

RESPECT

for



LIFE

- Ray Brubaker

GOD'S NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS
RADIO BROADCAST

RESPECT

for



LIFE

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GOD'S NEWS ..BEHIND THE NEWS

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Can Science Create Life?



Scientists have manufactured in test tubes a synthetic material that is best described as a primitive form of life.

In recent years this has become an awesome question, **CAN SCIENCE CREATE LIFE?**

The question leaves unanswered the possibility as to whether man can re-create an Einstein, thus becoming like God. Or, would science stoop so low as to create robots--an army of mindless men whose duty would be to serve as slaves?

Neill Foster comments, saying: "If man's past record is any indication, he will likely concentrate on the evil."

Foster, in his newspaper column, points out, "Even if man eventually creates a very complicated living being, he will still have to cross formidable barriers before he will be able to claim divine powers of creation. Not only will he have to put into his creation discretionary powers, imagination and a conscience--he will still have to create a soul. That," says Foster, "we may safely wager, man will never do."

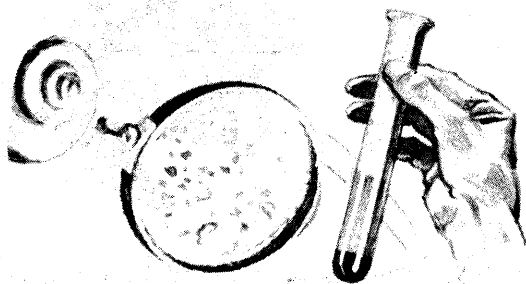
Man in his scientific accomplishments has produced an amazing electronic device we call the computer. But the thousands of parts that make up a computer are insignificant compared to the millions and millions of cells that make up the human body.

The most fascinating part of our study is to realize that all of us originate from a tiny speck of protoplasm so small that a pinhead looks large in comparison. Yet within that tiny speck are genetic characteristics such as the father's eyes and the mother's nose. Amazing, isn't it?

We would be reminded again that inside the single fertilized egg cell--much, much smaller than a pinpoint--is everything necessary to make up the human body and to produce it perfectly.

For instance, we would understand that inside this cell are layers. The first layer makes up the nervous system, skin, hair, fingernails and tooth enamel. The second layer within that microscopic cell provides for the bones, blood and muscles. And the third layer forms the digestive tract and the respiratory system.

When the sperm of the father unites with the egg of the mother, there is created a completely new human being. It would take a large public library to explain how it is possible that inside the single cell there can be different kinds of cells--bone cells, blood cells, muscle cells, nerve cells and many others. These all work together harmoniously at the proper time so as to develop the most perfect being possible.



No wonder the Psalmist says that man is "fearfully and wonderfully made." And, no wonder that the devil has sought to degrade sexual relationships as something cheap and immoral when it is the most sacred and miraculous experience known.

No wonder the Scriptures condemn so vehemently such acts as fornication and adultery, along with associated perversions of the physical relationship. For it is taking something beautiful and majestic and making a mockery out of what is in reality an act of God's creation.

Paul, in writing to the Corinthians, warned them, saying: "Be not deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind...shall inherit the kingdom of God."

Anyone who does not respect the body which God has given him thus sins against the Almighty by desecrating his body. Thus the Apostle urges: "Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body."

Again Paul writes: "Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body." (I Cor. 6:13)

He concludes the chapter by asking: "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

What responsibility is ours to keep our bodies pure and our relationships respected, being mindful that we are temples of the living God and not animals given over to lust and passion as the evolutionists would have us believe.

Because man was created in the image and likeness of God, a triune being of body, soul, and spirit with an eternal destiny, it thus behooves us to realize from whence we came and where we are going!



The baby that is conceived is a marvel so miraculous that even science cannot fathom or comprehend it, although it is desperately seeking to duplicate it.

"Should science ever formulate a workable theory of how life got started by spontaneous generation, it would challenge religion's fundamental concept of God-the-life-giver," so say today's scientists.

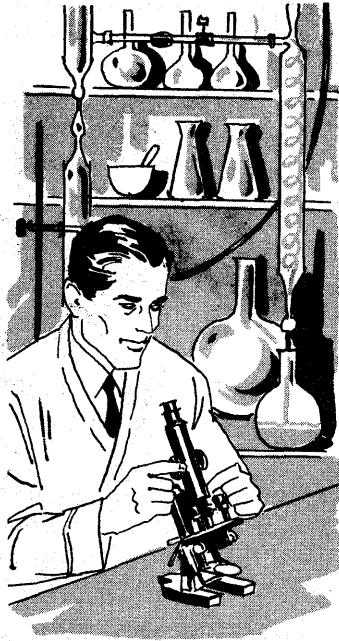
Of course, the creation of a human being from a test tube is far from being an accomplishment.

