It Won't Stop Until We Stop Giving Permission

Sin John W. Ritenbaugh Given 15-Dec-12; Sermon #1134c

Ezekiel 7:23-26 Make a chain, for the land is filled with crimes of blood, and the city is full of violence. Therefore I will bring the worst of the Gentiles, and they will possess their houses; I will cause the pomp of the strong to cease, and their holy places shall be defiled. Destruction comes; they will seek peace, but there shall be none. Disaster will come upon disaster, and rumor will be upon rumor. Then they will seek a vision from a prophet; but the law will perish from the priest, and counsel from the elders.

Yesterday, this nation experienced yet another shocking episode of mass violence murder, this time perpetrated against schoolteachers and elementary school children of around ages 5 to 10 years of age. Twenty children and eight adults died. *Mother Jones* reported this morning that this is the 61st episode of mass violence in the United States since 1982.

Close to the same number died at Virginia Tech University a couple of years ago, only on that occasion, those who died, though young, were all adults. But because these children were so young, people seemed especially shocked. The eight adults who were killed have been virtually ignored on the news reports.

The headline this morning on MSN News regarding the elementary school massacre was a quote from the Connecticut governor, Dannel Malloy, saying, "We were visited by evil today." That story on MSN also contained a picture of our president wiping a tear from his eyes, and he was quoted as saying, "The children had their whole lives before them."

But I want us to consider an ongoing contrast, and at the same time, to give thought as to how much the context in which something occurs affects our judgment of that occurrence.

By coincidence, yesterday I happened to look at an email announcing that on January the 20th, 2013, we will arrive at the anniversary of a notable event. It will be the 40th anniversary of giving permission to Americans to murder their unborn children by means of abortion. These are the most defenseless, innocent, and helpless of all humans, and these little humans never get to live even a small part of their lives outside the womb before they are murdered, in most cases, merely for the convenience of one or the other or both parents.

That same email announced that on that date, we will have successfully reached (and even passed by a small number) 52 million of those lives snuffed out in America alone. That is many times the total of all Americans killed in all wars that America has ever been involved in.

Let me try to make that figure a bit more relevant. Please note that it took 40 years to reach that 52 million figure. In 2009, the last year for which there are complete figures, there were 16,799 homicides in the United States. At that rate of 16,799 each year, it would take 296½ years to reach 52 million homicides.

Here's yet another comparison: 40 years divided into 52 million averages out to 1,300,000 abortions per year. That means that 3,561 murders of the unborn took place each and every day during that

time. That's 148 murders each and every *hour*. How does that compare to 28 murders [yesterday]? But you see, brethren, all of this murder of the unborn has an aura of legality about it. And it is done by people who are so courteous and seemingly so caring. They are dressed all in white, and everything appears so sanitary. But it's still murder. The context in which something detrimental occurs is very important to our judgment.

There is a direct connection between this subject and last week's commentary about science becoming the god of this age ["Michael Crichton and End-Time Disasters"]. I was giving you some realities that clearly show that science is a two-edged sword to which we should be very careful about entrusting our health and life. Now, why? Because science as a discipline is guided, directed, and operated by very fallible human nature-driven humans who do not look to God, the God of creation, for His far, far superior leadership. Instead, Paul says in II Timothy 3:1-2 that at the time of the end—that means right now; our time—living will be perilous because men are lovers of themselves and lovers of money.

I heard a radio advertisement yesterday. It was an appeal for money, for donations, for autism research. Science has given us vaccines, and the finger of blame for the cause of the startling rise of incidences of autism in children is pointing evermore steadily at the corrupted cocktail of vaccines given to the newborn. A few years ago, the statistical chance of one becoming autistic was about one in 20,000.

This statistic came with a backstory on the life of Ernie Els, the South African golfer whose father introduced him to golfing at the age of seven. In two years, Ernie, at the age of nine, was already defeating his father on the golf course. Today, he is one of the top golfers in the entire world. Mathematicians have figured that his statistical chance of becoming a top golfer is one in seven million. The statistical chance of becoming an autistic child today is one in 88. The giving of vaccines is a money-making operation, pushed on an unsuspecting public by the combination of the pharmaceutical industry, hospitals, and doctors.

One researcher asked the question (this changes the subject just a little bit), "How did the staff of life [wheat] become the weed of disease?" Wheat is not the same as it was 50 years ago. It was hybridized at the insistence—who pushed this?—of the bread baking industry, so it would be more pliable for mass industrial baking processes. Thus, the industry's concern for production efficiency led to flour whose gluten content. . . back in 1960 each, berry was about 5% gluten. Today it's 50% gluten. In addition to that, this wheat has an ingredient in it that stimulates urging one to eat more and more. Another gift from science.

So today, droves of people—Americans—are obese and diabetes is an outright plague. The finger is pointing ever more strongly that the host of autoimmune diseases are set up and made possible by this hybridized wheat we eat so hungrily but we cannot efficiently digest. Science, at the urging of money making industry, is leaving people malnourished and set up for a whole host of mysterious and seemingly impossible-to-cure degenerative diseases.

These practices are sins against God and His creation and against people. Why do we do these things? I'm talking about mankind generally. The answer is simple: Because we can. We have the liberty to sin, and so we do. This is why all sin has occurred from the beginning. Why did Adam and Eve's sin? Because God gave them the liberty to make choices, and they did. The only thing that

stops sin in anybody is something internal within the person. It is a rock solid belief that God is right, and so the person will not give himself permission to sin. It's called faith, and because it is there, it chooses to love God and fellow man, regardless of the cost to itself.