

The Rise of Molech

Abortion and the Conscience of a Nation

5- They Shed Innocent Blood- Part 1

Welcome again my beloved in Jesus Christ. Now as I told you on the last broadcast- we're going to take a short "vacation" from our verse by verse "journey" through the Gospel of Luke and begin this new year by examining a very serious subject that I preached in my Church at the beginning of 2016 entitled, *"The Rise of Molech; Abortion and the Conscience of a Nation"*. So let's open our Bibles and read **Psalms 106** together:

- 1 Praise the Lord! Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; For His lovingkindness is everlasting.**
- 2 Who can speak of the mighty deeds of the Lord, Or can show forth all His praise?**
- 3 How blessed are those who keep justice, Who practice righteousness at all times!**
- 4 Remember me, O Lord, in *Your* favor toward Your people; Visit me with Your salvation,**
- 5 That I may see the prosperity of Your chosen ones, That I may rejoice in the gladness of Your nation, That I may glory with Your inheritance.**
- 6 We have sinned like our fathers, We have committed iniquity, we have behaved wickedly.**
- 7 Our fathers in Egypt did not understand Your wonders; They did not remember Your abundant kindnesses, But rebelled by the sea, at the Red Sea.**
- 8 Nevertheless He saved them for the sake of His name, That He might make His power known.**
- 9 Thus He rebuked the Red Sea and it dried up, And He led them through the deeps, as through the wilderness.**
- 10 So He saved them from the hand of the one who hated *them*, And redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.**
- 11 The waters covered their adversaries; Not one of them was left.**
- 12 Then they believed His words; They sang His praise.**
- 13 They quickly forgot His works; They did not wait for His counsel,**

14 But craved intensely in the wilderness, And tempted God in the desert.
15 So He gave them their request, But sent a wasting disease among them.
16 When they became envious of Moses in the camp, And of Aaron, the holy one of the Lord,
17 The earth opened and swallowed up Dathan, And engulfed the company of Abiram.
18 And a fire blazed up in their company; The flame consumed the wicked.
19 They made a calf in Horeb And worshiped a molten image.
20 Thus they exchanged their glory For the image of an ox that eats grass.
21 They forgot God their Savior, Who had done great things in Egypt,
22 Wonders in the land of Ham *And* awesome things by the Red Sea.
23 Therefore He said that He would destroy them, Had not Moses His chosen one stood in the breach before Him, To turn away His wrath from destroying *them*.
24 Then they despised the pleasant land; They did not believe in His word,
25 But grumbled in their tents; They did not listen to the voice of the Lord.
26 Therefore He swore to them That He would cast them down in the wilderness,
27 And that He would cast their seed among the nations And scatter them in the lands.
28 They joined themselves also to Baal-peor, And ate sacrifices offered to the dead.
29 Thus they provoked *Him* to anger with their deeds, And the plague broke out among them.
30 Then Phinehas stood up and interposed, And so the plague was stayed.
31 And it was reckoned to him for righteousness, To all generations forever.
32 They also provoked *Him* to wrath at the waters of Meribah, So that it went hard with Moses on their account;
33 Because they were rebellious against His Spirit, He spoke rashly with his lips.
34 They did not destroy the peoples, As the Lord commanded them,
35 But they mingled with the nations And learned their practices,
36 And served their idols, Which became a snare to them.
37 They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to the demons,

38 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.

39 Thus they became unclean in their practices, And played the harlot in their
deeds.

40 Therefore the anger of the Lord was kindled against His people And He
abhorred His inheritance.

41 Then He gave them into the hand of the nations, And those who hated them
ruled over them.

42 Their enemies also oppressed them, And they were subdued under their
power.

43 Many times He would deliver them; They, however, were rebellious in
their counsel, And *so* sank down in their iniquity.

44 Nevertheless He looked upon their distress When He heard their cry;

45 And He remembered His covenant for their sake, And relented according
to the greatness of His lovingkindness.

46 He also made them *objects* of compassion In the presence of all their
captors.

47 Save us, O Lord our God, And gather us from among the nations, To give
thanks to Your holy name And glory in Your praise.

48 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, From everlasting even to
everlasting. And let all the people say, "Amen." Praise the Lord!

Now **Psalm 106** is a *summary* of the history of Israel with a focus
on her *repeated* sins and God's *repeated* Judgment and Mercy. So from
that standpoint- **Psalm 106** is a short "snap- shot" of the entire Old
Testament. And it cries out for something more final, more lasting.

The final two verses say:

47 Save us, O Lord our God, And gather us from among the nations, To give
thanks to Your holy name And glory in Your praise.

48 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, From everlasting even to
everlasting. And let all the people say, "Amen." Praise the Lord!