Soviet scientists have inaugurated a "crash program" to try to discover the secret of life and to create a living thing. Yet this seems far from a reality. "Don't expect to see a little boy or little girl crawl out of a test tube," remarked one of the scientists attending a science symposium in Moscow. He went on to admit that "Created life will be in the form of microscopic matter."

Announcements have been made of life created under laboratory conditions. But as one newspaper columnist has observed: "No one has been able to make living out of non-living stuff..." He further declares: "We do not know the cause of life, or even the ultimate facts about the mechanism of heredity." (Watson Davis - Science Service)

On the other hand, a Columbia University biochemist says: "I believe we will see life created within the laboratory in our lifetime." (S.L. Miller)

A Wheaton College professor was asked to comment on the attempts being made to create life. His answer was: "We are created in the image of God, which means that we are a model of him in a minor sense. We ought to have some of his abilities." He goes on to suggest that if God was smart enough (as



he put it) to create life in the first place, we ought to be able to analyze it so as to be able to recreate it in a minor way."

The professor says he would not be disturbed theologically over such a development, declaring: "If the scientist eventually creates life, that proves that there was a God in the first place."

He then challenges today's scientists that if they want to create life, they must start out as God did with nothing. All today's scientists can do is to put together basic substances which in some instances have a way of reproducing themselves.

Some see the coming Antichrist having the power to give life.

Actually there are two personages portrayed as appearing in the endtime. The one is given power over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations for a period of 42 months.

It's apparent that this person becomes great when he is killed but miraculously lives. The Scripture describes him as "wounded to death" but "his deadly wound was healed; and all the world wondered after the beast."

Later another personage appears on the scene and he commands the inhabitants of earth to worship the first "beast" whose deadly wound was healed.

He also commands that an image be made to the beast which had the wound by a sword and did live.

Then we read, "And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed." (Rev. 14:15)



Many feel that man will never go so far as to create life. But this picture here in Revelation 13:15 does indicate that when Satan is cast down upon the earth during the coming tribulation that he will exercise great powers which will border on the miraculous.

Could it be that his first act is to possess the man who is wounded to death--giving the appearance of his coming back to life? Could it be that a prominent world figure should end up with an assassin's bullet? He is declared to be dead. But then symptoms of life are seen and he announces that destiny has ordained that he return to rule the world. He is then worshipped by the inhabitants of earth who thus are convinced he is the true Messiah whereas he is an imposter.

Witnessing this miraculous transformation from death to life, there is another prominent figure who appears who, we're

told, builds an image to him who was wounded by a sword and did live. And power is given to the image so that it gives evidence of being alive for it did speak. He likewise declares that all who refuse to pay homage--adoration and worship of the beast--should be killed.

He then "causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."

Are we approaching fulfilment of these days? Is this beast the world ruler soon to appear along with his false prophet?

The fate of those who yield and take the identifying mark in their forehead or on their right hand is described in Rev. 14:11. Listen to it. "And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever; and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name."

My friend, if Jesus were to come today, you can be sure the godless system of Antichrist would shortly come to pass and you would be required to accept this mark in order to buy any groceries or pay any bills. Computers are already being designed that simply record identifying marks so that we know the day about which we are speaking must be nigh at hand.

However, we believe the coming of our Lord to be the blessed hope. To those who look for Him He shall appear to take us to Himself while the world suffers the anguish of great tribulation and divine wrath.

Beloved, it behooves us to be ready for our Lord's Return. By accepting Christ as both Saviour and Master, allowing Him to be Lord of your life, you can be ready for the event we call the rapture.

The Scriptures remind us that no man can say that Jesus is Lord save by the Holy Ghost. When Jesus is Lord in your life, He will acknowledge His presence and power by controlling and directing your life as you yield to Him, keeping you momentarily ready for whenever day and hour our Lord may come.

Hear me. Make sure everything is right between you and your fellowman and between you and God. When Jesus comes, there will be no quick trip to your neighbor to ask forgiveness, or to return stolen goods. You had better get right with God and with one another now. The choice is clear--it will be for many--CHRIST or ANTICHRIST!

Give your heart and life to the Lord today. Realize it was for you He died upon a cross and rose again. Then faithfully live for Him, love Him and serve Him.

Indeed, be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh.

Shall We Prolong Life?



