## Chapter One

# Shedding Innocent Blood; The Spirit Of Cain

Since the Roe v. Wade verdict in 1973, nearly 50,000,000 American babies have been aborted. That's an average of 1.3 million innocent lives lost each year, 3,600 per day, because our laws say that it's legal. Just because some government officials determine, with the support of many people within our land, that something is legal does not mean that it is moral. Being the Supreme Judge over all mankind, what does God say?

In Genesis 4 we have the first recorded case of murder among mankind. It just so happens to be among the first two sons born to Adam and Eve. One day Cain, the first born, and his brother Abel, brought offerings to the Lord. The Bible says that the Lord looked with favor upon Abel's offering, but not upon Cain's. Hebrews 11:4 states, "By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained the testimony that he was righteous, God testifying about his gifts, and through faith, though he is dead, he still speaks."

Cain became very angry. The Lord then said to him, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it." This was God's warning to the murderous thoughts that were forming within Cain. If he did not take control of those thoughts they would soon take control of him. An evil act always originates from an unchecked evil thought.

Verse 8 tells us that one day after this encounter with God, the two brothers were together in the field. Not acting upon God's warning, Cain's anger took control over him. In a fit of rage, because of envy and jealousy, he slew his innocent brother.

Knowing what had taken place, God came to Cain and asked him, "Where is Abel your brother?" Cain's response was, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?" The Hebrew for "keeper" is "shamar". It means "to guard, to watch, to protect." The right answer to his calloused response is "Yes, you are his keeper."

The Lord then said to Cain, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to Me from the ground." If God could hear the cry of one man's innocent blood that was shed upon the land, what does the sound of 50,000,000 aborted babies sound like? It must be deafening.

The ensuing judgment of God on the land and Cain personally should concern us. He said in verses11-12, "And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you cultivate the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you; you shall be a vagrant and a wanderer on the earth."

All of Cain's efforts to make the cursed land produce thereafter would prove fruitless. His unrepentant sin of shedding his innocent brother's blood literally affected the producing capabilities of the physical earth around him. Throughout the Scriptures you see God's judgment being poured out on the land in one form or another for man's sin. Droughts and famines were a direct result of sin's dominion over mankind. This was not God's original intent for His creation.

There are many "fruitless" efforts today within the church. In Haggai 1:5-6 the Lord said to His people, "Give careful thought to your ways. You have planted much, but have harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it." We need to give careful thought to our ways. Much of our recent efforts by the church have produced very little righteousness within our society. We have not yet made the connection between the sin of God's people and the moral and economic freefall of this nation.

Cain's sentencing for shedding innocent blood also included that he would be a "vagrant and a wanderer on the earth." The Hebrew word for vagrant means "to waver, to totter, to stagger." Because of Israel's sin of turning away from the Lord, He declared in Amos 4:6-9, "I gave you empty stomachs in every city and lack of bread in every town, yet you have not returned to me," declares the LORD. 'I also withheld rain from you when the harvest was still three months away. I sent rain on one town, but withheld it from another. One field had rain; another had none and dried up. **People staggered** (the same Hebrew word interpreted as "vagrant" in Genesis 4:12) from town to town for water but did not get enough to drink, yet you have not returned to me," declares the LORD. 'Many times I struck your gardens and vineyards, I struck them with blight and mildew. Locusts devoured your fig and olive trees, yet you have not returned to me," declares the LORD."

Many stagger from church to church looking for some "living water" and "Bread of Life," only to come out with a mouthful of sand. This is due to the judgment of famine within the churches of America. The drought, desert like conditions within the majority of our congregations are a direct result of foolish, self-glorifying shepherds who speak their own words and doctrines. Instead of instructing God's people to turn away from sin, their doctrines strengthen the hands of "evildoers" (Jeremiah 23:14).

Amos 8:11-13 describes our nation's present state. The prophet cried out, "'Behold, days are coming,' declares the Lord GOD, 'When I will send a famine on the land, not a famine for bread or a thirst for water, but rather for hearing the words of the LORD. And **people will stagger ("wander")** from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east; they will go to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, but they will not find it. In that day the beautiful virgins and the young men will faint from thirst."

Amos was sent to prophecy to his rebellious countrymen, declaring the Lord's indictment of Israel. He revealed the spiritual corruption under religious formalism and material prosperity (Amos 5:12, 21), severely rebuking the leaders for their deteriated national state. Israel's rebuke is our rebuke. We have become just like them, or even worse. It's been said if God doesn't judge America soon He will have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah.

Amos also pointed out their total disregard for human rights. In chapter 2, verses 6-7 he says, "This is what the LORD says: "For three sins of Israel, even for four, I will not turn back. They

sell the righteous for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals. They trample on the heads of the poor as upon the dust of the ground and deny justice to the oppressed." Due to greed and self-indulgence, many Christians have bought into the self-glorifying prosperity doctrine of demons for themselves while the needs of the poor and the oppressed go unmet. This is not the "pure and undefiled religion" spoken of in James 1:27.

Satan's deceived ambassadors, the "prosperity gospel" preachers, will be destroyed in this nation. Their blood should be the first blood required by God to atone for the innocent blood of our babies. God's children go without while these blind fools fleece the flock. Their defiled flesh will fuel hell's fires.

"Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain, and for pay they have rushed headlong into the error of Balaam, and perished in the rebellion of Korah. These men are those who are hidden reefs in your love feasts when they feast with you without fear, caring for themselves; clouds without water, carried along by winds; autumn trees without fruit, doubly dead, uprooted; wild waves of the sea, casting up their own shame like foam; wandering stars (like Cain), for whom the black darkness has been reserved forever... These are grumblers, finding fault, following after their own lusts; they speak arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of gaining an advantage" (Jude 11-16).

Peter speaks of these wandering Cain-spirited prophets, saying in 2 Peter 3:15-18, "regard the patience of our Lord to be salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction. You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard lest, being carried away by the error of unprincipled men, you fall from your own steadfastness (NIV- "your secure position")..."

There are a couple of words in this passage that enforce what we have been talking about. The phrase "carried away" in verse 17 comes from the Greek word "sunapago". It means "to lead away with or together; to experience with others the force

of what carries away." This implies that you can be swept away, or seduced, along with those whom you are associating.

Another important word to define is "error." The Greek for this is "plane". It is described as "a wandering, one led astray from the right way." Metaphorically speaking, it speaks of "a mental straying; an error, a wrong opinion relative to morals or religion." This describes those who wander from the paths of righteousness, like Cain. They are led astray by deceitfulness or fraud.

The last word is the Greek for "unprincipled," which is "athesmos". It denotes "one who breaks through the restraint of law and gratifies his lusts." In other words, he is lawless, like Cain. Peter is clearly warning Christians to be careful lest we wander from the truth, fellowshipping with those walking in lawlessness, and fall from our "secure position" in Christ. God removed Cain from His presence. Today, we allow him to dwell in our midst, not understanding the consequences incurred through the leavening affect of that spirit.

In 2 Thessalonians 2 Paul speaks of events surrounding "the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." He says that "it will not come unless the apostasy (the falling away from the faith) comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction." This is why you must disassociate yourself from all those carried away in the great apostasy that has taken place within the church of America. Their harlotries will become even more evident in the days ahead as the pressure increases, exposing their idolatrous hearts.

2 Thessalonians 2:10-12, speaking further concerning the "lawless" ones, says, "because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. And for this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence (KJV- "strong delusion") so that they might believe what is false, in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness." The Greek for "delusion" is "plane", the same word interpreted "error" in 2 Peter 3:17. Due to the lawless ones heart not loving the truth of God so as to be saved, He sends them a very convincing lie.

It's not just any lie, but one with convincing, powerful works around it. This strong delusion is already operating within the majority of American churches. While many connect this passage with the coming person named Antichrist, they do not see themselves also within these verses. The spirit of antichrist that is already working within many rebellious hearts in the church has deceived them. Because of their desire for wickedness instead of righteousness, they have wandered from the Truth, Jesus Christ, and have fallen (the great apostasy) from their once secure position. They are "lawless" in their behavior before God, having now become sons of destruction.

In God's eyes, if you do not separate yourself from the guilty, you will also be guilty by association of the heart (we call it "fellowship"). The Lord warns His people through John in Revelation 18:4-5, "Come out of her (Babylon, the harlot bride of Christ), my people, that you may not participate in her sins and that you may not receive of her plagues (which means "a public calamity, a heavy affliction")." When the Lord says "My people" He makes Himself perfectly clear. His people, Christians, will be judged if they do not separate themselves from those who are sinning. We are not exempt from His wrath if walking in willful disobedience. In fact, as we will see, the exact opposite is true.

## **Chapter Two**

## The Guilt Of Babylon

The word Babylon means "confusion," or "confusion by mixing." In the book of Revelation, she represents the portion of the Body of Christ that mixes error with truth for her own glorification. They are guilty of spiritual prostitution with the world while being betrothed to Christ. Through the seduction of idolatry they lead others away from devotion to Him. Babylon is filled with deceptive spirits. As we will see by the Scriptures, her judgment will be most severe.

In describing spiritual Babylon, John says in Revelation 17:5-6, "This title was written on her forehead: MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of those who bore testimony to Jesus. When I saw her, I was greatly astonished." Like Cain, this religious prostitute, whose heart sacrifice is unacceptable before the Lord, has been killing her brotherly saints since the beginning of mankind. The self-exalting, prideful, murderous spirit of Cain is the root issue of Babylon.

Metaphorically, the Greek word for "drunk" in verse 6 is used of one who has shed blood or murdered profusely. As Cain murdered his righteous brother Abel, so has Babylon in spirit toward her accepted righteous brothers. She is the bitter seducer of God's people, the "wandering-in-heart" impostor like Cain who misleads God's people into error (see Jude 11-13). This is why her judgment is the greatest of all on earth. Like those who crucified Jesus, her hands are filled with blood; the righteous blood of her innocent brothers.

The Greek for "MOTHER" in Revelation 17:5 is "meter". Metaphorically, it is defined as "the source of something, the motherland." She is the source of all harlotry, the progenitor of all idolatrous practice in the world. The tower of Babel in

Genesis 11 was an attempt by man to exalt himself above God, symbolizing his pride and rebellion. This unmastered sin of wanting to be like God (the temptation given to Eve in the garden) that crouches at the heart of all mankind must be mastered. The only way for this to happen is through humbly submitting to God's government, His rule and dominion over sin, to overrule our evil desires.

The curse of Cain's bitterness toward his righteous brother has been passed down to every succeeding generation since the original murder. It all began with an "unmastered" sin. Actually, the original sin was placed before Adam and Eve by the serpent. The product of their fallen nature is first revealed in the murderous heart of their "natural" seed, Cain. Only through the seed of Abraham, Jesus Christ, can this curse be broken (Galatians 3:16).

Revelation 18:24 says that "In her (Babylon) was found the blood of prophets and of the saints, and of **all** who have been killed on the earth." This verse is stating that all of the innocent blood shed upon the earth was found in her. Why is Babylon guilty of "all"? The previous verse gives us the answer. Verse 23 says, "because all the nations were deceived by your sorcery."

The Greek for "deceived" is "planao". It is taken from the Greek word interpreted as "error" in 2 Peter 3:17. It means "to wander, to lead aside from the right way, to deceive, to lead into error, to sever or fall away from the truth." Babylon is the source, the "mother" for the great falling away from the faith among God's people mentioned in 2 Thessalonians 2 at the end of this age.

The word for "sorcery" is "pharmakeia". It means "witchcraft, magic, medication, the use or the administering of drugs, poisoning." It is where we got our English word "pharmacy" from. Metaphorically, it speaks of the deceptions and seductions of idolatry. "Babylonian" falsehood always has this type of affect on a person's mind. It seduces us, like Eve, into believing and then acting upon a lie from the devil. As with Adam and Eve, and Cain, the result is always separation from the presence of God.

In chapter six of my book "Walking In The Light," which is entitled "Witchcraft And The Growth Of A Disciple", I write;

"false prophets, through their words, are administering demonic 'drugs' (sorcery) to the minds of those who listen and mistakenly receive their words as truth. These deceived leaders unknowingly pass on their poisonous lies to those who are naively receiving them. If accepted as truth in the mind and heart, the individual ends up like the drug addict who not only rejects the Head's original message of truth, but desires more of the lies that are destroying it.

The false word is like a false neurotransmitter in the body that affects the understanding and response of the 'second messenger' (mankind) to the message. As they continue to accept the 'fine sounding arguments' of the deceived leader, not listening to the check of the Holy Spirit within them, their hearts are in danger of being given over to a state of no return. They are placed under the 'spell' induced through the falsehood being declared in the name of the Lord, much like a drug addict is. False prophets are, in reality, practicing witchcraft in the house of God! If they do not repent, they will be exposed and destroyed by the Lord."

In Acts 8 we are given the account of Philip proclaiming Christ to the people in the city of Samaria. As they heard and saw the miraculous signs which he was doing in His name, many believed and were baptized. Acts 8:9-11 states, "But there was a certain man called Simon, who previously practiced sorcery in the city and astonished the people of Samaria, claiming that he was someone great, to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, 'This man is the great power of God.' And they heeded him because he had astonished them with his sorceries for a long time."

The word "astonished" is taken from the Greek word "existemi". It means "to put out of wits, to throw out of position, to displace." It is taken from two other words that denotes "origin (the point where action or motion proceeds), out of, away from", and "to set, to make firm, to stand." The two words imply a moving out of, or away from, a firm position. This defines the fruit of Simon the sorcerer's so called "power of God."

He represents the deceived, false prophets of Babylon. Through their sorceries, or witchcraft, God's children are led away from their firm, secure position in Himself. This is the "error of unprincipled men" spoken of earlier in 2 Peter 3:17. The fruit of their teachings is the numerous amount of covenant breakers that now make up the church in America.

Remember, verse 13 tells us that Simon believed and was baptized. When he desired to purchase the power to lay hands on people to receive the Holy Spirit, Peter tells this new believer in Christ, "May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money! You have no part or share in this ministry, because your heart is not right before God. Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive you for having such a thought in your heart. For I see that you are full of bitterness and captive to sin (just like Cain!)." His unacceptable sacrifice was appalling to Peter. I think that quite a few in America's present religious circles would have met his desire. For sowing a "seed of faith" in their ministries he could have received a greater "power" of sorcery than what he had before!

#### **Babylon Removes God's Protective Railing**

Deuteronomy 22:8 states, "When you build a new house, make a parapet around your roof so that you may not bring the guilt of bloodshed on your house if someone falls from the roof." According to Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary, a parapet is "a railing, wall, or latticework around the edge of the flat roofs of Palestinian houses, required by Mosaic law as a protection against accidents."

A responsibility of someone building a new house was to place a railing around the roof to protect others. If you did not, you would be guilty of innocent bloodshed. You may say "That's not fair! I didn't push them over the edge. They fell off because of their own carelessness." Yes, they will be held responsible for their own choices, but this reinforces that we are indeed our brother's keeper. God holds His family responsible for one another's welfare. In God's eyes we are guilty if we are not watching out for our brother and sister, making it more difficult for them to "fall away" from God's house

through the establishment of a railing of truth. In Philippians 2:3-4 Paul admonishes us to "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others."