So over and over- God's people called on the Lord to save them.
And God *did* save them. He was merciful and gracious and slow to
Anger. But then over and over, they reverted to unbelief and

disobedience. So the end of this **Psalm**- just like the end of the Old Testament itself- cries out for something more that the Old Testament *itself* could never provide. For example, the very *last thing* God said to His people in the Old Testament was:

Malachi 4:5-6

5 "Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord.

6 "He will restore the hearts of the fathers to *their* children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse."

... which tells us that every Truth of the Old Testament is *not* finished. So they lack *completion*- they are *not* an end to themselves. They groan for something more. They point to the future. So from that we see that the entire Old Testament is really a collection of inspired and infallible Stories and Books of Promise.

Which is *why* the New Testament exists. Because the final, complete, decisive, lasting Act of Divine Salvation happened when Jesus, the Messiah, came into the world. Jesus was:

- ✓ The final Adam (**Romans 5:12-21**)
- ✓ The final Prophet like Moses (**The Acts 3:22; 7:37**)
- ✓ The final Israel (**Matthew 4:1-11**)
- ✓ The final High Priest (**Hebrews 7:23&24**)
- ✓ The final Passover Sacrifice (**1Corinthians 5:7**)
- ✓ The final Manna from Heaven (**John 6:31&32**)
- ✓ The final Suffering Servant of **Isaiah 53** (**Mark 10:45**)
- ✓ The final Son of Man of **Daniel 7**(**Matthew 24:30**)

The Blood of Jesus was the Blood of the promised final New Covenant in **Jeremiah 31:31** (**Luke 22:20**). So Jesus was the final, decisive **"Yes and Amen"** to all God's Promises (**2Corinthians 1:20**).

So when we read the stories of the Old Testament like the one here in **Psalm 106** and we feel the oppressive weight of sin that *never* seems to have its final solution. And so we conclude:

It's all pointing to Jesus Christ

Now this is not merely Christians reinterpreting the Jewish Scriptures. This is God Himself revealing the *completion* of the Jewish Scriptures. And so the entire Purpose of the Jewish Scriptures and the long history of Israel is *not* found in *itself*. It is found in the Person and Work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

So when this **Psalm** ends today in verse 47 with the cry,

Save us, O Lord our God

... we should take it to mean:

“O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, rescue us from captivity wherever our enemies have the upper hand, and hasten the coming of the King- Who will deliver us once for all from the worst of enemies, and make Atonement for our sins once for all, and write His Law on our hearts, so that we may fear Him *always* and *never* rebel against Him again!”

And when we hear that cry and understand that implication- we should rejoice- because God has come already! And His Name was Jesus. And He has revealed the Mystery, long obscure in the Scriptures, that by His Life and Death and Resurrection- not only Jews but also all the nations of the world- will be forgiven and justified and cleansed and reconciled to God by faith in Him alone.

In other words, flying over this **Psalm** and all its horrors and failures that are so relevant for our modern age- is the Banner of Jesus Christ as the final Savior of the world- Who has died for sins and conquered guilt and condemnation and death and hell- for everyone who has been empowered and enabled to cry out from the heart,

Save us, O Lord our God

So flying over this third Message about Abortion is the Banner of the Cross of Jesus Christ. And its color is red because the Blood of Jesus Christ takes away the sin of Abortion and the sin of not caring about it. So I don't just *end* today with the call for Repentance and the offer of Forgiveness- I *begin* with it. And I want it to hover over your heads while I walk you through this **Psalm**.

Now first of all- we need to get the larger picture of this **Psalm** and then focus on the sacrifice of innocent blood. So there are three things in this Psalm:

1. The sins of God's people
2. The Anger and Judgment of God
3. The cry for Salvation

So let's examine them briefly:

1. The Sins of God's People

Psalm 106:32

They also provoked *Him* to wrath at the waters of Meribah, So that it went hard with Moses on their account;

Because these people were not satisfied- they goaded Moses to strike the Rock instead of speaking to it. And God was angry that Moses did not sanctify His Name by believing Him and so God judged Moses (**Numbers 20:11-12**). And that's what it means here when it says:

... it went hard with Moses on their account;

Psalm 106:34

They did not destroy the peoples, As the Lord commanded them,

Now the Israelites did *not* utterly destroy the pagan peoples of Canaan as God had commanded them. And this shows that God's *opposition* to sacrificing the children that we will see in a moment is *not* due to a general *opposition* that God has to "killing" in general. There was a place for killing in God. And the explanation for this horrific moment in Israel's history is given in **Deuteronomy 9:4**, where God says,

Do not say in your heart when the Lord your God has driven them out before you, 'Because of my righteousness the Lord has brought me in to possess this land,' but *it is* because of the wickedness of these nations *that* the Lord is dispossessing them before you.

