfied with the praise of angels?

I am not trying to belittle the importance of singing as a form of worship. Worship is something God has commanded us to do. He inhabits the praise of his people (Psalms 22:3). To view worship just in terms of singing, however, is to lose sight of the meaning of worship. Worship is a lifestyle defined by the beauty of holiness and a life of obedience, in the midst of this grave conflict. That is why God commanded Israel to put their songs and instruments away and let justice run down like water and righteousness like a mighty stream (Amos 5:21-24). God was chastising Israel for viewing the worship he desired as a song service, instead of a life dedicated to establishing his justice and righteousness in the Earth.

Let's face it, on a human level, most Christians did not sign up for a war when they gave their life to Christ. Many signed up to be blessed or to go to heaven when they die. Some signed up to be a better parent. Others signed up to obtain peace, health, and prosperity.

Most, however, were not told by the preacher that when they made peace with God through the merits of Jesus Christ, they declared war on God's enemies. In my case, it did not take long after tasting the goodness of God's salvation for me to realize that something or someone out there did not like me. The battle was on. All of a sudden, the good Word of God that tasted like honey on my lips turned bitter in my belly, as God began to call me from the playground of American Christianity to the battleground of Biblical Christianity (Revelation 10:9).

The Battlefield

The war was instigated by Satan in heaven but God declared war on earth (Genesis 3:15). This war continues to this day. It is the same God, same devil, same truth, same lie, same heaven and hell, yet the battlefield of the war shifts in every generation. Our great need is for watchmen, prophetic reformers, to stand upon the wall to discern the point of contact where the battlefield of the war is manifesting in our generation.

For instance, if you were born 150 years ago, whether you liked it or not, believed in it or not, or participated in it or not, the battlefront of the war was slavery. God used a legal issue, states' rights versus federal power, to judge our nation concerning a grave moral issue. It cost America over six hundred thousand lives before America finally relented and let the slaves go free. The battlefront was slavery. We had to deal with it because God was dealing with us.

The same holds true if you lived during the time of America's pursuit to become a free and independent nation in the earth. Whether you liked it or not, believed in it or not, or participated in it or not, the battlefront of the war was the American Revolution. The battlefront of the war was tyranny versus liberty. Americans longed to be free from the despotism of England.

It is imperative the people of God discern the battlefront in this generation. We must not only recognize it, we must run to the roar that proceeds from it. The church today must perceive that the battlefront raging in America for the souls of men, the lives of children, and for the future of our nation is now abortion and homosexuality. These are the toxic roots, and the threat of Islam is the dangerous fruit.

No nation that killed its own babies and allowed homosexuality to flourish has survived to brag about it. These two sins threaten our national security and future hope. The church must gather her spiritual weapons and muster beneath the cross once again. The church must arise to stop the advancement of lawlessness, lest God arise with flaming fire to take vengeance against our spoiled, wicked nation. We must fight this spiritual battle to give God a reason to show us mercy, even as our nation, like a spoiled brat, begs for his judgment. The battle is on. Will you answer the call? If not you, then whom? If not now, then when?

IN KING JESUS' SERVICE,

Rev. Rusty Lee Thomas

For more information contact:

Rev. Rusty Lee Thomas

P.O. Box 3126

Waco, TX 76707

Email:

rusty@elijahmin.com or mail@statesofrefuge.org

Websites:

**www.operationsaveamerica.org www.elijahmin.com
www.statesofrefuge.org**