This is why judgment begins in the house of God. The world is deceived, being held captive by Satan to do his will. The church on the other hand, is held to a much higher standard. We have been given revelation by the Holy Spirit concerning God's standard. Therefore, to whom much is given, much is required (Luke 12:48).

I believe this represents an important building code for God's house. We need a "railing," so to speak, around the periphery. If someone gets too close to the edge with nothing set in place to restrain them, they may fall (away) to their demise. It is our responsibility within His house to build according to the plans laid out for us in His word. Paul warns us in 1 Corinthians 3 to be careful how we build upon the foundation of Jesus Christ that he laid. He says in verse 13 that "each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it, because it is to be revealed with fire; and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work."

The wall around the edge is the restraining force of truth God wants us to establish. The discipline of the Lord we are commanded to enforce is the restraining factor to lovingly keep His children from "falling away" (apostasy) to their death. If we do not put up the wall, the guilt of their blood falls upon us. If they choose to jump the well established railing the guilt is upon them.

Is this also why the blood of all who have been slain on earth is upon the house of Babylon (Rev. 18:24)? Having known better concerning the ways of God, they did not "build" as they should have. Instead, they built according to their own codes, or standards. Because of not watching out for others (being their "brothers keeper"), but instead watching out for themselves, they are guilty of innocent bloodshed. This is why God must judge her (Rev. 18:4-5).

If you are associated with this religious whore in any way you must repent and get out quickly before the Lord's wrath is poured out upon her. Knowing that the anointing was on David,

Jonathan died fighting for his father Saul's house. He would not leave the sinking ship. His allegiance to the "Titanic" cost him his life.

Again, God holds Babylon, the mother of abominations, guilty for not placing a "railing" around His house. Instead, through their false teachings, they remove the boundary that protects God's children from "falling away" from the safety of the house to their destruction.

Proverbs 22:28 declares, "Do not move the ancient boundary which your fathers have set." Babylon defiantly ignores this command. She will not only be held guilty of the blood of the righteous that she has killed in her jealous rage like Cain, but also of all those who have wandered off her roof and died. According to the word of God, the mass murder of millions of aborted babies is also being charged to her account. Her sins have now piled up as high as heaven. Which child will be the tipping point, pouring out God's wrath upon the guilty?

The fruit of the demonic doctrines that rule at the heart of Babylon is the "vagrant," divided hearts of many within the church of America. The restless, wandering spirit within many today in the church is an external manifestation of a "wavering" internal commitment, like Cain, to Christ. As with Cain, it is proven by our half-hearted sacrificial offerings we bring to the Lord. The righteous judgment of the Lord that will only increase within our borders has been initiated by Him to get our eyes off everything else, and back onto Himself. To the church in America the Lord says, as He did through Amos to Israel, "I did all these things in judgment against you, yet you have not returned to Me."

1 John 3:11-12 says, "For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another; not as Cain, who was of the evil one, and slew his brother. And for what reason did he slay him? Because his deeds were evil, and his brother's were righteous." This is happening today amongst God's people. Jealousy and envy flows out of a heart that is not offering up itself as an acceptable sacrifice.

If not mastered, murderous thoughts will take dominion within the hearts of those whose living sacrifice is unacceptable before God. They will become angry toward their righteous brothers who have been shown favor for their acceptable sacrifice. They are similar in spirit to Joseph's brothers who also wanted to kill him.

The aimless wandering within our nation of many from town to town and church to church will continue to increase until the sheep are taught by the Lord's true shepherds to master the sin that is crouching at the door of their hearts. Otherwise, they will be held guilty by association with Babylon of all who have been killed on the earth.

Some might say "How can I be held guilty before God of abortion when I never had one, or was involved in any way with the medical procedure?" In an article entitled "When Are You Guilty By Being 'Present' At A Crime Scene?", written in the website "Forensic-Evidence.com," there is a discussion whether or not a person can be declared guilty of murder, even if they were not at the crime scene physically committing the act. They state;

"Normally, criminal liability is predicated upon the doing of an act, usually by the defendant. Early in the development of the common law, however, courts recognized that criminal liability could be predicated upon conduct done by a party other than the actual perpetrator of a crime, for whose conduct a defendant should be held responsible. In an early Illinois case, Usselton v. People, 149 Ill. 612, 36 N.E. 952 (1894), the concept of 'principals' and 'accessories' was described:

'By the ancient common law . . . those persons only were considered principals who committed the overt act, while those who were present, aiding and abetting, where deemed accessories at the fact, and those who, not being present had advised and encouraged the perpetration of the crime, were deemed accessories before the fact. . . . [I]t seems to have been settled as the law that he who was present, aiding and abetting in the crime, was to be considered [as guilty as] a principal. . . . And this continued to be the common law as it was adopted in this State.'

Thus, actually committing a criminal act is not the only way in which a person can be convicted of that crime. It is easily understood that a person who is engaged with another in the commission of a crime is also responsible for the others' acts committed during the pursuit of a common criminal venture. This is all part of what the law calls being a 'party to the crime of another' and falls in the category of 'criminal accountability.'"

This is a good law because it aligns with the word of God, which is the basis for all civil order. All who are "engaged with another in the commission of" abortion through agreement are part of what I believe God also calls "being a party to the crime of another."

Every vote for a government official who is for abortion is another piece of evidence that will place you in the category of "criminal accountability." In God's eyes you are as guilty as the doctor who spills their blood. Only through repentance, which releases the atoning blood of Jesus on your behalf, may your sins be forgiven and you declared innocent by the highest judge of all, God Almighty.

### Chapter Three

## **Polluting The Land**

Psalm 106 speaks of Israel's rebellion against the Lord as he led them out of Egypt and into the Promised Land. They had been commanded by God to destroy the peoples of the lands they were going in to possess. Verses 35-39 tell us that instead "they mingled with the nations, and learned their practices, and served their idols, which became a snare to them. They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to the demons, and shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and their daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; and the land was polluted with the blood. Thus they became unclean in their practices, and played the harlot in their deeds."

By intermingling with the pagan people they were supposed to destroy, Israel played the harlot, joining in their idol worship. They even went so far as to sacrifice their children to the idols of Canaan! This is exactly what has happened in America. We now sacrifice our children to demons through abortion on the world's altars of convenience and self-indulgence. We have, by our deeds, joined in polluting the land with the innocent blood of 50,000,000 babies! The evil must be purged from our midst.

God's people in this nation have "intermingled" with unbelievers to the extent that we have learned and put into practice their ways. Instead of the church influencing the world, the world influences the church. According to Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28 that is a sign of God's judgment. We are no longer the head, but instead have become the tail which wags at the world's stroking.

The institutional church that we are familiar with in the United States of America now exports her harlotries all over the world through radio and television, performing spiritual abortions worldwide with our pagan doctrines and practices. The abortion industry is a reflection of the spiritual abortions occurring

through ungodly practices within the church. I will explain this statement in greater depth in chapter 9.

Because of idolatry, the church in America has become "unclean" in the eyes of God, making everything we touch "unclean." We live in a sick society because we, the church, are sick. Our profaned land cries out under the burden of guilt placed upon her by those who have shed mass amounts of innocent blood. The daily cries of the innocent for justice upon the guilty will soon be fulfilled by the Lord. Their blood will soon spatter His garment (Isaiah 63:1-6).

The Lord said in Ezekiel 36:17-18, "Son of man, when the house of Israel was living in their own land, they defiled it by their ways and their deeds; their way before Me was like the uncleanness of a woman in her impurity. Therefore, I poured out My wrath on them for the blood which they had shed on the land, because they had defiled it with their idols." How much of His wrath will be poured out on American soil for the blood that we have shed?

In Numbers 35:33-34 the Lord commanded Moses, "So you shall not pollute the land where you are; for blood defiles the land, and no atonement can be made for the land, for the blood that is shed on it, except by the blood of him who shed it. Therefore do not defile the land which you inhabit, in the midst of which I dwell; for I the LORD dwell among the children of Israel." Apart from Christ, innocent blood cannot be atoned for except through the blood of the one who took it. In God's eyes, all who agree and cast their vote for those who promote shedding the blood of innocent babies through abortion are just as guilty as the doctor performing the procedure. Apart from repentance, the guilty person's blood must be shed in order to atone for the land. This is God's law.

He told Noah in Genesis 9:6, "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man." Capital punishment was instituted by God for the revenge of the shedding of innocent blood. If God requires life for life, blood for blood, that would be 50,000,000 lives for 50,000,000 babies. That is 1/6 of our current population!

1 Kings 2:29-34 deals with the avenging of Joab for the innocent blood he shed. The guilt of his crime rested upon him

and his descendants. It says, "King Solomon was told that Joab had fled to the tent of the LORD and was beside the altar. Then Solomon ordered Benaiah son of Jehoiada, 'Go, strike him down!' So Benaiah entered the tent of the LORD and said to Joab, 'The king says, 'Come out!' But he answered, 'No, I will die here.' Benaiah reported to the king, 'This is how Joab answered me.' Then the king commanded Benaiah, 'Do as he says. Strike him down and bury him, and so clear me and my father's house of the guilt of the innocent blood that Joab shed. The LORD will repay him for the blood he shed, because without the knowledge of my father David he attacked two men and killed them with the sword. Both of them, Abner son of Ner, commander of Israel's army, and Amasa son of Jether, commander of Judah's army, were better men and more upright than he. May the guilt of their blood rest on the head of Joab and his descendants forever. But on David and his descendants, his house and his throne, may there be the LORD's peace forever.' So Benaiah son of Jehoiada went up and struck down Joab and killed him, and he was buried on his own land in the desert."

2 Kings 24:1-4 also speaks of another time when the Lord's judgment was poured out on the people for their leader's sin of shedding innocent blood. It caused them to be removed from "During Jehoiakim's presence. lt says, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon invaded the land, and Jehoiakim became his vassal for three years. But then he changed his mind and rebelled against Nebuchadnezzar. The LORD sent Babylonian, Aramean, Moabite and Ammonite raiders against him. He sent them to destroy Judah, in accordance with the word of the LORD proclaimed by his servants the prophets. Surely these things happened to Judah according to the LORD's command, in order to remove them from his presence because of the sins of Manasseh and all he had done, including the shedding of innocent blood. For he had filled Jerusalem with innocent blood, and the LORD was not willing to forgive." Will He be willing to forgive our nation for our great sin?

#### The Avenger Of Blood

Deuteronomy 19:10-13 refers to someone called the "avenger of blood". It says, "So innocent blood will not be shed in the midst of your land which the LORD your God gives you as an inheritance, and bloodguiltiness be on you. But if there is a man who hates his neighbor and lies in wait for him (like Cain) and rises up against him and strikes him so that he dies, and he flees to one of these cities, then the elders of his city shall send and take him from there and deliver him into the hand of the avenger of blood, that he may die. You shall not pity him, but you shall purge the blood of the innocent from Israel, that it may go well with you."

According to Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary, the "Avenger of Blood" was a relative responsible for avenging an injury to a member of his family or clan, especially murder (Deut. 19:6, 12; 2 Samuel 14:11).

It was said to be a kind of "primitive justice that existed among the various families, clans, and tribes of the ancient Hebrews in the Old Testament. Being related by blood, each of these groups was responsible for the care and protection of its own members, even to the point of avenging wrongs inflicted upon the clan. This responsibility fell to the victim's closest relative, who would seek to find and kill the murderer (Judges 8:18-21)..."

The Law of Moses established certain guidelines or limits concerning the avenger of blood. "Six cities of refuge were established to which the slayer could flee for protection. If someone killed another by accident, he was not necessarily liable to punishment (Deut. 19:4-6). The community would decide if the crime was murder or manslaughter (Numbers 35:24). If it was manslaughter, the slayer could stay safely in one of these cities of refuge, where the avenger of blood could not hurt him (Deut. 4:41-43; Joshua 20:1-9).

But if a person was guilty of murder, he could not be saved by fleeing to a city of refuge (Exodus 21:14). Even if he were to flee to the tabernacle and 'take hold of the horns of the altar' (1 Kings 1:50-51; 2:28), which was both an appeal for mercy and a claim to the protection of the sanctuary, he could be put to death by the avenger (1 Kings 2:25, 34)." In the New Testament, the cities of refuge were a type, or symbolic illustration, of the salvation that is found in Jesus Christ. Hebrews 6:18 speaks of those "who have fled for refuge in laying hold of the hope set before us." In other words, when the sinner flees to Jesus for refuge he is safe from the divine Avenger of Blood. Paul wrote in Romans 5:9, "Having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him."

According to Nelson's, "If the manslayer reached a city of refuge before the avenger of blood could slay him, he was given a fair trial and provided asylum until the death of the high priest. After that the manslayer was permitted to return home; but if he left the city of refuge before the death of the high priest, he was subject to death at the hands of the Avenger of Blood... Regardless of his sin, the sinner may find asylum and sanctuary in Christ; all who flee to Him find refuge; 'The one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out' (John 6:37). The believer is safe forever in the heavenly city of refuge because the great High Priest, Jesus Christ, will never die: 'He ever lives to make intercession for him' (Hebrews 7:25)."

When the "avenger of blood" is sent by God throughout this nation to atone for the innocent blood of millions of defenseless children, Jesus Christ will be the only safe place for refuge. Psalm 91:1-10 declares, "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.' Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked. If you make the Most High your dwelling-- even the LORD, who is my refuge-- then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent." Thank-you Jesus.

### Chapter Four

## **Making Atonement**

2 Samuel 21:1-14 deals with making atonement for past sins. King Saul had shed innocent blood in the land. He broke a covenant Israel had with the Gibeonites by putting many of them to death. Later, during King David's reign, a famine had been happening in Israel for three years. David sought the Lord to find out why. Today, we look to the knowledge of man within the sphere of science to tell us why there are natural disasters.

The Lord said to David, "It is for Saul and his bloody house, because he put the Gibeonites to death." Science can't tell you that. The bloodguiltiness fell upon Saul and his house. David's response is found in verses 2-6. They say, "So the king called the Gibeonites and spoke to them (now the Gibeonites were not of the sons of Israel but of the remnant of the Amorites, and the sons of Israel made a covenant with them, but Saul had sought to kill them in his zeal for the sons of Israel and Judah). Thus David said to the Gibeonites, 'What should I do for you? And how can I make atonement that you may bless the inheritance of the LORD?' Then the Gibeonites said to him, 'We have no concern of silver or gold with Saul or his house, nor is it for us to put any man to death in Israel.' And he said, 'I will do for you whatever you say.'"

I find it interesting that not everyone in Israel would be held responsible for this criminal act, but only those among the guilty person's household. In this case, it was the covenant breaking house of Saul. I believe this same principle applies in America today. The Lord is a righteous and just Judge, holding only the guilty accountable. As with Saul's house, only the covenant breakers in the Lord's house will be held guilty for the shedding of the innocent blood that now cries out from our soil.