KAREN QUINLAN

. . . a right to live?

(# 1,073)

The subject of life and death has come into discussion as a result of the Karen Ann Quinlan case.

Was it proper for her to be permitted to die? The result of the New Jersey Supreme Court ruling indicated that life-support systems may be withdrawn from the hopelessly ill. Or could it be, as some contend, that where there is life, there is hope, and everything should be done to maintain life.

Judge Robert Muir, Jr. ruled previously that Karen Anne Quinlan must be kept alive even if it requires the use of mechanical life-support equipment because, as he decreed: "There is no constitutional right to die."

In a 44-page opinion, this Superior Court Judge declared: "The single most important temporal quality Karen Ann Quinlan has is life." Said the Judge, "This court will not authorize that life to be taken from her."

The Rev. Robert Cleath, a part-time minister and professor at California Polytechnic State University, has a son who has been in a coma since an automobile accident five years ago. This father, who has watched with anguish his son, says that although there are no signs of recovery, he has no intention of letting him die. "Why?" His reply: "Because I love my son. God is the author of life and no one has the right to take a life, not even his own."

Is this not the Scriptural position--that the Lord is the author of life?

Likewise, Mrs. Lee Merryman of Newport Beach, California, relates how her son was in a motorcycle accident in January 1972. She tells how he suffered severe head injuries and "almost overnight, I watched him change into a vegetable."

Weeks dragged by...then months, and still her son, Mike, showed no signs of getting better.

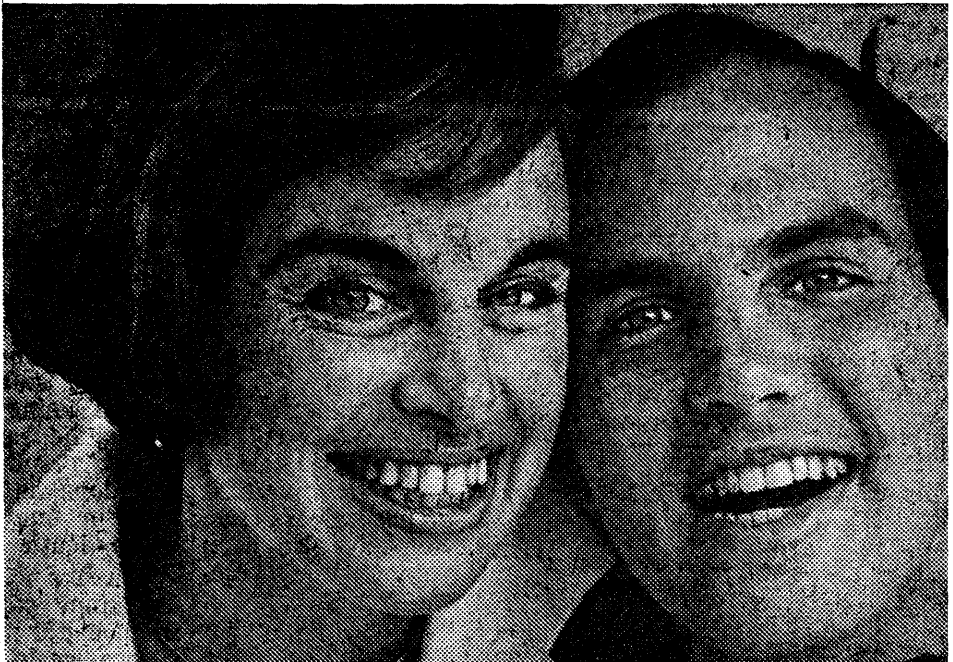
After two months had passed, her doctor said: "You must decide soon whether or not the boy should be allowed to die."

The mother testifies how the doctor's words cut her like a knife, and she replied: "No! No! No!"

Then shortly after the third month, the miracle she had prayed for finally happened. Mike gradually came out of his coma. His senses began to return.

Shortly afterward he returned home and like a baby he had to learn to live all over again. A year later he was virtually back to normal again. He is now in college hoping to become a doctor.

Is he glad his mother did not favor "pulling the plug"? He replies: "I'll be eternally grateful to her for giving me the chance to live." (NATIONAL ENQUIRER 5/4/76)



DEDICATION: Mike Moldenhauer's loving mother battled for year to return him to normal after he left hospital as helpless as a baby.

When God created Adam, He breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. (Gen. 2:7)

At a meeting of scientists, the discussion centered around how life began. One scientist offered the suggestion that volcanic lava flowing into the ocean may have triggered the spontaneous generation of the first life on earth. However, if this be true, how come it doesn't happen today? Volcanoes continue to erupt, hot lava still flows into oceans, but no indication of life results.