In other words- during that period of Israel's history- God used His Own people as the "Sword of His Judgments". So when God wanted to judge a people for their blasphemies and disobedience and wickedness- God used the Jews to bring God's Wrath upon them.

Now this kind of Judgment may not sit very well with us today- precisely because things have fundamentally changed with the First Coming of Jesus to this world. For example- in **John 18:36** Jesus said,

My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm.

Now the only point I am making here is that this is what God did back then. God's Anger at telling His people to slaughter man, woman, child, and animal of entire civilizations did not stop because of some sentimental rejection of violence or physical force. There is another very important Reason *why* God opposes killing like this now. And we'll get into it in a minute.

Psalm 106:35

But they mingled with the nations And learned their practices

Now the root issue here is *not* marriage between different races. The issue here is that God's people began to "do" what the pagan nations did- which in effect made God's people to be pagan as well. And they began to live as though they didn't know God at all. In other words- God's people saw what the other pagan nations of the world were doing- and they began to copy them. So they stopped doing what God told them to do and stopped living the way that God told them to live and they began to act like the pagan nations that God destroyed. And verse 36 describes what happened:

Psalm 106:36

And served their idols, Which became a snare to them.

And *this* was the overarching Reason for God's Divine Prohibition of why He didn't want His people mingling with the pagan nations of the world. It *always* led to idolatry. You see, the ways of the lost pagan

world *appeals* to our fallen flesh and so cohabitating with pagan people who worship pagan gods and who conduct their lives in pagan practices *always* leads to God's people being disgruntled with the things of God. It *always* leads to the people of God feeling as though they are missing out on all the fun and looking at God's Ways as being unnecessarily restrictive and hard. And so sin begins to look attractive. And that which God *forbids* suddenly looks good. Or in the words of Moses:

Genesis 3:6

When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make *one* wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.

Or in the words of the Apostle John:

1John 2:16

For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

Or in the words of the Apostle Paul:

2Corinthians 6:14-17

14 Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?

15 Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?

16 Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "*I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE.*"

17 "Therefore, *COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE,*" says the Lord. "*AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN;* And I will welcome you.

Or in the words of the Apostle Peter:

1Peter 2:9-12

9 But you are *A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION*, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

10 for you once were *NOT A PEOPLE*, but now you are *THE PEOPLE OF GOD*; you had *NOT RECEIVED MERCY*, but now you have *RECEIVED MERCY*.

11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

12 Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may because of your good deeds, as they observe *them*, glorify God in the day of visitation.

And of course this is a concept called, "Christian Separation" which, even though it taught from Cover to Cover in the Holy Bible- is a concept that is almost *universally* ignored by the overwhelming majority of those in the modern Church.

Now this Divine Separation does *not* teach that saved people are "better" than other people- but only that we have been wondrously "chosen" and sovereignly "set apart" to live our lives with abandon to God's Glory. Now God *could* have left us with the people who are *not* chosen and who have *not* had the Love of God set upon them. God *could* have left us polluted in our own blood to perish with the others.

But in His great Mercy- God chose to show us Grace- so that we may be His people and He may be our God. And so you can't have it both ways. Either God has called you or He hasn't. Either you have been chosen by God or you haven't. Either God set His Love upon you to save you or He hasn't. Either you are going to spend eternity in the unimaginable Glory of God's Presence or you will spend eternity in the lake of fire. Either you belong to God or you don't. Either you are a child of satan or a child of God. Either you are fish on the right side or fish on the left. Either your eyes are open or you're blind. Either your ears can hear or you are still deaf. Either your heart is soft and believing or your heart is hard as stone. Either you have been given a new Divine nature or your nature is still rebellious and fallen. Either you are living in the Kingdom of Light or in the dominion of darkness. Either you love Jesus or you hate Him. Either Jesus has bought and paid for you or you still belong to satan.

And if you belong to satan then you do not *want* to accept the things of the Spirit of God because they are foolishness to you and you *cannot* understand them because they are spiritually appraised. And if you belong to Jesus- then you have been born again of incorruptible Seed that is created in Righteousness and true Holiness and you have been delivered from the tyrannical domination that sin had over you and you have been set free; turned loose; raised up; empowered; filled; turned around; set aside and you are faithful to God; fruitful in His Kingdom and busy in the Work of the Lord!

And so people who have truly been recipients of the miracle of the New Birth simply you can't act or think or behave or live or speak like those who haven't. And so by definition- genuine believers act *differently* than unbelievers. And we *act* differently because we *think* differently and we *believe* differently from those who know not God.