The Scriptures go on to say, "So they said to the king, 'The man who consumed us, and who planned to exterminate us from remaining within any border of Israel, let seven men from

his sons be given to us, and we will hang them before the LORD in Gibeah of Saul, the chosen of the LORD.' And the king said, 'I will give them.'"

David made it right, at the request of the Gibeonites, by giving them seven of Saul's descendants to kill. Interestingly, they were put to death in the first days of the barley harvest (verses 9-10). The book of Ruth also speaks of this harvest.

Because of a famine in Israel, which remember is a sign of judgment, a man by the name of Elimelech and his family moved to the land of Moab. They were from the town of Bethlehem, the birthplace of David and Christ. Bethlehem means "house of bread," or "house of food." Because of a famine there was no food in "the house of bread," forcing God's people to look elsewhere. The church in America suffers the same fate.

Because of our famine of "hearing the words of the Lord," like in Amos, God's people have been forced to look elsewhere. Moab was a vile place filled with much idol worship. Many have gone to this place today, due to the shortage of "living bread" in our midst. Like Elimelech's family, we too will lose some family members through intermingling with idolatrous "Moab."

While in this land, Elimelech's sons married Moabite women. He and his two sons eventually died. When word reached Naomi that God had visited His people, giving them food, she and her two daughters-in-law decided to return to Bethlehem. One daughter-in-law decided to return home. The other, Ruth, chose to stay with Naomi and return to her people.

When they arrived, it was the beginning of barley harvest. Ruth eventually meets Boaz, the "kinsman redeemer" of Naomi, whom she marries. Through the lineage of these two, one being a Moabite woman, would come David, and eventually, the Messiah.

There is an incredible amount of symbolism within the book of Ruth concerning the coming Messiah, but for our discussion I want to focus on the women's return to Bethlehem, which means "the house of bread." I believe that once the innocent blood has been atoned for in our land, the Lord will then come to us also. After being moved by entreaty for the land through the intercession of His people, the Bread of the Presence will once again be placed on the table and the Lord's people will

come back home. When the "Bread of Life" is in His house, they will return.

They will not only come back, but will come back a different person than when they left. When Naomi returned with Ruth, she testified concerning her affliction, saying "I went out full, but the Lord has brought me back empty." When God's people come back at the final harvest, they will come emptied of themselves or they will not return.

#### **Atonement And The Final Harvest**

The New Testament tells us of another harvest that takes place upon the earth. This final harvest is not of barley or wheat, but of souls. In Matthew 13:24-30, Jesus told His disciples a parable concerning wheat and tares. According to Nelson's, a tare was "a poisonous grass resembling wheat, but with smaller seeds. The tares were usually left in the fields until harvest time, then separated from the wheat during winnowing." Jesus said in verse 30, "Allow both to grow together until the harvest; and in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, 'First gather up the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them up; but gather the wheat into my barn."

The modern version of "Saul's house," the religious system of man modeled after the world, now dominates the West. In 1 Samuel 8, Israel asked Samuel to appoint a king for them to judge them "like all the nations." This upset Samuel who went before the Lord with his concern. The Lord said to him, "Listen to the voice of the people in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me from being king over them."

Their rejection of God as their king resulted in a much more difficult system, modeled after the nations around them. This is exactly what has happened within the church in America. We have rejected God's Lordship over us, walking in His ways, choosing instead to model ourselves after the world. Their methods of doing "business" now rule within the majority of the church.

Eventually, Saul's reign would end with the death of him and his sons on the battlefield. Like Saul's house, the rebellious church in America will soon die on their own "sword," giving way to the anointed Davidic reign. In Ephesians 6:17, the sword of the Spirit is the word of God. I believe that the sword they will fall upon and be killed is the sword of their own word. By their own doctrines, they will be destroyed. Like the descendants of Saul, will they also die on the first days of "harvest" to atone for the innocent blood shed upon our soil? I believe God says "Yes."

2 Samuel 21:14 says that "they did all that the king commanded, and after that God was moved by entreaty (which means "to intercede") for the land." After atonement for Saul's sin had been accomplished, blood for blood, the Lord was then moved through intercession for the land. This sin of shedding innocent blood through abortion must also be atoned for, blood for blood, before God will be moved.

You will either choose the atoning blood of Christ on your behalf, applied through humbling yourself in repentance, or the Lord will require the guilty party's own blood, even from his own household. Choose Christ while there is still time, before He demands a sufficient amount from the guilty party's "house" to atone for the innocent babies blood.

In their book, "Sounding Forth The Trumpet," Peter Marshall and David Manuel reveal intriguing similarities between the mindset of America right before the Civil War and the present. They state in their Introduction;

"As Abraham Lincoln expressed with such luminous clarity in his Second Inaugural Address, it was a national, not a Southern, burden. In the eyes of God, the North was equally responsible for the perpetuation of slavery, and for that reason a blood atonement of equal measure would be required... In spirit, America in 2009 is so like America in 1858 that the overtones are chilling. To cite just one example, the Supreme Court in that time ruled that a Negro slave was chattel property, no different than a man's horse or his cow, and therefore had no rights. In 1973 the Supreme Court ruled that an unborn child is not fully human and therefore has no rights. But abortion is no more a part of God's plan for America than slavery was, and those who favor it today are as deliberately blind to evil as those who favored slavery were in 1858."

What national bloodshed will we have to endure to atone for the bloody outcry of the unborn coming from our defiled land?

#### Filling Up The Measure Of Iniquity

In 2 Samuel 24 (and 1 Chronicles 21) David intentionally sinned against the Lord by numbering the people. A plague broke out in Israel killing 70,000 men. The angel of the Lord commanded Gad to tell David that he should go up and build an altar to the Lord on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. 2 Samuel 24:25 says, "And David built there an altar to the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. Thus the LORD was moved by entreaty for the land, and the plague was held back from Israel."

Through the repentant heart of David, the guilty leader of God's people, the required sacrifices were placed on the altar before the Lord. After his obedient act of repentance, thereby establishing the altar, the Lord was moved by intercession for the land and the plague was checked. There must first be an altar before a sacrifice can be offered.

In the Bible threshing is mentioned frequently as a symbol for destruction (2 Kings 13:7, Amos 1:3) or divine judgment (Isaiah 28:27-28). In Matthew 3:11-12 John the Baptist testified concerning himself and Jesus, "I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire." This is the same method that the tares were removed in Matthew 13:24-30.

2 Chronicles 3:1 tells us, "Then Solomon began to build the house of the Lord in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah, where the Lord had appeared to his father David, at the place that David had prepared, on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite." This passage tells us that the threshing floor was on Mount Moriah. Moriah means "chosen by Jehovah." At the place chosen by the Lord, where we prepare the way through the establishing of the altar and the offering of the required sacrifice, God builds His "house."

In Genesis 22, we read of when God tested Abraham. He was told by God, "Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about." Abraham obeyed, binding his son and placing him upon the altar of God's choosing.

Right when he was about to slay his son, with the knife literally raised in the air, the Lord told him to stop. In verses 12-14 the Lord said, "Do not lay a hand on the boy, do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.' Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide (Jehovah-jireh). And to this day it is said, 'On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.'" This was a picture of the coming substitutionary death of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ.

So you see that at the place where David had built the altar, at Mount Moriah where Ornan's threshing floor was, the temple of the Lord, His dwelling place, was later to be established. As Moriah's name implies, it is the place of His choosing. Earlier, in Abraham's time, it was the place chosen by God to reveal His future plan of sacrificing His only Son (like Isaac) on our behalf.

The point of all this is to say that there is now a place chosen by God where He desires to establish His altar. This place is within our hearts. It is at this place where we are to, by faith, accept the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ on our behalf. When this takes place internally through repentance, the Lord then begins through the ministry of the Holy Spirit to establish the place of His dwelling within us. It is in this place where intercession is accepted and all plagues are checked.

The plague of abortion within our society can only be removed through the blood of those who are guilty. The judgment of the Lord will soon be poured out upon this nation in answer to the outcry of 50,000,000 (and counting!) innocent babies. Like the Jews during the holocaust, He will eventually respond to their cry for justice.

Their cry is that of the martyrs in Revelation 6:10 who said, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" We must repent before it's too late. It's only the blood of Jesus that can wash away the bloodguiltiness from America. It will be His blood or man's blood. The choice is ours.

In Matthew 23:29-35 Jesus confronts the self-righteous Pharisees and teachers of the law concerning the guilt of their forefathers who shed the blood of the prophets. Admittedly being descendants of the murderers, they would have to satisfy, or "fill up" the required retribution for the sin of shedding innocent blood. Even though it wasn't their act of sin, the consequences rested upon them too because they walked in agreement; they were of the same spirit.

Jesus said to them in verse 35, "I am sending you prophets and wise men and teachers. Some of them you will kill and crucify; others you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town. And so **upon you will come all the righteous ("innocent, upright, guiltless") blood that has been shed on earth,** from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Berekiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar."

Did it seem fair that Jesus would place the guilt of shedding all the innocent blood ever shed upon the earth on them? The burden of guilt for the crime is passed on to the next generation, even building with intensity until the curse is broken through the application of the blood of Jesus through repentance.

In trying to free Jesus, Pilate placed Him before the crowd with a notorious prisoner named Barabbas. When asked which one they wanted him to release, they cried out for Barabbas. Their hatred for Christ had grown to such an extent that they were willing to let a known criminal loose within their community. They had come to the place where they were calling good evil, and evil good.

Pilate then washed his hands in front of the crowd declaring "I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your responsibility." Incredibly, Matthew 27:25 tells us that the people answered, "Let His blood be on us and our children." The people willingly

took upon themselves, and their descendants, the guilt for shedding Christ's blood. What a legacy to pass down!

The Jewish people have paid dearly through the ages for this self-inflicted curse. No other people on the face of the earth have experienced the degree of persecution that the Jews have. The good news is that God has not forgotten them. There will be a remnant in the end that will turn. Unfortunately, as the first nation to reject the Messiah, they will now be the last to enter into their "fullness" (Romans 11:25).

The Jews are not the only ones who are guilty of the innocent blood of Jesus. All Gentiles who have willingly entered into the eternal covenant through His blood dare not treat it as an ordinary thing, insulting the Spirit of grace (Hebrews 10:29). According to Romans 11:17-22 the "natural branches" (Jews) were broken off for unbelief. All Gentiles are then warned not to be conceited, but fear. For if God did not spare them, neither will He spare us.

1 Corinthians 11:27 states that anyone who eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord also. We may not have been there at the scene of the crucifixion, or for that matter an abortion, but our attitude toward the covenant of the Lord determines whether or not we are guilty. It's either the blessing of Abraham for those who obey, or a curse for those who disobey.

## Chapter Five

# Greater Judgment For Greater Knowledge

This chapter deals with the Biblical principle that the person who sins with the greater knowledge will experience the greater judgment. The more knowledge you possess, the greater the responsibility and accountability before God. This is why I believe America is about to experience GREAT judgment, in particular for the bloodguilt of our babies. As mentioned earlier, America has had numerous showers of blessings from God poured out upon her since her birth as a nation. We have been given much, therefore much is required from us.

We were given a great responsibility from our conception. The providential hand of God in the founding of this nation is historically undeniable. Our Forefathers, beginning with the Mayflower Compact, willingly entered into a covenant with God before they even stepped upon our shores. Our soil is that which was willingly placed under the Lordship of Jesus Christ "for the glory of God and the advancement of the gospel."

In fact, America's Christian purpose had already begun to be defined by those who had come earlier from England to the first settlement on our shores at Jamestown. Their endeavor had a definite evangelistic motive that was well defined within the first Virginia Charter in 1606. It stated;

"We, greatly commending, and graciously accepting of, their desires for the furtherance of so noble a work, which may, by the Providence of Almighty God, hereafter tend to the Glory of his Divine Majesty, in propagating of Christian religion to such people, as yet live in darkness and miserable ignorance of the true knowledge and worship of God."

The covenant of the Pilgrims was embraced and reentered into by successive generations of American Christians. Our inhabitants, like Israel, are under His double edged covenantal sword; great blessings for obedience or great curses for disobedience. We have publicly declared that we are "One nation under God." Whether or not you believe in Jesus Christ or His covenant, divine intervention on our behalf is a historically documented fact. God's people will renew the covenant of our Forefathers through repentance, reestablishing His national purpose for America, or face His wrath. (I have written a book entitled "Profaning The Covenant" Defiling God's Covenant With America" with much more revelation concerning this crucial matter.)

The burden of responsibility for this falls upon those within this nation who name the name of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. "Much more" is now being asked from us. What will our response be? In regards to the bloodguilt from abortion, this is why the Lord places the greater guilt upon His people. Yes, the world is guilty for their actions, but they have never had the veil over their understanding removed by the Holy Spirit.

Spiritual Babylon represents those who had it removed at one time through the acceptance of Jesus Christ as the Messiah and then walked away in willful rebellion. In so doing, she chose to exalt herself as God. Instead of lifting up the name of Jesus, she has not denied her desire to build a name for herself, like those who built the tower of Babel.

As we have learned, the self-glorifying, flesh-strengthening, false doctrines of Babylon are in reality witchcraft. They have seduced and deceived all the nations. Therefore, the seductive spiritual prostitute is guilty of much; all the innocent blood ever shed on earth! This includes the worst shedding of all, the defenseless babies within the womb. It seems wickedly logical that the aged and the handicapped will be the next targets.

The great guilt of Cain is revealed to us in Genesis 4:6-7. He had been given personal revelation directly from God concerning the condition of his heart. Every child of God has been given this also. You receive this revelation knowledge by the Holy Spirit. Unbelievers have never experienced this. Not having the veil over their heart and minds removed, they do not

possess the same degree of understanding that believers have. Having our eyes "enlightened" (Eph. 1:18), we know better (Romans 1:18-32).

Like Cain, when God's word is rejected, sin prevails. If we do not repent of our sin, choosing instead to walk in stubborn rebellion, we will eventually be cast out of God's presence. The Bible speaks of Adam and Eve, Cain, King Saul and others who were sent out for this very thing. All of God's servants who clearly understand their Master's will, but do not act in accord with it, shall receive greater judgment.

In Luke 12:35-48, Jesus gives us a parable concerning slaves who were waiting for the return of their master. Obviously, the master is Jesus, and the slaves are His followers. We would call them Christians today. He said that the slaves, or Christians, were to be ready so that they may immediately open the door when He comes and knocks. Peter then asked in verse 41, "Lord, are You addressing this parable to us, or to everyone else as well?" By his question he obviously began to see something that many in the church today have missed doctrinally.

Jesus goes on to explain in verses 42-48 the serious consequences of the slaves who knew their Master's will and did not get ready. He clearly warned that they will receive more "lashes" than the one who did not know. Jesus explained the consequences of being a disciple of His and not being prepared when He returned. This involves sanctification by the Holy Spirit and belief in the truth (1 Thess. 2:13). The Lord is presently restoring the truth that the devil has stolen from us. It is the only thing that will set us free from the bondage of all the confusing error that has leavened the church in America.