Among the 6,000 scientists present at this particular meeting, other ideas and guesses were made including that of lightning flashing through the gases in our atmosphere above the still lifeless world, creating "complex life-foundation chemicals which were then carried by rain into the oceans."

Now that sounds "scientific," doesn't it? But why not accept the Bible's explanation for life which recognizes that a loving God created man--breathing into his nostrils the breath of life, or as the Hebrew word indicates, "the breath of lives," since life is self-propagating.

We would like to point out, too, that the One who breathed within Adam the breath of life was none other than the Lord Jesus Christ. Some wrongfully suppose that our Lord first made an appearance on earth as the lowly babe of Bethlehem. But, no, for He was on the earth at the creation of man. He was the One who spake and worlds came into being. He was the one who made the sun, the moon and the stars. He was the one who made all of the trees and plants, the birds and every living animal.

Read John 1:3 which says: "All things were made by him (the Lord Jesus Christ); and without him was not anything made that was made." That, my friend, is why the crucifixion was such an outrageous act. Man, whom God had made, murdered his Maker!

Think of it! Can you imagine an act so cruel as for man to crucify his Creator? That's exactly what we read in I Cor. 2:8, where we're told concerning the wise and noble, the princes of this age, that "had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory."

No wonder we love our Lord today. Jesus is the Lord of Glory. He is the One who left Heaven's palaces to come down to earth and create a being altogether different from the angels--one made of flesh and blood and spirit, made in His own likeness and image, in whom He would breathe the breath of lives.

Some think of Jesus as another founder of a religion, or as a great teacher, but the Scriptures picture Him as the God of the universe Who came to earth to prove His love for mankind by loving and redeeming the very ones who mistreated and abused Him.

In Hebrews, we read how God has spoken in these last days by His Son....by whom also He made the worlds. Did you hear it? Can you fathom such love for man as exhibited by our Lord Jesus Christ? As the writer of the Hebrews goes on to declare, "When he by himself purged our sins, (he) sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high." Heb. 1:3

What a picture. See the suffering Saviour satisfying the summons of a Holy God whose holiness demanded that sin must be punished, coming to this earth to die for the sins of those in whom He once breathed the very breath of life.

That's why with every breath you breathe, you should be so grateful--so thankful--so appreciative of the life you have. For not only did our Lord breathe into man the gift of life, but He came that we might have eternal life.

When Adam sinned, he lost this quality of eternal life, but this has been restored for all who receive the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour. As we read in Romans 6:23b, "...the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

I see where Soviet scientists had inaugurated a crash program in an effort to discover the secret of life. Here, their policy of opposing a belief in God prevents them from knowing that secret, for Jesus declared: "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10) Even in America, or elsewhere, to keep our children from reading the Bible in the public schools is to keep them from discovering the only source of life which is in Jesus Christ. He is the Lifegiver.



UPI

Sometimes a minister will attend a meeting where various religions may be represented and he is cautioned not to offend those in his audience. He is told that he may speak of God or of a Supreme Being, but not to mention Jesus Christ!

Do you know what the Bible says about that? That is the spirit of antichrist which is prevalent in the world today--that it's all right to mention God but do not speak of Jesus Christ!

Listen to what we read in I John, chapter 2. "Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father." Did you hear it? When you refuse to accept Jesus, you are also refusing to acknowledge and accept God the Father. Therefore, we read, "He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son." (v.22-23)

That's plain, isn't it?

Just now you have political candidates seeking votes. You'll find them, on occasion, making reference to God, but unless they specifically speak of Jesus Christ, they may have accepted this philosophy that is today dominating the world scene.

"Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father," says the Apostle John, "but he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also."

That's what the Bible says.

My friends, God is the Creator of life and He is the Sustainer of life, Who through Jesus Christ is the Giver of NEW life--ABUNDANT life--ETERNAL life.

Jesus could say, "I am the way, the truth and the life." (John 14:6) On the other hand, we read: "The wages of sin is death!" (Rom. 3:23b)

Peter, in one of his sermons in the book of Acts, reminded his listeners that those who crucified Jesus "killed the Prince of Life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses." (Acts 3:15)

So, by rejecting Christ, we are actually rejecting the "Prince of Life." And we might add here--if you reject any portion of the Word of God, you are also rejecting the "Prince of Life." There are some people who say, "I accept some of the Bible but not all of it."