Now the almost total capitulation of Christian Separation is the single biggest reason *why* it is so hard today to tell Christians from the world. The *absence* of this level of devotion to Jesus Christ is the single biggest reason why God's people today suffer from the same social problems that the lost unsaved world suffers from. The glaring lack of Holiness in the average believer today is the single biggest reason why the modern Church is filled with worldliness; carnality; sexual sins, ungodly marriages, rampant divorce, illegitimate children, and abortion.

Listen, we *can* and we *should* spend time with our lost friends and family. We are *not* to live our lives as "monks" in a monastery. That is *not* the Will of God. But we also must realize that we can only fellowship with unbelievers so far. Because we *always* have an agenda behind *why* we are spending time with them. We want them to be saved. We want them to know and love and enjoy Jesus. We want them to turn away from their sins and see the brilliance of the Glory of God in the Face of Jesus Christ.

We love our unsaved friends and family. And love dictates that we seek to win them for Jesus. So don't try to tell me that you love somebody if you're not *actively* and *continually* encouraging them to repent and believe.

And so our time spent with all lost people is spent in evangelization- not merely in enjoying their company. And that will

always result in one of two things happening. Either they will be saved or you will compromise.

Now we are not the first group of people who have struggled with this Biblical Separation. The Jews struggled with it before we did. And **Psalm 106** says that the ways and idols of the pagan nations of the world became a “snare” to them. They were a trap that led to the destruction of God’s people.

And verses 37-39 gives us the specific sinful behaviors that this idolatry led to.

**37 They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to the demons,
38 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.
39 Thus they became unclean in their practices, And played the harlot in their deeds.**

Now this is strong language. But this is God’s Language. He is very Angry about this. Read verses 40&41:

**40 Therefore the anger of the Lord was kindled against His people And He abhorred His inheritance.
41 Then He gave them into the hand of the nations, And those who hated them ruled over them.**

So a lack of treasuring God led to a lack of valuing Holiness. And a lack of Holiness led to mingling with pagan ideas and practices. And that led to idolatry. And idolatry led to a snare. And the snare was the sacrificing of their own children in religious rituals. And these rituals were spiritually “whore-like” in God’s sight. And so the Anger of the Lord was kindled and Judgment fell.

Now I want you to feel the horror of this Language. Hear words and phrases like: “sacrifice,” “demons,” “innocent blood,” “polluted,” “unclean,” “harlot,” “the Anger of the Lord was kindled against His people,” and “the Lord abhorred His inheritance.”

We need to feel the force of this so that when we use such language today we do not communicate, any *more* than the psalmist did, that we make it impossible for sinners to be saved. That is the

most amazing thing in this **Psalm**. Now read what God did – right in the middle of all this sin- in verses 44-46:

44 Nevertheless He looked upon their distress When He heard their cry;

45 And He remembered His covenant for their sake, And relented according to the greatness of His lovingkindness.

46 He also made them *objects* of compassion In the presence of all their captors.

So the reason we need to hear the horrible Language is so that the magnificence of Grace will sound as amazing as it really is.

And just like the psalmist looked child sacrifice full in the face, so today we need to study Abortion. And we need the raw, hard to hear facts- that will be just as raw and just as hard to hear as the language of this **Psalm**.

We need to watch the videos about what Abortion really is and what Abortion rally does. We need to stare at beautiful pictures of the unborn.¹ We need to read the statistics of over 57 million babies killed by Abortion since 1973 -just in our country alone- with over 90% of the abortion clinics in urban centers- that wipes out massive numbers of minorities (over half of all abortions) with a kind of “ethnic cleansing” that pro-choice people cannot dare to think about. We need to know the procedures (suction-aspiration, dilation and curettage, saline abortion, intact dilation and extraction, RU-486, intrauterine cranial decompression, or partial birth abortion).

Psalm 106 is as raw as it could get before photography and DVD. And the point is this:

There are some sins that cannot be comprehended without raw language or raw pictures.

I once read in the Times Picayune that if all Americans could be made to watch a live execution (electric chair or lethal injection), capital punishment would be abandoned. Now I don't know if that is true. But if it is, the same thing applies all the more to Abortion. If we were made to watch a doctor pull off the little baby's legs and arms one by one and

¹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O211-kvKong>

place them on the table like a dentist removing cotton from your mouth- if all Americans were made to see what Abortion really is- the pro-life goal of Abortion being unthinkable (not just illegal) would be much nearer.

Well, I have to stop right here- but please join me again on the next broadcast as we continue our examination of "The Rise of Molech- Abortion and the Conscience of a Nation". May God help us all.

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The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen. Be watchful and quicken your pace. Soli Deo Gloria. For the Glory of God alone.