How many Christians in America today are truly ready for Jesus? I dare say a very small minority. Most sit under teachers who, through demonic teachings, have placed them in a state of being spiritually anesthetized. I pray that this word of truth will stir your soul, awakening your spiritual consciousness and sensitivity before it's too late.

The disciples were warned that after having been entrusted with so much revelation, they would be held much more responsible for living an upright, righteous life than those who had never received the knowledge of the truth. The unprepared

Christians (hearers but not doers of the Word) who showed by their lifestyles that they did not love the truth enough to obey it and be saved (2 Thess. 2:10), will be "cut in pieces" and assigned "a place with the unbelievers" (Luke 12:46).

The Greek word we interpret as "cut in pieces" is "dichotomeo". It means "to flog severely, to cut into two parts; used of the cruel method of punishment used by the Hebrews and others of cutting one in two." Remember, this is Jesus teaching in this passage. This is His theology concerning the salvation of those who "knew their master's will and did not get ready or act in accord with his will."

Matthew's account of the evil slave who casts off all restraint in chapter 24, verse 51, says that the Lord "will cut him to pieces ("dichotomeo") and assign him a place with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Again, this is Jesus warning concerning His judgment upon His own slaves who have not remained in Him through obedience. They did not guard their hearts through the Holy Spirit, but instead fulfilled their fleshly passions and desires.

Jesus went on in Luke 12:48, clearly stating that "from everyone who has been given much shall much be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more." They would receive greater judgment because of the greater revelation knowledge they had received and then ignored. That is a true doctrine that will conform you to godliness (1 Timothy 6:3).

In 1 Samuel 15 we are told of the stubborn rebellion of King Saul. Samuel had told him, per the word of the Lord, to strike the Amalekites, utterly destroying all of their possessions. Saul defeated them, but kept their king, Agag, alive, as well as the best of their livestock and "all that was good."

Upon Samuel's arrival to "the bleating of sheep and the lowing of oxen", Saul began to justify his disobedience to the commands of God by stating that the people had kept these animals to sacrifice to the Lord. It all sounded very pious, but the Lord knows our true intentions.

Samuel replied in verses 22-23, "Has the LORD as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of

divination ("witchcraft"), and insubordination ("to be insolent, to display pushing, arrogance, presumption") is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He has also rejected you from being king." It would cost Saul his kingship over Israel. David would then be anointed, replacing Saul on the throne.

Because he had not killed the Amalakite king as told, Samuel the prophet took matters into his own hands and personally hewed Agag to pieces before the Lord. The house of Saul, which represents the rebellious sons of God in the church today, still spare the "Agag's" in our land. He was a descendant of Esau, the one who sold his birthright to his brother Jacob for some red stew.

I believe that Agag represents those who have, through rebellion to the commands of God, sold their inheritance in Christ, like Esau, for the fulfillment of a fleshly desire. Today, these enemies of God are allowed to remain, without recourse, in the midst of His people. Through the house of Saul's rebellion against God's word, in particular that which concerns church discipline, the Body of Christ in America has become unclean by the leaven of malice and wickedness.

Like Saul, the majority of the church in our nation does not love the truth so as to be saved, but instead justifies their rebellious actions by justifying others. They claim that a person can continue to walk in known sin, after receiving the knowledge of salvation, and still enter into the kingdom of God. Jeremiah 17:4 says, "And you will, even of yourself, let go of your inheritance that I gave you." The blood of thousands who walked away from Christ, and were told that they would still enter into heaven, will be on the hands of these deceived teachers.

The end of Saul's life is a great tragedy. He, his three sons, and all his men were killed on the same day while fighting the Philistines. After he was badly wounded during the battle, Saul said to his armor bearer, "'Draw your sword and pierce me through with it, lest these uncircumcised come and pierce me through and make sport of me.' But his armor bearer would not, for he was greatly afraid. So Saul took his sword and fell on it" (1 Samuel 31:4).

As previously discussed, this will be the end of the religious house of Saul in our day. They too will die on their own sword. Their sword is their word, their doctrines. They will be destroyed by their own false teachings. These unstable, divided heart Christians twist the Scriptures to their own destruction (2 Peter 3:16-17).

As Samuel did to Agag, the obedient prophets will rise up and "cut to pieces" these enemies of God with the sword of the Lord that comes from His mouth (Rev. 2:12-16; 19:14-21). Hebrews 4:12 tells us, "For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

The indictment of Samuel against Agag was that because he had killed, he would be killed. It was life for life, blood for blood. Right before Samuel killed him, he told Agag because he had made other women childless by killing their sons, that his mother would also be childless. Interestingly, this all took place in Gilgal, which represents the place where the reproach of the enemy over God's people is removed.

In Mark 12:38-40 Jesus taught His disciples concerning the punishment of the self-glorifying teachers of the law. He said "they like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted in the marketplaces, and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. They devour widows' houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. Such men will be punished **most severely.**"

The Greek word for the phrase "most severely" is "perissoteron". It means "in a more superabundant way, over and above, more than is necessary." Jesus clearly stated that having a much greater understanding of the law and not obeying it, but instead using it for your own glory or advantage, will bring "superabundant" judgment upon you. This is why James 3:1 warns us "Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we shall incur a stricter judgment."

One of the most serious warnings in the New Testament is found in 2 Peter 2:20-22. It says, "For if after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge (this word means "full discernment, correct and precise knowledge")

of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. For it would be better for them not to have known ("to know accurately, to know well") the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment delivered to them. It has happened to them according to the true proverb, "A dog returns to its own vomit," and, "A sow, after washing, returns to wallowing in the mire."

Peter's theology matches Jesus'. Having revelation knowledge from God, what we refer to as "saving knowledge," and then turning away makes the "last state" worse than the "first state." In the first state we are lost, without God. In the last state, we were "saved" and then turned our back on God. This passage clearly states that knowing the Lord, having "full discernment" with "correct and precise knowledge," and then wandering away results in worse judgment than if you had never turned.

How many shepherds preach this! It is part of the restraining rail around the Lord's house some builders have failed to erect. The blood of those who wander off the edge after hearing the doctrine of demons called "once saved always saved" will be applied to these deceived teachers of the law.

The true doctrine of eternal security is found in Matthew 24:10-13. Jesus' disciples had asked Him what will be the sign of His coming and of the end of the age? He responded "At that time many will turn away (the great apostasy) from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved." Standing firm in obedience to Christ until the end is the only true key for security.

The sin of silence toward those who have drifted away from the Lord will be credited to all who know of their brother's and sister's condition and say nothing. In Ezekiel 33:7-9 the prophet makes it clear that if you know of a sin and do not confront them you are held guilty for their sin. Their blood will be credited to your account; it will be on your hands.

The Lord said to Ezekiel "Now as for you, son of man, I have appointed you a watchman for the house of Israel; so you will

hear a message from My mouth, and give them warning from Me. When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you shall surely die,' and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require from your hand. But if you on your part warn a wicked man to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he will die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your life."

Further on in verse 17 the Lord says, "your fellow citizens say, 'The way of the Lord is not right,' when it is their own way that is not right." This is the same attitude of many of our citizens today concerning abortion. They now call good evil and evil good, justifying their seared conscience.

Through the church, the powerful light of God's living word of truth should be exposing the lies of darkness. The "salt" of God's presence is not coming through His people, holding back the decay within our society. The fruit of increased decadence is a sure sign that the salt has lost its saltiness.

The calloused attitude within our nation is a direct reflection of the heart of Babylon. An unchecked sensual spirit has driven her into the open arms of the world. Like Esau, she has sold her birthright to satisfy a fleshly desire.

The Lord's decree of greater judgment over this "mother of harlots" in Revelation 18:6 is that she will receive double for her deeds. He says, "Pay her back even as she has paid, and give back to her double according to her deeds; in the cup which she has mixed, mix twice as much for her. To the degree that she glorified herself and lived sensuously, to the same degree give her torment and mourning; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as a queen and I am not a widow, and will never see mourning.' For this reason in one day her plagues will come, pestilence and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for the Lord God who judges her is strong."

The Scriptures we have discussed should confirm within our heart this biblical principle of greater judgment for greater knowledge. They make it very clear why the Lord holds "Babylon," the self-glorifying slaves of the Master, accountable for all the innocent blood shed upon the earth. She represents those who were at one time given enlightened eyes by the Holy Spirit, but like Cain did not keep the word of truth so as to be saved.

In her bitterness over God's rejection of her sacrifice, she has left a wide open door for a murderous spirit that overcame her. She is the ultimate object of Satan's deception. His desire is to bring to ruin all of mankind, especially the apple of God's eye.

As God's representatives in this nation, Christians must remember from where we have fallen, repent, and do the deeds we did at first. Our Forefathers sacrifice for the sake of the gospel must not be in vain. One thing is for sure at this point in our national history; we must once again turn our eyes toward Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. Like Israel, in our national apostasy we have forsaken the Lord, the fountain of living waters, to hew for ourselves cisterns, broken cisterns that can hold no water.

Our judgment draws near. Our murdered children's blood cries out louder every day to the Lord. Today is the day to repent if necessary of your apathy towards the plague of abortion that has destroyed 50,000,000 babies in our nation alone. It may be a giant of an industry in America, but I see the young David's being prepared to take it down. Lord have mercy and stir their hearts to leave their "baggage" with the "baggage keeper" and run to the battle. King Jesus, draw Your sword and lead us in Your victory. Bring glory and honor to Your name and save our children.

# Chapter Six

# Touching The Livewire; Healing Our Nation's Issue Of Blood

Recently, while praying with my wife for a local woman with a brain tumor, the Lord revealed a powerful truth concerning intercession to us. It happened on the first night, within the first five minutes of our praying together.

As I prayed, I spoke to the Lord about holding onto her with one hand, while reaching out to touch Him with the other. I was thinking of the woman who had been "subject to bleeding," or had an "issue of blood" as one version says, for 12 years in Mark 5:24-34. In fact verse 26 says that "she had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse." Then, along came Jesus, the Great Physician. With great faith she said, "If I just touch His clothes, I will be healed."

While I was praying, the thought crossed my mind of holding onto an electric fence with this woman at the end of the line. Anyone who has lived in the country understands what I am talking about. We had a couple of horses when our children were younger. Around our pasture was an electric fence to keep them in. I have watched our sons, along with their friends, form a line holding hands. The person closest to the fence grabs the line and the electricity runs through them all. Everyone jerks their hands apart laughing at the shock they just received. The person at the end seems to get the worse shock of all.

I never verbalized the thought. When I finished, Shelley began to pray out loud. As she prayed she told the Lord that when I had prayed about holding onto Pam's hand she thought

of a group touching an electric fence. We had the same thought at the same time.

Afterward, we discussed how there are many in the world that are disconnected from the "Livewire", Jesus Christ. Intercession, or "standing in the gap" (Ezekiel 22:30), is simply reaching out, like the woman with the issue of blood, in order to touch the power of the Lord on their behalf.

Mark 5:30 says that "Jesus, perceiving in Himself that the power proceeding from Him had gone forth, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My garments?" The Scriptures say that the woman, trembling with fear, came and fell down before Him. Jesus said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your affliction." The power of the Lord still flows through His body, the church, today.

The woman in Mark 5 had the faith to go directly to the source of healing power. This is not the case with most people in this world who are in need of Christ's power in their life. They need someone else to bridge the gap for them. Only those who have connected to the Lord through repentance can be the conduit which His life is able to freely flow through.

We must remember that the purpose of His power is not for our glorification, but rather for those in need of His touch. Babylon, like Simon the sorcerer, desires it for their name's sake. There will be certain times when He calls upon individuals or groups to enter into this place for Him. As long as we remain connected to Him through humble submission, His power will freely flow to those in need.

John 15:7-8 contains a conditional prayer promise concerning our remaining in Him. Jesus said, "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you. By this is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit (see Luke 8:15), and so prove to be My disciples."

The Greek for "abide" is "meno". It means "to remain; to stay in a given place, state, relation or expectancy, to continue to be present." Remaining connected to Him through obedience is the key to fruit bearing. The fruit of the Spirit manifested through those who "continue to be present," or continue to be in Christ, prove who is truly His disciples. You will know them by their fruit.

There are no power outages with the Lord. That occurs when we break the flow through not abiding in Him. It is essential that, as His children, we practice what Reese Howells called "guarding the place of abiding." In his book "Reese Howells Intercessor" by Norman Grubb, Reese says John 15:7 is the key. This verse makes it plain that the promise is unlimited, but its fulfillment depends on the abiding.

Staying attached to the Vine is crucial for the life of the branch as well as those in need of its life giving fruit. Reese states;

"the scriptural key to abiding is in 1 John 2:6, 'the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.' In other words, it meant being willing for the Holy Spirit to live through him the life the Savior would have lived if He had been in his place." During a time of intercession, any command the Spirit gave him he must fulfill because the way of abiding is the keeping of His commandments (John 15:10).

The necessity for abiding is seen in John 15 also. He says, "The life is in the Vine... the power is in Christ. As the intercessor remains united to Him by abiding in Him, His power operates through the intercessor and accomplishes what needs to be done... There are degrees and stages in abiding. The deeper the oneness, the more the power of the risen life of Christ can operate through the channel..."

The word for "touch" in Mark 5:28 is "haptomai". It means "to attach oneself to, to adhere to, to cling to, to touch." It's also defined as being "used of the levitical practice of having no fellowship with heathen practices. Things not to be touched appear to be both women and certain kinds of food. So, celibacy and abstinence of certain kinds of food and drink are recommended." This is a good definition for fasting. To touch Christ is to abstain from the world.

The Christian life is in reality to be a life of abstinence, a life of fasting, and a life of intercession. We are not to touch that which is "unclean" in order that we may remain in a state of readiness when called upon by the Lord to reach out and touch others.

Isaiah 59:1-2 says, "Behold, the LORD'S hand is not so short that it cannot save; neither is His ear so dull that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He does not hear." Sin is always the reason for a state of separation between us and the Lord. In this state, an individual, or congregation, becomes "dead" with no life giving power flowing in and through them.

Another crucial aspect of an electric fence is its restraining force. It keeps animals in a place of safety and protection where they can receive life-giving food and water. When there is a break in the line, often caused by an "outside source" such as a downed tree or another animal, a portion of the restraining boundary is removed. An animal can actually smell when the electricity is off and just might make a break for the outer regions.

At times, we are like these "unreasoning beasts," running out of the protective corral of the Lord. Whether it be through a small group or a larger congregation that has turned off their portion of the fence around God's pasture through rebellion or false doctrines that result in unrestraint, it's a dangerous place to be in.

Even when the fence is up and running there are those who, like a wild spirited horse, just want to break free of God's protective restraint around them. The allurement of greener pastures somewhere else is just too much for them. Like the prodigal son, they will learn the hard way.