Hear me, dear friend, our Lord, who created all things is described as the incarnate Word. Listen to it. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God....And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)

Our Lord left behind no portrait--no picture of Himself, but He did leave His word, and to reject any part of it is to reject a part of Him.

The question as to whether a person should be allowed to use extraordinary means to prolong life remains paramount in the minds of many. In the case of Karen Ann Quinlan, the judge maintained that the decision should be left to her doctors, not to the courts or to the church or to her parents. The Court, although reversing the judge's decision, also left the decision to that of the doctors who all along have shared the court's sentiments.

The Scriptures would remind us that life at its greatest is just a flickering shadow compared to eternity.

The Psalmist declares, "As for man, his days are as grass; as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone." (Psa. 103:13-17)

James writes: "For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

How important then to make good use of the time allotted to living here on earth. God gives us enough time to discover the purpose of life; that is, to come to know the gift of eternal life freely offered in Jesus Christ.

It would be better never to have been born than to live without coming to know Christ and be lost forever. Even though we were to suffer a lifetime in a wheelchair, or on a bed of affliction, it is still better to know we are saved and on our way to Heaven.

While we believe in the miracle power of God to heal, yet we know suffering is the lot of humanity. Even if we were to suffer for a lifetime, it would still be worth knowing Jesus who will change our vile bodies and give us glorified bodies at His coming.

Writes Paul: "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

Can you say, AMEN?

So, let's live for Christ, knowing that a better day is coming--free from heartache and pain, free from misery and despair, free from suffering.

If you don't know the Saviour, don't delay! Put your trust in Him today. Receive Him by inviting Him into your heart and life. Pray this prayer, "Lord, forgive me of my sins. Come into my heart by Your Spirit. Save me now. Amen."

If you mean it, He will do it. Then live every exciting moment knowing that He may come any minute. Indeed, be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh.

Abortion --



Lack Of Respect For Life!

In Rome recently tens of thousands of screaming women marched through the streets in a mammoth demonstration in favor of abortion. Police said that the demonstration was the largest ever by women in the Italian capital.

Chanting "My Body Is Mine," some twenty thousand women just a week before marched in protest to a parliamentary decision which would permit abortion only in rape cases or where the woman's health was endangered. This did not satisfy these women who want abortion to be made free and legal in Italy.

On January 2, 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortion, and since then it is estimated that over three million unborn babies have been killed. Think of it.

Abortion at six weeks kills a little human being with arms and legs, fingers and the beginning of toes. The head may appear outrageously large compared to the body, but this is due to the rapid rate at which the brain is developing.

Someone prepared the following diary of an infant whose life had just begun. The diary reads as follows:

October 5: Today my life began. My parents do not know it yet. I am as small as the pollen of a flower, but it is I already. I will be a girl. I will have blonde hair and blue eyes. Nearly everything is settled already, even that I shall love flowers.

October 19: I have grown a little, but I am still too small to do anything by myself. My mother does almost everything for me, though she still does not know that she is carrying me under her heart. But, is it true that I am not yet a real person? That only my mother exists? I am a real person, just as a small crumb of bread is still real bread. My mother is, and I am.

October 23: My mouth is just now beginning to open. Just think — in a year or so I'll be laughing; and later I'll start to talk. My first word will be "mama."

October 25: Today my heart began to beat. It will beat softly for the rest of my life, never stopping; after many years it will tire, it will stop, and then I shall die.

November 2: I am growing continually. My arms and legs are taking shape, but I must wait a long time before these tiny legs will rise me to my mother's arms; before these little arms will be able to conquer the earth and befriend people.

November 12: Tiny fingers are beginning to form on my hands. How small they are; one day I'll stroke my mother's hair.

November 25: My mother and father are probably thinking about a name for me; and they don't even know that I am a little girl, so they are probably calling me "Andy." But I want to be called Barbara. I am growing so big.

December 10: My hair is growing. It is as bright and shiny as the sun. I wonder what kind of hair my mother has?

We can't help but wonder about the disregard for the sacredness of life. The fifth commandment reads, "Thou shalt not kill."

We're told that R. A. Torrey said: "If there is any hand in the world that is scarlet with the blood of murder, it is that of the woman who murders her own unborn babe."

We look with horror at Hitler's purges of human beings at Dachau and Buchenwald. But what is the difference? A life is a life.

Someone has written: "If an innocent human being can be killed because he is too young,...there is no reason in principle why he cannot be killed because he is too old. Or too retarded. Or too politically undesirable."

We read of a time coming when men will be killed for the Word of God and for their testimony of faith in Christ.

John the revelator describes the souls slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held: "And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?"

We read: "It was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also, and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled," (Rev. 6:9-11)

Witnessing the growth of a godless political system that is sweeping the globe makes us wonder how long it will be before America and the world will see the martyrdom described here by John.

Billy Graham, appearing in St. Petersburg a few days ago, said he sees persecution ahead and called for the memorization of Scripture to strengthen faith for times when our faith may be tried.

December 13: I am almost able to see, though it is night around me. When mother brings me into the world, it will be full of sunshine and overflowing with flowers. I have never seen a flower you know, but more than anything, I want to see my mother. How do you look, Mother?

December 28: Today, my mother killed me.

(Anonymous)

In London recently (May 8, 1976) thousands of people marched in protest to the Soviet imprisonment of a Baptist minister, one of many behind the iron curtain being persecuted for his faith.

In Communist countries officials harass Christians by subjecting them to fines, imprisonments, tortures, and cancellation of work passes if they are found in possession of a Bible, holding prayer meetings, or found guilty of listening to foreign broadcasts.

Hal Lindsey relates how, under the world ruler known as the Antichrist, there will be unparalleled persecution. He comments on a passage in Rev. 13 which tells of a time coming when Antichrist will require all of the world's inhabitants to receive a mark in their right hand or in their foreheads in order to buy or sell. And men will be compelled to worship the image or be killed.

Says Lindsey, "When the anti-Christ takes power, he will require everyone to swear allegiance to him as God...if a person doesn't pledge his loyalty, he will not be assigned a number by which everyone of that time buys and sells items and holds a job."

It is his belief that the "numbering" of people is not far off. He predicts a world economic disaster will force countries to cease using currency as the medium of exchange, forcing nations to rely on electronic banking. When this system becomes a reality, it would be possible for one person--the antichrist--to keep track of people and control them totally economically.

As time progresses, so human life will cheapen. Wars such as afflict nations will become more numerous. Bloodshed and violence will increase. Even though agreements will be signed doing away with certain kinds of destructive weapons, it will not keep man from destroying his fellowman.

In Ezekiel armies are described coming from the North to the mountains of Israel. It is a battle to take place in the latter days. Mention is made of the weapons and would you believe it--"bows and arrows" are among those used. (Ezek. 39:9)

Zechariah describes the plague wherewith the Lord will smite all the people who will eventually come against Jerusalem. We read: "Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth." (14:12)

Some believe it is possible that Israel holds the neutron bomb, a weapon that attacks only protein-bearing cells. This would render destruction and death to individuals but would leave land and buildings intact.

Isaiah also describes coming calamities seen befalling the world in a future day we call the "great tribulation." We read,

"For, behold the Lord cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain." (Isa. 26:21)

So great will be the slaughter that men will not be buried but lie upon the open field and in city streets.

Notice the reason for this calamity. We're told the Lord comes to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity. That is one of the main reasons for this final judgment seen coming upon the earth. Because men lightly esteem the commandments of God, killing one another, committing adultery, and practicing abortion, there is no choice but for God to allow destruction that will find dead bodies with no one to bury them.

Let me point out that the previous verse declares: "Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment until the indignation be overpast."

Some think this is a reference to Israel and the refuge to be found at Petra, a city hewn out of rock, that will protect the Hebrew remnant in a future day when nations will come against Jerusalem to battle.

Others see this verse applicable to the saints who will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air, and will be sharing with Him the glorious time of feasting at the marriage supper of the Lamb, while on earth there is war, bloodshed, and carnage such as that of Armageddon.

If this is not your hope today, why not come to Christ while there is still time to be saved and spared this judgment coming upon the world because of its sin.

As Hal Lindsey told the crowd at Orlando, Florida, during JESUS '76, "The time to make the decision for Christ is now!" Referring to the rapture, he declared: "I believe we are on the brink of the most dramatic event in the history of man, and that the event could happen at any moment."

So we believe the coming of our Lord is at hand. We should make absolutely sure that we have repented of sin to trust the Saviour so that at His coming we will be found faithfully loving and serving Him. Indeed, what a wonderful salvation is ours that forgives sin. Even the sin of abortion, when sincerely and honestly confessed to Christ, can be forgiven. But there must come a desire to live for the Lord if our faith is genuine and real.

And may our motto be - "Be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."

Immorality --

(#1,077)

Lack Of Respect For Life!

A blue-eyed baby boy, about a year old, was found crawling in a snake-infested area just two feet away from the St. Mary's River that forms the Georgia-Florida state line.