If we're honest, there's a little prodigal in all of us. Following the example of Jesus, we must hang on to the Father. Apart from Him we can do nothing (John 15:5). Within us we have no power, no everlasting life (John 6:53). As stated before, Jeremiah 17:4 says, "And you will, even of yourself, let go of your inheritance that I gave you." We are the ones who let go, not Him. We are the faithless ones, the covenant breakers. He is always faithful. His power is always there.

The disconnect of His "dunamis", His miraculous power through His Body, the church, is our fault. The people of our nation languish in the grasp of the devil while God's people entertain themselves with self-indulgent, disconnected religion. The least amount of real power released from God through His

Body on the face of the earth seems to occur within the church in the United States of America.

Not only have many let go of the "Livewire," but through neglect our portion of the fence is down. God's people wander out while demons rush in. There is more often than not a counterfeit power being manifested to the world through us. We have become a dwelling place for many unclean demonic spirits (Rev. 18:2). Many have now been placed under the doctrine of demons spell. They drank their poison and are dieing.

God is about to do some fence mending with His damaged line running through our nation. Truth is being restored to those with ears to hear, repairing the breaches in our walls. The connected sons of God will line up, hand in hand, touching the power of God, bringing healing and deliverance to those in need. Like Nehemiah, in the zeal of the Lord they will throw out the Tobiah's who have settled into God's temple with their personal goods, or agendas. Because of the rebellious hearts of God's people, it's time in America for a temple cleansing.

Great authority in prayer is a result of remaining connected to Christ. Jesus told His disciples in Mark 11:22-24, "Have faith in God. Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it shall be granted him. Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they shall be granted you."

The Greek for the phrase "shall be granted" is "ginomai". It means "to come into being, to come into existence." Another definition is "to arise, to appear in history, to come upon the stage." Through faith in God we can literally cause things to come into historical existence through prayer. This happens by God's power, not our own, as we remain in Him.

By faith in the word of God, we are to boldly approach His throne. Hebrews 4:14-16 says, "Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession ("whom we confess to be ours"). For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore

draw near with confidence ("frankness, assurance, bluntness, free and fearless confidence") to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need."

We need to get a firm grip on the Lord who blesses those who pursue Him, believing in His promises. The Greek word for "hold fast" is "krateo". It means "to seize or retain, to have power, to be master of, to get possession of, to hold fast, that is not discard or let go, to keep carefully and faithfully (which is keeping covenant), to continue to hold."

I am reminded of Cain who was warned by the Lord to seize, or master his wicked thoughts before they mastered him (Genesis 4:7). Holding fast our confession, which is by definition keeping covenant with Christ, is comparable to holding onto the electric fence line. It is the place of faithfully abiding in Christ where the power of God can be released in and through us.

Hebrews 3:5-6, and verse 14 say, "Now Moses was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken later; but Christ was faithful as a Son over His house whose house we are, **if we hold fast** our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end... For we have become partakers of Christ, **if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end...**" We must "hold fast", or "keep firm possession of" Christ from beginning to end in order to become partakers of His salvation. These are conditional promises within the New Covenant. Two big "ifs" are contained within these verses. Again, he who stands firm until the end will be saved.

Our holding onto "the way, the truth and the life," walking in obedience to the Lord's commands, not only affects our salvation but others as well. In 1 Timothy 4:16 Paul said, "Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue ("to abide, to remain") in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you." The word for "save" means "to keep safe and sound, to deliver or protect, to save a suffering one from perishing." Salvation, ours and those who hear us, depend upon our abiding.

Our children in the womb also need for us to continue abiding in the truth. It is only as we remain in this place that the power of God will be released through us to set them free from the danger of being aborted. The giant will fall when we answer the call.

In 1 Corinthians 15:1-2 Paul spoke further concerning salvation being dependent upon our "holding fast." He said "Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, by which also you are saved, **if (another big "if") you hold fast** the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain."

In Romans 1:18-19, and 28-32 Paul speaks of God's wrath being revealed towards those who let go of truth. He says, "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them: for God made it evident to them... And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over ("to give into the hands of another, to give over into one's power or use") to a depraved ("reprobate") mind, to do those things which are not proper, being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder (like Cain), strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, without understanding, untrustworthy ("covenant breakers"), unloving, unmerciful; and, although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them."

Verse 18 speaks of those who "suppress the truth in unrighteousness." The Greek for suppress is "katecho". It means "to hold back, to detain, to restrain or hinder the course or progress of." Jesus told the Pharisees in John 8:37, "I know that you are Abraham's offspring; yet you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you (or "makes no progress in you")."

Paul goes on to say in verse 21 that "they knew God," but did not glorify Him as God. To know God is not a phrase that would be used to describe an unbeliever. It describes the intimacy of fellowship. His glory was hindered from being revealed in and through these people because of the practicing of wickedness. Their foolish hearts were darkened as they exchanged the gaining of God's glory for their own glorification. For this reason (self-glorification), God gave those who knew Him over to their "vile affections," or "shameful sin."

To be given over means "to surrender, to give into the hands of another, to give over into one's power or use, to deliver up one to custody." They preferred to let go of Him and walk in known sin, like Cain. When we choose to let go of the power of the Livewire, Jesus Christ, we run the risk of being given over to the power of Satan. At this point, you will find yourself held prisoner to a lifestyle of sinful bondage that will end up in the fiery judgment of the Lord (Romans 2:1-16).

Verse 28 speaks of those who did not see fit to acknowledge, or retain God any longer. The word retain is taken from a word that means "to have and to hold, to lay hold of a thing, to be closely joined to a person or thing, used of those joined by marriage."

"To have and to hold" sounds like a familiar portion of a traditional American wedding vow. To not acknowledge God, then, speaks of breaking our wedding vows, or covenant, with Him. It is comparable to those who have been joined in marriage and did not think it worthwhile to continue in that place. The wrath of God will be poured out upon those who have been unfaithful and want a divorce from Him.

Like the woman in Mark 5 who suffered from an "issue of blood," Christians in America must reach out to the Lord by faith in order to touch His garments. As we have seen, this requires a life of abstinence, a life of fasting, a life of intercession.

We must lay down our lives for the defenseless, separating ourselves from that which is deemed unclean by the Holy Spirit. It is only when His power is released through sanctified vessels that the bleeding will stop. Daily, our babies cry out for someone to save them.

# Chapter Seven

# A Blessing Or A Curse On The Womb

The Scriptures contain many verses that pertain to the blessings and curses of God that affect the womb. A blessing of God came in Genesis 29:31 to one of Jacob's wives. It says, "Now the Lord saw that Leah was unloved, and He opened her womb..." He later showed mercy to his other wife in Genesis 30:22 which tells us that He "remembered Rachel, and gave heed to her and opened her womb". The Lord healed her shame due to her barrenness by allowing her to give birth.

Part of Jacob's blessing to his son Joseph in Genesis 49:25 included the womb. It says, "..and by the Almighty who blesses you with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lies beneath, blessings of the breasts and of the womb."

Obedience is always the key that opens the windows of heaven's blessings. Before the Israelites went into their land of promise, God warned them about the importance of obeying His voice. He said in Exodus 23:25-26, "Worship the LORD your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you, and none will miscarry or be barren in your land. I will give you a full life span."

Moses also warned the people, before they entered the Promised Land, about obeying the Lord. Again, a promise was given concerning the womb. He told them in Deuteronomy 7:12-14, "Then it shall come about, because you listen to these judgments and keep and do them, that the LORD your God will keep with you His covenant and His lovingkindness which He swore to your forefathers. And He will love you and bless you and multiply you; He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your new wine and your oil, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock, in the land which He swore to your forefathers to give you. You shall

be blessed above all peoples; there shall be no male or female barren among you or among your cattle."

Moses reminded the Israelites again how crucial it was to diligently obey the Lord in Deuteronomy 28. He says in verse 4, "Blessed shall be the offspring of your body and the produce of your ground and the offspring of your beasts, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock." He goes on to say in verse 11 that "the Lord will grant you abundant prosperity in the fruit of your womb."

In Deuteronomy 30:9 Moses tells the Israelites that because of their repentant hearts and obedience to God's commands that "the Lord will make you most prosperous in all the work of your hands and in the fruit of your womb." It becomes very apparent from all of these verses that obedience to God has a definite affect upon the womb. As Psalm 127:3 says, "Behold, children are a gift of the LORD; the fruit of the womb is a reward." May we walk in obedience to the commands of God. A whole generation is being affected by the results of our choices.

There are also many verses that pertain to the curses of God that directly affect the womb. In Genesis 20 Abraham had journeyed into a place called Gerar. Sarah, his wife, was a beautiful woman. Abraham was afraid to tell them that she was his wife for fear that they would kill him and take her (Genesis 12:9-20), so he said that she was his sister. Abimelech, the king of Gerar, took Sarah whom he assumed was not married because of the lie of Abraham.

God came to the king in a dream and told him, "Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is married." Abimelech called Abraham in verse 9 and said to him, "What have you done to us? And how have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? You have done to me things that ought not to be done."

The passage goes on to say in verses 17-18, "And Abraham prayed to God; and God healed Abimelech and his wife and his maids, so that they bore children. For the LORD had closed fast all the wombs of the household of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife." A curse from the Lord had closed all

the wombs of a household because of the deception of God's servants.

One of the consequences of not obeying God's commands in Leviticus 26:22 were, "And I will let loose among you the beasts of the field, which shall bereave you of your children and destroy your cattle and reduce your number so that your roads lie deserted." In the original text, the word we interpret as "bereaved" also means "to make childless, to miscarry, to show barrenness or suffer abortion."

Look at the roads behind us. They are filled with the innocent blood of children that have been torn apart by the beasts of hell! A parallel passage is found in Deuteronomy 28:18 which says, "The fruit of your womb will be cursed, and the crops of your land, and the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks."

In Hosea 9:10-17 Israel was harshly judged by the Lord due to their spiritual harlotry in forsaking Him and going after other gods. He said to them, "I found Israel like grapes in the wilderness: I saw your forefathers as the earliest fruit on the fig tree in its first season. But they came to Baal-peor and devoted themselves to shame, and they became as detestable as that which they loved. As for Ephraim, their glory will fly away like a bird-- no birth, no pregnancy, and no conception! Though they bring up their children, yet I will bereave them until not a man is left. Yes, woe to them indeed when I depart from them! Ephraim, as I have seen, is planted in a pleasant meadow like Tyre; but Ephraim will bring out his children for slaughter. Give them, O LORD-- what wilt Thou give? Give them a miscarrying womb and dry breasts. All their evil is at Gilgal; indeed. I came to hate them there! Because of the wickedness of their deeds I will drive them out of My house! I will love them no more; all their princes are rebels. Ephraim is stricken, their root is dried up, they will bear no fruit. Even though they bear children, I will slay the precious ones of their womb. My God will cast them away because they have not listened to Him; and they will be wanderers among the nations."

Further judgment from the Lord is seen in Hosea 13:16 which says, "Samaria will be held guilty, for she has rebelled against her God. They will fall by the sword, their little ones will be

dashed in pieces, and their pregnant women will be ripped open."

These are very strong words that are not particularly pleasing, but they happen to be the words of God which still speak to us today. May the proper fear of the Lord enter our hearts and turn us away from carelessness in following His commands.

### Sin And Its Affects On Others

We have already seen that the sin of God's people affect others around us. We have in Genesis 20:1-18 the other passage of Abraham lieing about Sarah, his wife, telling the Egyptians that she was his sister. Pharaoh took her into his house and, once again, something terrible happens.

Verses 17-20 tell us, "the LORD struck Pharaoh and his house with great plagues **because of Sarai**, Abram's wife. Then Pharaoh called Abram and said, 'What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife? Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her for my wife? Now then, here is your wife, take her and go.' And Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him; and they escorted him away, with his wife and all that belonged to him." The ungodly houses in Egypt were struck with great plagues because of the sins of God's people. The same thing is happening within our nation.

In 2 Samuel 12 Nathan the prophet confronted David with his sin of adultery with Bathsheba. The Lord judged David telling him in verses 8-10, "I also gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your care, and I gave you the house of Israel and Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added to you many more things like these! Why have you despised the word of the LORD by doing evil in His sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword, have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the sons of Ammon. Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised Me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife."

Verse 13 tells us, "Then David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the LORD.' And Nathan said to David, 'The LORD also

has taken away your sin; you shall not die. However, because by this deed you have given occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born to you shall surely die."

His sin would cost the life of a child. Have the deeds of God's people in this nation also given occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme? I think the answer is obvious. Is it starting to become clearer how God blesses or curses those around us according to His children's obedience or disobedience? Did Abraham die? Did David die? Did Sarah die? No, but those near them did.

Another convincing account in the Scriptures is found in Jonah, chapter 1. We are told that Jonah had been commanded to cry out in the city of Nineveh because of its great wickedness. He disobeyed and tried to flee from the presence of God. The Scriptures say that he paid the fare and boarded a ship. As he would soon find out, there's always a "fare," or should I say, a price to pay, when you're running from the Lord.

A great storm came up and the men on board became very afraid. They knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord because he had told them. They said to him in verses 11-12, "What should we do to you that the sea may become calm for us?" for the sea was becoming increasingly stormy. And he said to them, 'Pick me up and throw me into the sea. Then the sea will become calm for you, for I know that **on account of me this great storm has come upon you**." The disobedience of God's servants can cause great storms affecting those in the world near us.

There is a storm coming upon America that will only build in intensity until God's people repent. The good news is that Jesus is Lord of the storm. If, when the storm hits our land, you respond as the disciples in Mark 4, you will be saved. They turned to Him in their distress and cried out "Lord save us! We are perishing!" He is the only one who has the power to say to the pressing winds, "Peace, be still" (Mark 4:39). It is extremely important to seek Him today while He can still be found. In the chaos of tomorrow it could be too late.

In a day when many in the church cry out for justice to be served, and for people to be held accountable for their actions,

it's time for us, the church, to repent of our own hypocrisy. The Lord is crying out to the church as the prophet Nathan did to David saying, "You are the man!"

I believe that the plague of abortion that has come upon us today is a direct result of the sin of God's people who, like Jonah, are running from the Lord's commands. The aborted children's blood cries out from our soil, asking, "What have you done to us? Why did you not cry out in our defense?"

We must repent and deal with the sin that is in the camp. If we will humble ourselves and pray, and seek the Lord's face and turn from our wicked ways because of the plague the Lord has sent amongst us, then He has promised us that He will hear from heaven, will forgive our sin, and will heal our land (2 Chronicles 7:13-14).

Because of the great hardness of heart amongst those in the church in America, I ask myself what it will take for us to turn from our wicked ways. How far will the Father have to go to get our attention back on His Son?

One thing is for sure, the Lord disciplines those whom He loves, scourging every son whom he receives. We, along with our entire nation, will be judged severely for this heinous sin. We must repent while the door of God's mercy is still open.