At Memorial Hospital in Folkston, Georgia, the nurse who received the child said: "I can't believe a mother would abandon a baby that way..."



Later, in Florida, the parents were found driving a stolen vehicle and are now in jail.

Sheriff Ray Gibson also remarked: "To leave a beautiful little child like that...there must be something wrong with those folks." He added, "People would give their life for a baby like that without ever having seen him."

And in Kingsport, Tennessee, a 29-year-old father who was convicted of child abuse was ordered by the Court to submit a written report to the judge on what the Bible says about disciplining children.

"I've never done this before," said Judge George Garrett. But he told the defendant, Jerry Vermillion, "I want you to read what the Scriptures say about disciplining children and submit to me in writing some comments about what you think they mean."

More than 200,000 children under the age of five died this last year as the result of intentional abuse by adults. Think of it. It was estimated that four million cases of maltreatment of youngsters were reported in 1975.

Dr. Irwin Redlener, in Miami, declared: "We're dealing with an epidemic in this country." He went on to say, "If child-abuse were polio, the whole country would be up in arms looking for a solution."

One of the signs forecast in Scripture for the endtime is this lack of love or, as the Bible calls it, being "without natural affection." How tragic to see a father beat his son unmercifully, not for anything wrong that he had done, but because the dad is drunk, or on dope, or in order to take out his anger on someone.

Dr. Harry Hebert, Louisiana medical director of the child-protection program, estimates that up to 50% of youngsters badly maltreated or neglected will have emotional problems later in life.

Jesus spoke of the faith of a little child, saying: "Whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea." How important to teach our children to love God and His Word. And may we never discourage our boys and girls from following the Lord and in living for Him.

Well, the United States is not alone in lacking respect for life as evidenced in child mistreatment and in the number of abortions performed.

The Psalmist would remind us, "Children are an heritage of the Lord; and the fruit of the womb is his reward." How many would pluck that fruit by the act of abortion.

Again we read, "As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them. (Psa. 127:3-5)

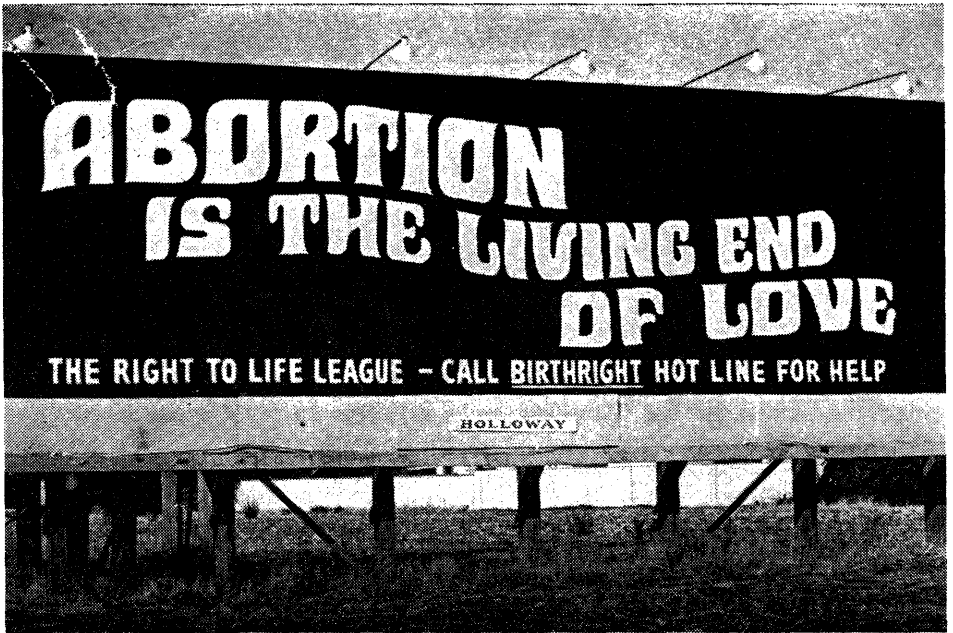
That was always such a descriptive passage--comparing our children to arrows in a quiver and suggesting that happiness results from an abundance of them.

I once pastored a church where parents in my congregation had eleven girls and one boy. That surely was a wonderful quiver-full.

And to think that there are parents that would abandon their offspring or have their children physically destroyed in the womb rather than to give them birth. The expulsion of the fetus prematurely, with the stoppage of its life, is known as abortion.

Millions of children now in the wombs of their mothers will never be born. In Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia, there are more abortions than live births.

In Britain over one million abortions have been performed since the 1967 abortion act. The Rev. Tony Bush, assistant pastor at the Anglican Church in Bristol, England, comments about the serious nature of abortion as a moral issue. Rev. Bush believes most people are not aware of the nature of the abortion as it takes place.



Without question, the problem of abortion has increased as a result of a lack of respect for life, as well as a loosening of morals.

According to THE NATIONAL OBSERVER, in the United States nearly one million females under the age of 20, married or unmarried, became pregnant last year. One girl in four has her baby before she reaches the age of 20, and half of these babies were conceived out of wedlock.

There are some who advocate Sex Education as the solution to the supposed ignorance that exists among the young. But to teach youngsters that which only the married need to know only arouses curiosity and invites experimentation in pre-marital sex which the Scriptures strongly condemn.

Accordingly, pre-marital sex is what the Bible calls "fornication," which in the sight of God is worthy only of divine wrath and judgment.

Sodom and Gomorrah...giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. (Jude 7)

We hear where prominent persons like Margaret Mead, noted anthropologist, and Dr. Thaddeus L. Montgomery, a Philadelphia physician, are advocating what they call "trial marriages."

But living together without the sanction of marriage is "fornication."

Dr. Montgomery has some ideas about those who live together in a trial marriage, saying that his proposal would alleviate guilt and family discord often encountered by young couples.

The writer of the book of Hebrews would remind us, however, that "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled; but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge." (Heb. 13:4)

Again we read, "This is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That everyone of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness." (I Thes. 4:3-7)

Did you hear it?

Remember, the Bible infers that without holiness no man shall see the Lord. Here we're told that holiness is the opposite of uncleanness or immoral practices such as fornication and adultery and related sins.

Some think of "holiness" as some form of super-piety, but used here, it is the opposite of sexual impurity.

Paul, writing to Christians, says: "But fornication, and all uncleanness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints. Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." (Eph. 5:3 & 11)

If we had more men of God speaking out on the subject of loose morals or what some call the "new morality," there would be less immorality; there would be fewer lives emotionally scarred by illegitimacy; there would be less venereal disease which is an epidemic, and there would be more respect for the true virtues that make up a binding marriage relationship.

In the past ten years, according to PARADE magazine, the divorce rate has tripled in Great Britain and almost doubled in the United States. Why? Could it be because the Scriptures are not plainly preached? (We have a generation that doesn't know what sin is.)

If ever there was a sin that brought judgment to the nations of the world, it was on account of immorality--relating to sins of the flesh.

Peter declares: "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness."

Some don't believe in punishment, but the Scriptures make it plain that unless one repents and finds forgiveness, judgment will result.

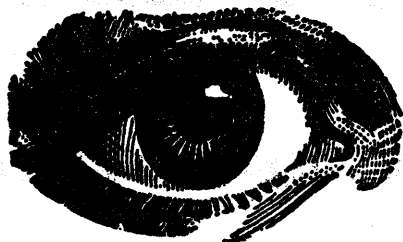
The tribulation, in particular, we believe, will be a time of judgment befalling the world because of violations of the moral code with God's wrath outpoured upon offenders. Thus the call of God now is to forsake immorality...flee fornication...run from it as one would a serpent.

Jesus taught "that whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart."

So serious is this sin that in the very next verse He says: "If thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell." (Matt. 5:28-29)



There would be less divorces and less broken homes with children scattered if husbands would follow the advice of Jesus. Instead of lusting after someone else's wife, they should pluck out their own eyes, according to what Jesus taught. But you say, "That would be painful to tear out your eye." Our Lord would reply that it's still better to lose an eye than to have your whole body cast into hell.



Can't you see the seriousness of this sin in view of Christ's condemnation of it? And yet, so many heed so lightly these Scriptures today, saying, "Everybody does it. I will too."

Nevertheless, there's a judgment day coming, and I am personally convinced from the Word of God that there will be those left behind when Jesus comes because they have broken God's commandment and are living in known sin. May God help us.

Praise the Lord, however, there is forgiveness when there is genuine repentance. And this may involve making some radical decisions in your life--most of all, to surrender to Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

Paul, writing to the Corinthians, reminds them that fornicators...nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind...will inherit the kingdom of God. Then he adds: "But such were some of you, but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of our Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God." (I Cor. 6:9-11)

So you can be cleansed of these sins. You can be washed of your guilt. You can be forgiven. And you can be filled with the Holy Spirit who is a holy and pure being.

Yes, you can be ready for our Lord's Return which we believe is near and hastening.

For remember, He hath said, "Be ye therefore ready also, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."

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