# Chapter Eight

# Fighting Against Abortion (Dealing With Sin In The Camp)

In Joshua 7, the Israelites had just come from a great defeat at Jericho and were moving on to their next enemy. It was the small town of Ai. After spying out the land, they told Joshua in verse 3, "Do not let all the people go up, only about two or three thousand men need go up to Ai; do not make all the people toil up there, for they are few."

The Bible goes on to say that when they came up against them to fight 36 Israelites were killed. When Joshua found out he immediately formed a committee on forming a better plan of attack and then presented it to the congregation to vote on. Of course, that is not really what happened. That would be foolish. So why do we do that today? The answer is because we now seek the counsel of men before the wisdom of God.

We don't understand the connection between the lack of power against an enemy and the sin in our midst. Joshua didn't consult with other men first about the problem, but fell on his face before God to find out why this had occurred.

The Lord answered him in verses 10-13, "Israel has sinned, and they have also transgressed My covenant which I commanded them. And they have even taken some of the things under the ban and have both stolen and deceived. Moreover, they have also put them among their own things. Therefore the sons of Israel cannot stand before their enemies... they have become accursed. I will not be with you anymore unless you destroy the things under the ban from your midst."

At the beginning of this account in chapter 7, verse 1 tells us that "the sons of Israel acted unfaithfully in regard to the things under the ban, for Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, from the tribe of Judah, took some of the

things under the ban, therefore the anger of the Lord burned against the sons of Israel."

In their conquest of Jericho the Lord had specifically told His people in Joshua 6:17-18, "And the city shall be under the ban, it and all that is in it belongs to the Lord... but as for you, only keep yourselves from the things under the ban, lest you covet them and take some of the things under the ban, so you would make the camp of Israel accursed and bring trouble on it."

One man's sin affected the entire camp. It cost the lives of 36 men who were killed battling Ai. It would cost more than that as we will soon see. Moses had warned the people back in Deuteronomy 23:9 and 14, "When you go out as an army against your enemies, then you shall keep yourself from every evil thing... since the Lord your God walks in the midst of your camp to deliver you and to defeat your enemies before you, therefore your camp must be holy; and He must not see anything indecent among you lest He turn away from you."

Before I go any further, I would like to briefly discuss the phrase "things under the ban." I kept seeing it as I read my N.A.S. version of the Bible. The N.I.V. interprets it as "things devoted to destruction" or "condemned things." The King James version calls them "accursed things."

The Hebrew term for these interpretations refers to "the irrevocable giving over of things or persons to the Lord, often by totally destroying them." God's people were not to take these things for themselves because they came with a curse.

Deuteronomy 7:26 says, "And you shall not bring an abomination into your house, and like it come under the ban..." In Deuteronomy 13:17 Moses told the Israelites, "And nothing from that which is put under the ban shall cling to your hand, in order that the Lord may turn from His burning anger and show mercy to you, and have compassion on you and make you increase..." To bring things under the ban into your midst means certain judgment from God on you, as well as those around you (see Leviticus 27:28-29, Deuteronomy 2:34 and 3:6, 1 Samuel 15:9, 1 Corinthians 16:22).

The Lord told Joshua to bring all the Israelites near, man by man, "and it shall be that the one taken with the things under the ban shall be burned with fire, he and all that belongs to him, because he has transgressed the covenant of the Lord, and

because he has committed a disgraceful thing in Israel" (verse 15). Joshua then brought all the tribes before the Lord, family by family, man by man, until Achan was singled out. Do you know that the Lord is doing that very thing today? Judgment begins in the house of the Lord. He is sifting His people and the chaff is being removed. The tares are being separated from the wheat and bundled up together for the fire (Matthew 13:24-30).

God is calling His true Bride out from the Babylonian, harlot church who has committed spiritual adultery with the world and their gods. He warns us in Revelation 18:4-8 to, "Come out of her, My people, that you may not participate in her sins and that you (Christian) may not receive of her plagues, for her sins have piled up as high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities... give back to her double according to her deeds... to the degree that she has glorified herself (who are we glorifying in our lives?) an lived sensuously, to the same degree give her torment and mourning (remember who God said would also receive of this torment unless they came out) for she says in her heart, 'I sit as a Queen and I am not a widow, and will never see mourning (the Queen sat in a place of ruling authority also, below the King. So do we with Christ. We say today, "I am a Christian, I am protected even though I now sit on God's throne in my heart. Nothing will happen to me. I'll be "raptured" away from Christ's coming judgment.) She will be burned up with fire for the Lord God who judges her is strong." This is what happened to Achan and his family. God says if we, His people, do not repent, this is what will happen to us as well.

A similar passage is found in Isaiah 47:7-11 where it says, "...you said, 'I shall be a queen forever'... Now then, hear this you sensual one, who dwells securely (which is actually a false sense of security) who says in your heart, 'I am (that is God's name alone! See Isaiah 46:9 which is right before this passage.), and there is no one besides me, I shall not sit as a widow (meaning, "I will not lose my husband, Christ") nor shall I know loss of children... and disaster will fall on you for which you cannot atone (to cover over), and destruction about which you do not know will come on you suddenly."

Achan's sin had now been exposed by the Lord, just as ours will be. He confessed in verse 21, "When I saw among the spoil

a beautiful mantle from Shinar (N.K.J.V.- "A beautiful Babylonian garment"- We must not keep anything that belongs to spiritual Babylon. It has been put under the ban!) and two hundred shekels of silver and a bar of gold fifty shekels in weight, then I coveted them and took them; and behold, they are concealed in the earth inside my tent with the silver underneath it."

What things under the ban have we coveted and taken, hiding them within our earthly tents. May we act like the messengers Joshua sent and run to get these things within our hearts to pour them out before the Lord.

Joshua and all Israel then took Achan and all that belonged to him, including his sons and daughters, up to the valley of Achor, which means "the valley of trouble." In verses 25-26 Joshua said, "Why have you troubled us? The Lord will trouble you this day.' And all Israel stoned them with stones; and they burned them with fire after they had stoned them with stones. And they raised over him a great heap of stones that stands to this day, and the Lord turned from the fierceness of His anger. Therefore the name of that place has been called the valley of Achor to this day."

We as God's people must cry out to Him like David in Psalms 139:23-24 and say, "Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my anxious thoughts; and if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way."

There was a similar prayer laid out before the Lord from a man named Jabez in 1 Chronicles 4:9-10. It says that "Jabez was more honorable than his brothers... And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, 'Oh that thou wouldst bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me (or cause me pain)!' And God granted him that which he requested."

As we allow the Holy Spirit to search for anything forbidden within our hearts, and then lay them out before Him on the altar, the consuming fire of the Lord will fall and cleanse us. This is why the Lord said in Hosea 2:15 to unfaithful Israel that He would make "the valley of Achor as a door of hope." If we will repent of our sins before the Lord, He will then give our enemies into our hands.

#### The Plague Of Abortion

Joshua 8:2 goes on to say that He will not only give us assurance of victory, but will also tell us exactly how to do it. Praise His name! May we act quickly for the sake of our own souls, as well as the souls of our unborn, defenseless children.

# Chapter Nine

# Spiritual Abortions In The Body Of Christ

(Abortion; A Physical Manifestation Of A Spiritual State)

Describing the birth and purpose of Jesus, Matthew 1:18-21 states, "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows, when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit... Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for that which has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit and she will bear a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins."

When a person turns to the Lord they become, in a spiritual sense, like Mary. The seed of life has been conceived within you by the Holy Spirit, in order to give birth to the image of the Son in your life. This is the seed spoken of in 1 Peter 1:23 where it says, "For you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and abiding word of God."

James 1:18-21 also says, "In the exercise of His will He brought us forth (gave us birth) by the word of truth, so that we might be, as it were, the first fruits among His creatures... Therefore putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls." I had always been taught that the new birth happened immediately when you came to Christ. The Lord revealed to me that just as this does not happen in the physical realm, neither does it take place in the spiritual realm. Let me explain to you what I mean.

In John 3 Jesus has an interesting conversation with a man who was well versed in the law, a Pharisee, a teacher of Israel,

but who had no spiritual understanding of a very important teaching. It concerned the new birth in the kingdom of God.

Jesus told Nicodemus in verses 3-6, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

Without the new birth through the Holy Spirit, you will not have the ability to see, or perceive the kingdom of God. This is proven just by looking at Jesus disciples. They were with Him for about three years, but didn't comprehend what He was talking about until after Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was given. It is only by the Spirit that revelation of God and His kingdom occurs. 1 Corinthians 2:14 says that "a natural (unspiritual) man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them because they are spiritually appraised (examined)."

God also says in Proverbs 1:23, "Turn to my reproof (repentance), Behold, I will pour out My Spirit on you; I will make My words known to you (revelation)." Having eyes to see physically, an unrepentant heart will be blinded to what is going on spiritually.

This is part of the message that was given to the church of Laodicea in Revelation 3:14-22. Jesus told them they were blind and needed eye salve to anoint their eyes with. Without the cleansing waters of repentance, and the next step of the Spirit of God coming to a heart that has been prepared through that repentance, you will not be able to enter into the kingdom of God.

There are two elements spoken of in John 3:6; water and Spirit. The water represents the cleansing that comes when we turn to Jesus in humility, confessing our sins and then turning away from the wickedness that brings the wrath of God on us (see Colossians 3:1-6).

Being a Christian, a committed follower of Jesus Christ, is not just something you say, but something you do. If you are truly repentant, you will turn away from your sin, depending upon His strength to obey what He commands. His blood that was

shed on the cross and is accepted by the Father on our behalf, then cleanses us, removing the guilt and burden of our sins.

John the Baptist said in John 1:23 that he was "a voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord." His baptism was "a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins." It made ready, or prepared the heart for what was to come **afterward**. John made it clear that there was more. He goes on to say in verses 26-34, "I baptize in water, but among you stands One whom you do not know. It is He who comes **after me**... this is the one who baptizes in the Holy Spirit."

Jesus said in John 7:37-39, "If any man is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the scripture said, 'From his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.' But this He spoke of the Spirit whom those who believed were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified."

In John 2:23-25 there were many who believed in Jesus' name as they beheld the signs which He was doing. The Scriptures say that, even though they were "believers," He was not entrusting Himself to them "for He knew all men, and because He did not need anyone to bear witness concerning man for He Himself knew what was in man." We would call these people Christians because the Bible says that they were believers in Jesus, and yet Jesus saw there inner man and would not fully commit Himself to them.

It's interesting to note that the same Greek word is used for "believed" in verse 23 (N.A.S.), and "entrusting" in verse 24. It's as if the Bible is saying that Jesus did not fully believe in these new converts because they did not yet fully believe in Him. Because they were not yet fully committed to Him, He could not, or would not, fully commit to them.

The way had not yet been made ready within them. The word "entrust" in verse 24 literally means "to commit with confidence." I was taught within the church that you received all you'll ever get of God and His Holy Spirit when you first turn to Christ in repentance. These Scriptures alone prove otherwise. Yes, there is an initial encounter, but as John the Baptist said, unless I decrease, He will not be given the space to increase within Me (John 3:30).

It is amazing what happens within when the Holy Spirit reveals truth to us. Any false doctrines that have been set up in our mind from the past do whatever is necessary to deny that truth and defend themselves. They are strongholds of falsehood implanted by the enemy that God wants to uproot and set us free from.

My defensive response to defend a false teaching that had been implanted within me by the enemy was a revelation in itself. Whenever the Lord revealed something new to me that went against what I had always been taught, I would get angry. I thought to myself, "Why am I so angry?" I believe it had to do with my trying to defend a doctrine rather than seeking truth. Obviously, they are not always one in the same. Anger is a fruit of the flesh (Galatians 5:19-21), and that is what false doctrines feed.

In Ephesians 6:14 Paul explains the armor of God. He tells us to "stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth." According to Thayer's definition of the word "loins," it was the place where the Hebrews thought the generative power resided. We have all heard the expression of someone "coming from their loins." This is true spiritually also.

Truth is the way for spiritual procreation. Ephesians 1:13 says, "And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation." As stated earlier, James 1:18 says, "He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created." The word of truth gives birth to the image of Christ. Falsehood, on the other hand, aborts that which has been conceived within us.

In Leviticus 21:16-20 the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to Aaron, saying, No man of your offspring throughout their generations who has a defect shall approach to offer the bread of his God. For no one who has a defect shall approach: a blind man, or a lame man, or he who has a disfigured face, or any deformed limb, or a man who has a broken foot or broken hand, or a hunchback or a dwarf, or one who has a defect in his eye or eczema or scabs or crushed testicles."

These physical deformities do not disqualify a man today, but they do represent spiritual deformities that will disqualify any of us who would try to offer the bread of life to others. They define those who have not girded their loins with truth. False teachings in the church have affected our procreative ability. They have produced many spiritual defects amongst God's children, disqualifying them from offering the bread of God. We need to repent of our pride, and in humility clothe ourselves with the reproductive power of the Gospel, the word of truth.

The Holy Spirit cannot reveal Jesus to you and correct the areas of thinking that are wrong if you walk in spiritual pride. In this state our false doctrines always override His truth. This is the danger of being locked into a denomination rather than Christ. No denomination has all the truth. If they did, they wouldn't be a denomination, but instead would identify with the Body of Christ. They would admit when they were wrong doctrinally, seeking the truth rather than defending their organization.

When the Holy Spirit desires to introduce a correction to a denomination in their doctrine they usually resist Him. It is doctrine that defines who they are. If they were to change their doctrine, it would change their identity. To change their identity would require leadership to humble themselves before their congregations, admitting they were deceived. The controlling spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places over these deceived leaders will fiercely oppose this. They will not let God's people go without the Lord's strong hand of intervention.

This is why the Lord is about to destroy every man made brick in the church in America. The Lord is now calling His obedient children out of our corrupt denominational systems and into His glorious freedom. He will create gaping holes for His people to exit that they may truly worship Him in Spirit and in truth. It is time for us, the church, to repent of our foolishness and to grow up into Christ.

Proverbs 22:15 says that foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child. Our many divisions and differing doctrines prove just how unstable and immature we are. Ephesians 4:11-16 tells us how to "attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, **to a mature man**, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ." We will be transformed corporately as we repent of our useless rituals and then allow the Holy Spirit to transform our minds, revealing the difference between the holy and the profane.

We need to take a good look at the fruit of our labor over the last few years. Our nation is sinking deeper and deeper into depravity because of the wickedness in the church. It is a documented fact that **as the church goes, so goes the world**. We have been called by God to be salt and light, preserving that which is good and leading the way into righteous living.

The divorce rate in the church is a perfect example of our present state. It is now the same or worse than that of the rest of the world. Our deeds are speaking much louder than our words! Titus 1:16 says, "They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny Him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good." Church, we must repent in order to receive the heavenly eyesalve required to open our blind eyes. When Christ is glorified in our midst through His obedient children, the rivers of living waters will once again flow freely to our decadent society.

In Acts 8 Phillip goes to the city of Samaria where a man named Simon believed and was baptized. The passage goes on to say that "when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they began laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit."

Simon then offers them money for the authority to lay his hands on people to receive the Holy Spirit. Peter rebukes him strongly in verse 20 saying, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! You have no part or portion in this matter (or "word"), for your heart is not right before God. Therefore, repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you. For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and the bondage of iniquity."

Remember, this was a man who had believed and been baptized, yet was still held in bondage to sin. The way within him was not yet prepared, or made ready, for the Lord to come and baptize him in the Holy Spirit. Even though he was a believer in Jesus, He was not fully committed to Him. There was still an issue within this new convert in regards to

bitterness and iniquity. As with Lazarus, he had come forth from the dead, requiring further help in removing the death wraps that still bound him.

In John 6 Jesus confronted a group of His disciples. Knowing the condition of their hearts, He confronted their level of commitment. He said to them in verse 53, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in yourselves."

In the verses preceding these He had called Himself the bread of life, saying, "If anyone eats of this bread he shall live forever." The Bible says the Jews began to argue with one another, saying, "How can this man give us His flesh to eat?" The Lord was not suggesting cannibalism, but offering eternal life to anyone willing to fully partake of Himself, the Lamb of God.

Verse 66 says that as a result of this statement, many of His disciples withdrew, choosing not to walk with Him anymore. When confronted with their necessity to fully commit, disciples are still choosing to walk away. In order to draw closer to the Lord you must move further away from the world. Greater oneness with Christ demands greater denial of self.

The statement of Jesus in John 6 is similar to God's command in Exodus to consume the lamb in the partaking of Passover. There is no life in our flesh. Everlasting life is found in the application of His blood to the doorposts of our heart. Without Him we simply will not stand firm until the end and be saved. Our flesh is all about self-preservation, not self-denial.

In Acts 19:1-7 Paul encountered other believers in the city of Ephesus that also had not yet heard the full truth. He asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" They answered him, "No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit." Paul then said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." Paul said that "John baptized with the baptism of repentance (water), telling the people to believe in Him who was coming **after him**, that is, in Jesus." He then laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

In John 14:21-23 Jesus said to His disciples, "He who has My commandments **and keeps them**, he it is who loves Me; and he who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I will love

him, and will disclose (manifest) Myself to him." Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, "Lord, What then has happened that You are going to disclose Yourself to us, and not to the world?" Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word (the cleansing water of repentance and obedience), and My Father will love him, and we will come to him, and make our abode with Him (the Holy Spirit descending on a prepared heart)."

A beautiful picture of this is found in Genesis 8:6-12 where Noah sent the dove out of the ark three times to check the condition of the earth. In verse 9 Noah sent the dove out for the first time "but the dove found no resting place... so she returned to him in the ark." The cleansing waters had not yet receded enough to leave a place for the dove of God to stay. Remember that the Spirit of God descended like a dove on Jesus in Matthew 3:16 when He was baptized.

After 7 days, the dove was sent out for a second time. "And the dove came to him toward evening; and behold, in her beak was a freshly picked olive leaf." The judgment waters had receded with new vegetation beginning to reveal itself. The fruits of true repentance were becoming evident, unlike the unrepentant, uncleansed, religious hypocrites (Pharisees) of Luke 3:7-9.

In verse 12, after another 7 days, the dove was sent out for the third and last time. She did not return to him again. The place of habitation had now been made ready. Corporately, when we, the Body of Christ, are finally made ready, the Spirit of God will come to permanently dwell among us.

John saw this in a vision in Revelation 21:2-4. He wrote, "And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He shall dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be among them, and He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall no longer be any death; there shall no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."

This is the place where every enemy of Jesus has been put under His feet. His Bride has purified herself, having heard the Word of the Holy Spirit to "get ready" for the return of their King. They obediently cleanse their hearts by faith, filling their lamps with the oil of the Spirit. Their lamps are lit, revealing their prepared state before the Lord. They are the five wise virgins. The living waters then flow from His established throne in His people, bringing life wherever they go.

We have all witnessed unprepared believers who were convicted of the condition of their heart, being warned by the Holy Spirit that "your heart is not right before God." After going forward, a well meaning, but deceived "counselor," or other church leader, gives what is called "assurance of salvation."

Not understanding the reason for their conviction, he asks them if they ever asked Jesus in their heart and confessed their sins. When they say yes, he then offers a false sense of security by saying, "See, your fine, don't worry. The devil just wants you to doubt the word of God." In so doing, they produce a spiritual abortion! The conviction of the Lord is there to move us forward down the birth canal. The Holy Spirit will not let us be content until Christ is formed within. Yesterday's oil will not be good enough for tomorrow. We must persevere, standing firm until the end.

The pressure of conviction had been put there in order to move them on into the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God was moving them down the birth canal in order to give birth to the image of Christ. Satan quickly moves into position through lies and deception, hoping to perform a spiritual abortion on the seed which had been conceived within.

Those individuals who move on with the ways of the Lord in their own life, not resisting His call to purity and holiness, will also be the ones who will move on in the final indwelling of the Body. Everyone else, like the five foolish virgins, will find themselves on the outside screaming to be let in. Unfortunately, the door will be shut and what God shuts no man can open.

Right now, the majority of the church in the United States is totally unprepared. Because of disobedience to the covenant of the Lord, most seem oblivious to the quickly approaching storm. Doctrines of demons have infiltrated our churches so successfully that most shrug their shoulders in apathy at the mention of any judgment on our nation. It will truly be a tragic

awakening for many. The blood of thousands of unborn, aborted children cries out for justice from our soil.

One day soon we will finally gain the glory of our Lord and the deceiver of the nations will be bound. For now, though, the prince of the power of the air, Satan, still has the power to destroy the Lord's people who are seductively drawn away from obedience to His commands. Mankind's rebellion is what empowers him. The Lord is revealing the truth to His people in order to save the oppressed and crush our enemy.

Paul says to the church in Galatians 4:19, "My children, with whom I am **again in labor** until Christ is formed in you." He said "again in labor" because he understood the true meaning of being "born again." Look at your own life. Have you received the baptism of the Holy Spirit? I am not talking about the perversion of the teaching that says this is speaking in "tongues." That's from the pit. The devil can easily counterfeit the true gift of God (which I believe there is).

So what if you spoke in tongues. Is your life changed? Are you receiving revelation from the Spirit as you study the word? The Scriptures say that when the Spirit comes, He will guide you into all the truth and that he will reveal Jesus to, or, in you. The greatest proof of the Holy Spirit within is a holy life lived out. That is the true witness of the Spirit. How can the HOLY Spirit come into your very being, and you not be moved toward the same holiness?

Why is it with all the so-called "baptisms of the Spirit" the church in America has never been so unholy and powerless? Our fruits prove we don't truly possess what we say we do. We've been deceived. We must repent and be clothed with God's true power from on high. When we are, America will change.

That is what happened at Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was poured out on those who were assembled together in the upper room. They did not run off to fulfill the great commission in their own strength, but obeyed the Lord who had told them in Luke 24:46-49, "I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Jesus had commanded His apostles in Acts 1:4-8 not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised.

He told them that "John had baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." There is a children's fairy tale called "The Emperor's New

There is a children's fairy tale called "The Emperor's New Clothes." A king is deceived into believing that a beautiful robe was being made for him. He could not see it but was led into believing that it was very real. He went before his kingdom naked and his shame was seen by all. This is very much like the Body of Christ in the United States today. We are blind and naked kings before a world that is laughing at our exposed shamefulness. They clearly see what we are unwilling to confess. God is telling us through Revelation 3:18, "I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire, that you may become rich, and white garments, that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and eyesalve to anoint your eyes, that you may see."

There are spiritual abortions happening day after day in the Body of Christ. Conception, or the receiving of the seed of life, is always first with the development of it in the protection of the womb. Then, as we go through an intense time of labor pains brought on by the Lord, there comes the breaking through of new birth with the intaking of the first breath of life (Spirit).

We must be careful with our help in the delivery room of the Great Physician. In Isaiah 66:9 the Lord says, "Shall I bring to the point of birth, and not give delivery? Or shall I who gives delivery shut the womb?" Hosea 13:13 says, "The pains of childbirth come upon him; he is not a wise son, for it is not the time that he should delay at the opening of the womb." This is wise counsel from the Word of God to those who are feeling birth pains. They shouldn't delay, but instead push forward until the Spirit gives birth to the image of Christ within them. Our young disciples need to be informed that this is a normal pain for every follower of Christ right before something wonderful is birthed within their hearts.

When the church stops her spiritual abortions, the physical abortions taking place in the world will also stop. James 2:26 says, "The body without the Spirit is dead." The deadness in the abortion clinics across America are a reflection of the deadness in the Body of Christ caused by the lack of the Spirit's living presence. May God grant us a spirit of repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth that will set us free.

#### The Plague Of Abortion

As a nation we have sown the wind and are now beginning to reap the whirlwind. The days ahead will be extremely dark and difficult. The increased pressure of the Lord on our land, and the rest of the world, is there to force His rebellious children to get there eyes off themselves and back on Him.

The King is coming. Consecrate yourself in anxious anticipation of His arrival. Those who listen and obediently respond to His call will joyfully enter His presence. Those who willfully rebel will find themselves in a dark place, outside of His protective light, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Draw near to Jesus while it is still called today and He will draw near to you.

### Chapter Ten

# Standing In The Gap

Concerning the judgment of apostate Israel, the Lord declared in Ezekiel 22:30-31, "And I searched for a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one. Thus I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; their way I have brought upon their heads,' declares the Lord GOD." Will He say the same thing about America?

The Lord sought for a man among the Israelites who would repair the wall, or fence, around His people. This person would "stand in the gap" before Him. The wall He spoke of wasn't a physical wall, but rather a spiritual wall. It had to do with the hedge of the Lord around those who are called by His name. In this case it was an entire nation.

The Hebrew for "stand" is "amad". It means "to remain, to abide, to endure, to tarry, to continue, to be steadfast." It reinforces what we discussed earlier concerning guarding the place of abiding in Christ. The breaches in the protective enclosure of the Lord will be repaired by those who hear the word of the Lord and give themselves fully to His will. Otherwise, America will experience the fire of God's wrath and be given over to our enemies. We are not above Israel.

The sad thing in Ezekiel was that no one came to fill this gaping hole. No one stepped forward. I am reminded of Abraham bartering with God, getting Him to agree that if there were 10 righteous people found in Sodom He would not destroy it. Abraham obviously thought there would be enough people to, hand in hand, fill the gap and save the city, but it wasn't. They were not to be found.

The multiple reasons for the breach are given in verses 1-29 of Ezekiel 22. They aptly describe the present state of our society, as well as the issues God has with the present

religious hierarchy within America. If someone does not step in by faith, in purity and holiness, taking upon themselves the burden of the Lord for the break in the protective wall of God around America, this nation will be fully exposed to the righteous judgments of the Lord nearing our shores.

As we will see, the brunt of the guilt for our apostasy falls upon the leaders in the church who have not taught the difference to God's people between the holy and the profane. Again, "from everyone who has been given much shall much be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more" (Luke 12:48).

God holds the leadership of His people accountable first. They should be, through teaching and example, leading and protecting God's people. Instead, many shepherds in this nation are destroying and scattering the sheep of His pasture. Their judgment will be that of Israel's shepherds; "'You have scattered My flock and driven them away, and have not attended to them; behold, I am about to attend to you for the evil of your deeds,' declares the Lord" (Jeremiah 23:2). Woe to them.

Because of the knowledge and understanding given to us, judgment begins in the house of God. We are held to the highest standard. This is why the judgment upon Israel has been so great. The written truths, as well as the living Truth, Jesus Christ, were first revealed to them. The historical consequence for their rejection of that Truth is our example. We're not paying attention.

In Ezekiel 22:2 the Lord said to the prophet, "And you, son of man, will you judge, will you judge the bloody city? Then cause her to know all her abominations." The Lord commanded Ezekiel to confront His people, declaring Jerusalem to be a "bloody city" because of their disgusting idolatrous practices. Like Babylon in Revelation, their bloodguiltiness was associated with idolatry.

America now mirrors them in many ways. Murdering the defenseless children within the womb would certainly be considered a disgusting practice today. Should we expect God to judge Israel and then let us go? He will not! We are guilty of greater measure having this and many other examples in history to see concerning God's righteous judgments. Ignoring

God's historical intervention with nations that mock His law, we arrogantly march to our demise. In His eyes we have become a "bloody nation," given over to the passing pleasures of wickedness.

Verses 3-5 go on to declare, "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: O city that **brings on herself doom by shedding blood in her midst** and defiles herself by making idols, you have become guilty because of the blood you have shed and have become defiled by the idols you have made. **You have brought your days to a close, and the end of your years has come.** Therefore I will make you an object of scorn to the nations and a laughingstock to all the countries. Those who are near and those who are far away will mock you, O infamous city, full of turmoil."

We are bringing God's wrath upon ourselves due to the shedding of innocent blood through abortion. Do we think that America's wicked practices are above God's judgment? Our end as a mighty nation is drawing near! Those with ears to hear MUST stand in the gap for our land before we become a laughingstock to the nations.

The Lord's indictment continues in verse 6. "'See how each of the princes ("leaders") of Israel who are in you uses his power to shed blood." Like Israel, the leaders in this nation have used their congressional powers to bring into existence laws allowing the shedding of innocent blood through abortion. Not only have they allowed it, they now desire to fund it through taxpayer money!

Notice in verses 7-12 of Ezekiel 22 how many times the Lord says "in you." He spells out very clearly their internal sins. He says, "In you they have treated father and mother with contempt; in you they have oppressed the alien and mistreated the fatherless and the widow. You have despised my holy things and desecrated my Sabbaths. In you are slanderous men bent on shedding blood; in you are those who eat at the mountain shrines and commit lewd acts. In you are those who dishonor their fathers' bed; in you are those who violate women during their period, when they are ceremonially unclean. In you one man commits a detestable offense with his neighbor's wife, another shamefully defiles his daughter-in-law, and another violates his sister, his own father's daughter. In

you men accept bribes to shed blood; you take usury and excessive interest and make unjust gain from your neighbors by extortion. And you have forgotten me, declares the Sovereign LORD."

The bottom line was they had forgotten God. It was revealed by their arrogant rebellion towards the keeping of His covenant. The majority of the church in America is acting in the same manner. "In us" lies the issue!

"Men accept bribes to shed blood" today within our national government. Legislators have recently been bought off to vote for a national health care reform that involves using taxpayer money to fund abortions. For a fee they have sold their souls. Their blood will soon be required by the Lord to make atonement for the land.

As we'll see, the Lord blames the priests, the pastors, the shepherds of His flock for not teaching His sheep the truth. Like Aaron, they have let the people of God get out of control. By not enforcing His loving discipline when necessary, they have shown great disrespect for God's law. This was the Lord's indictment of the priests in Malachi also. They were allowing God's people to bring a defective sacrifice before the Lord, showing disrespect towards His righteous requirements like Cain did.

The Lord said in Malachi 2:5-8 concerning His covenant with Levi, "My covenant was with him, a covenant of life and peace, and I gave them to him; this called for reverence and he revered me and stood in awe of my name. True instruction was in his mouth and nothing false was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, and turned many from sin. For the lips of a priest ought to preserve knowledge, and from his mouth men should seek instruction-- because he is the messenger of the LORD Almighty. But you have turned from the way and by your teaching have caused many to stumble; you have violated the covenant with Levi," says the LORD Almighty."

In forgetting God we have broken covenant with Him. We have "forgotten" God's covenant with us concerning our partaking of His Body (our relationships with other believers, the horizontal portion of the covenant) and blood (our

relationship with God, the vertical portion of the covenant) in true "communion."

Jesus said in 1 Corinthians 11:24-25 and Luke 22:19, "...do this in remembrance of Me." Through our forgetfulness of the terms of the covenant, we have become guilty of the body and the blood of Jesus. Through our "forgetfulness", our ignoring of his commands toward Himself and one another in the Body, Christ does not come to the remembrance of the world because they do not see Him in His Body, the church.

We should be teaching and enforcing the difference between that which is holy and that which is profane out of love for Christ. Some teach it but never put it into practice by removing the leaven from their midst when necessary. The result is a very sick Body (1 Cor. 11:30).

It is extremely rare to see church discipline practiced as commanded by the Lord. Most in leadership are not close enough to the sheep to even know their condition. Biblical "koinania", which is intimate fellowship and communion within the Body, never takes place. Instead, we have become very accustomed to the pastor doing all the thinking and talking.

In Ezekiel 22:23-25 the Lord describes the treason of Israel's leaders. The Benedict Arnold's are eventually exposed and dealt with by the Lord. He commanded Ezekiel, "Son of man, say to the land, 'You are a land that has had no rain or showers in the day of wrath.' There is a conspiracy ("an unlawful alliance, treason") of her princes within her like a roaring lion tearing its prey; they devour people, take treasures ("riches, wealth") and precious things ("value, wealth, dignity, honor") and make many widows within her."

No rain from heaven was a sign of judgment. The nation was not cleansed, or purified from sin. There was a "conspiracy" amongst the spiritual leaders. Their acts of treason against the Lord and their brothers would cost them their lives. They were taking the wealth of the people for themselves. This defines many of America's ministers and ministries today. These spiritual traitors ask for a financial "seed of faith" that ends up in their bank accounts as they fleece the flock of God. In their minds the word "prophet" means "profit," a means of personal gain. They're lovers of money who sell their soul to feed their greed.

They are also what I call "widow-makers." The word "widow" comes from the Hebrew word "almanah". It means "a widow, also a desolate place." It is taken from another word, "alman", which means "forsaken as a widow, discarded as a divorced person."

A widow-maker is a spiritual leader who takes you from a place of plenty in the Lord to a desolate place with no life. You feel discarded, like the abandoned spouse in a divorce. They take from you, using you as they suck the life out of you (as well as your savings), until you're no longer useful to them.

You end up feeling forsaken, like a widow would when her spouse is gone. The one who has been abandoned by those whom they trusted experiences a sense of mourning over their loss. Through lies, and false teachings, the widow-maker takes everything that is "precious" to you, ultimately drawing you away from the life experienced in communion with the Lord.

These "wolves" in the midst of the church in America will be the foremost recipients of God's wrath in Revelation 18. They are responsible for the self-glorifying attitude of the majority of today's church within our nation. Through their flesh strengthening doctrines they have not turned God's people back, but instead have strengthened the hands of evildoers within the Body of Christ (Jer. 23:14, Ezekiel 13:22). Hell's hottest fires will be fueled by them.

Jeremiah 23:22 says, "But if they had stood in My council, then they would have announced My words to My people, and would have turned them back from their evil way and from the evil of their deeds." They have not stood in God's council because they are their own god, worshipping and exalting themselves. Eternal damnation of the greatest degree is their reward.

As discussed earlier, Revelation 18:7-8 says, "To the degree that she glorified herself and lived sensuously, to the same degree give her torment and mourning; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as a queen and I am not a widow, and will never see mourning.' For this reason in one day her plagues will come, pestilence and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for the Lord God who judges her is strong."

In her rebellious arrogance, spiritual Babylon thinks that she will never lose her husband, Jesus Christ. She is the

manipulating queen who will be "burned up with fire." She will be abandoned by the Lord because she has abandoned Him (2 Timothy 2:12). She will be discarded and thrown onto the dung heap. This is her destiny.

Now we get to the bottom line of this indictment against Israel by the Lord. In verses 26-29 of Ezekiel 22 the Lord said, "Her priests do violence to my law and profane my holy things; they do not distinguish between the holy and the common; they teach that there is no difference between the unclean and the clean; and they shut their eyes to the keeping of my Sabbaths, so that I am profaned among them. Her officials within her are like wolves tearing their prey; they shed blood and kill people to make unjust gain. Her prophets whitewash these deeds for them by false visions and lying divinations. They say, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says'-- when the LORD has not spoken. The people of the land practice extortion and commit robbery; they oppress the poor and needy and mistreat the alien, denying them justice."

The priests were not teaching the people the truth. They were not teaching them to walk in obedience, abstaining from that which is considered unclean by the Lord. The result was that, like Cain, the sacrifice of their lives was unacceptable before the Lord.

The priests "shut their eyes" concerning the people's disrespect of God's law, causing them to profane His covenant with them (Malachi 1:13). The reason was because they were really not concerned about the welfare of the people, but rather for what they could gain, or profit off them. This all sounds familiar. The name of the Lord seems to be continuously blasphemed in our news because of the exposed sins of the church's leadership within America.

The people of Israel were accused by the Lord of mistreating others, specifically the poor, the needy, and the alien. Their leaders mistreated them and they were mistreating others. Hosea 4:9 says, "And it will be: Like people, like priests. I will punish both of them for their ways and repay them for their deeds." God's righteous judgments are not partial.

Verse 27 says that her officials, her overseers, were like wolves tearing their prey. They were shedding innocent blood,

killing people for unjust gain. This sounds like the hideous abortion industry in our time.

The Hebrew for "kill" is "abad". It is defined as "to wander away, to go astray, to perish, to be destroyed, to be exterminated." Through their deceptive lies, many overseers in the church are destroying the sheep of God's pasture, causing them to wander away into the clutches of the wolf.

We turn in disgust, and rightfully so, at those who murder the defenseless children in the womb while "shutting our eyes" to the spiritual abortions taking place within the church by numerous false Babylonian prophets every week.

Through their deceptive doctrines they are killing our spiritual children, our new converts in the womb, bringing bloodguilt on themselves. They cause our "babies" in the Lord to wander away from the safe place of walking in obedience to Christ. The Lord's infants are being systematically exterminated by our enemy in a spiritual holocaust.

In verse 28 the Lord said Israel's prophets were whitewashing their deeds "by false visions and lying divinations." Whitewash is defined as "to smear, frivolity, foolish, unseasoned, tasteless." The foolishness of their spiritual leaders did not expose the people's evil deeds, but rather smoothed them over. This is the nonsense, the frivolous preaching that now permeates much of Christianity in America. It is "tasteless," good for nothing.

In Matthew 5:13 Jesus told His disciples, "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men."

The Greek for "tasteless" is "moraino". It means "to become insipid, to become foolish, to act foolishly." According to Webster's Dictionary, insipid is defined as "without flavor, tasteless, not exciting or interesting, dull, lifeless." That is a perfect description of many churches in America.

Without the presence of the Lord (the "Life" in John 14:6), we have become dull and lifeless, void of the life of Christ. We now compete with each other in a disgusting display of worldly based entertainment to try and gain members.

Our unbelievable display of foolishness, especially on socalled Christian television that's filled with human hype, often devoid of the true life of Christ, is neither convicting nor tasteful to the world. Like the prophets of Baal who took on Elijah, they have to dress flashier, sing louder and shout longer in a futile attempt to gain mankind's attention. They will quickly be removed when God acts for His name's sake.

In Ezekiel 13 the Lord refers to the work of false prophets as being whitewash. He said in verses 3-5, "Thus says the Lord GOD, 'Woe to the foolish prophets who are following their own spirit and have seen nothing. O Israel, your prophets have been like foxes among ruins. You have not gone up into the breaches, nor did you build the wall around the house of Israel to stand in the battle on the day of the LORD."

They were not standing in the gaps for the sake of others. Instead, they smeared whitewash, trying to camouflage their flimsy wall. Those who claimed to be speaking for God were not interested in laying down their lives for the brethren (1 John 3:16). What they really desired was the glory of Pentecost without going to Calvary.

Because of these foolish men, God's people were not ready to stand in the day of the Lord. Neither are we today. For His name's sake, the Lord is now going to expose the false from the true; those who speak for themselves and those who speak for God. Their will be another showdown between the prophets of Baal and the Elijah's. God's people with a divided heart will be forced to make a choice to either serve the Lord or the idols of our land.

Ezekiel 13:10-14 says, "they have misled My people by saying, 'Peace!' when there is no peace. And when anyone builds a wall, behold, they plaster it over with whitewash; so tell those who plaster it over with whitewash, that it will fall. A flooding rain will come, and you, O hailstones, will fall; and a violent wind will break out. Behold, when the wall has fallen, will you not be asked, 'Where is the plaster with which you plastered it?' Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, 'I will make a violent wind break out in My wrath. There will also be in My anger a flooding rain and hailstones to consume it in wrath. So I shall tear down the wall which you plastered over with whitewash and bring it down to the ground, so that its foundation is laid bare; and when it falls, you will be consumed in its midst. And you will know that I am the LORD."

The wombs of mothers are no longer a safe haven because the wombs of our spiritual mothers in the church are no longer a safe haven. The abortions in our clinics will stop when the abortions in our churches stop! Have mercy Lord on our children, stop this madness.

"Thus saith the Lord to the whitewash prophets; 'Because you have brought a premature end to My children, I will bring a premature end to you! You have torn them from My Body, so I will tear you from Mine!"

In the crucifixion, Jesus reached out with one hand toward mankind while reaching out with the other to the Father. With outstretched arms He then died on the cross. In so doing, He provided a way for us to connect with the Father. The "power of God for salvation to everyone who believes" (Romans 1:16) became available for whosoever will.

All who now follow Him must be willing to do the same for others or you cannot be His disciple. Jesus said in Matthew 16:24-26, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake shall find it. For what will a man be profited, if he gains the whole world, and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

When Jesus cried out "It is finished," His obedience to the Father was completed. When His obedience was complete, deliverance came for our souls. Following His example, when our obedience is complete, as directed by the Lord, deliverance comes to mankind also. This is the spirit of intercession.

We lay down our wills for the will of those with whom the Lord burdens us. In so doing, the power of God surges through the obedient vessel, bringing healing and deliverance to those in need. "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" (1 Cor. 1:18). By willingly entering into His death for mankind, we join Him in His suffering, proclaiming His death, and subsequent life, to the world.

In Isaiah 58 the Lord describes the fast of His choosing. He gives us specific results when obedience to His ways are

adhered to. He says in verses 6-7, "Is this not the fast which I choose, to loosen the bonds of wickedness, to undo the bands of the yoke, and to let the oppressed go free, and break every yoke? Is it not to divide your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into the house; when you see the naked, to cover him; and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?" If you'll notice this is not necessarily going without food or water, but involves giving yourself to those in need.

When we do this God's way, He promises in Isaiah 58:8-9, "Then your light will break out like the dawn, and your recovery will speedily spring forth; and your righteousness will go before you; the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; you will cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.'"

Verse 12 goes on to tell us that not only will He then hear us, but that "those from among you will rebuild the ancient ruins; you will raise up the age-old foundations; and you will be called **the repairer of the breach**, the restorer of the streets in which to dwell." This is the kind of fast the Lord desires from His people. Without it, America's breach will never be repaired. He now searches among us for those who would build up the wall and stand in the gap before Him, so that He will not have to totally destroy us.

There was a time, in Numbers 16, when the Lord became so angry with the rebellious Israelites that He told Moses, "Get away from among this congregation, that I may consume them instantly." Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before God and a plague of death broke out amongst the people. Aaron took his censer, placed fire from the altar in it, and then ran into the midst of the assembly. The Bible says that he placed the incense on it, making atonement before God for the people.

Verse 48 states that, by taking his stand between the dead and the living, the plague was checked. The Hebrew for "stand" in this verse is "amad", the same word used in Ezekiel 22:30. Remember, it means "to remain, to abide, to endure, to tarry, to continue, to be steadfast." This is also our call concerning abortion. Our remaining in Christ, standing in the gap waiting for the power of God to come forth, is the only way to stop abortion.

Atonement must be made for this plague of death inflicting our children. We too must fall on our faces before Almighty God, quickly bringing before Him the required living sacrifice to check the plague of abortion that has taken the lives of millions of our children.

Deuteronomy 21:1-9 describes the intercession of the priests required to remove the guilt of innocent bloodshed. After the required sacrifice was made, they were instructed that "the priests, the sons of Levi, shall come near, for the LORD your God has chosen them to serve Him and to bless in the name of the LORD; and every dispute and every assault shall be settled by them."

The Hebrew for "assault" is "nega". It is defined as "a stroke, plague, disease, a mark, a plague spot." God has handed over the responsibility for removing this plague to the priests. Revelation 20:6 declares all those who have a part in the first resurrection to be "priests of God and of Christ." This responsibility does not fall upon the shoulders of legislatures within our federal government, but rather first and foremost with those who name the name of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

Deuteronomy 21:9 says, "you shall remove the guilt of innocent blood from your midst, when you do what is right in the eyes of the LORD." When Christians do what is right in the eyes of God, He will quickly act, stopping the shedding of innocent blood that has defiled our land. For the sake of our innocent children, we must take our stand between the dead and the living so that the plague of abortion will stop. America's issue of blood can only be healed by "Jehovah Rophe," the Lord our healer.

When David cut down Goliath, he went to a stream and chose five smooth stones. Saul had offered his weapons of warfare, but they were too cumbersome for David. This is what the majority of the church in America does today. They tell those with the Davidic anointing to use their ways and methods to bring down the enemy. They cannot fight with them. It's not what the Lord used to train them with.

The five smooth stones represent those who stay, or remain in the Lord's river of life. They are His weapons of choice. By remaining in the flow of God, staying connected through submission to the "Livewire," His Spirit flowing in and through them has smoothed out the rough edges in their lives, preparing them for the day of battle. At certain times throughout history, He comes to choose those abiding in His river whom He will hurl at a "giant" that defies Him.

One thing is for sure, this battle against the plague of abortion is the Lord's. Like David, let us leave our baggage with the baggage keeper (1 Samuel 17:22) and run quickly toward the battle line. He will give this giant into our hands.

They may come against us with the weapons of man, but we come in the name of the Lord Almighty. In His name, and by His Spirit, we can cut this giant's head off letting the world know that there is a God, not only in Israel, but here in America among His remnant who believe. Amen.