

**JANUARY 22ND—THE ANNIVERSARY  
OF AMERICA’S DISTURBING LEGACY**

**THE PLEASANT VIEW PLUMB LINE**

I consider a blessing to live in the United States of America. Though I have traveled outside of America to only two countries (Russia and England) and though I can appreciate other cultures and the value of souls no matter where one lives, I know that America provides the most freedom, most opportunity, and most comfort of any country on the planet. That being acknowledged, I strive not to have blinders on when it comes to America’s weaknesses either. America is a country, although founded on basic godly principles, has fallen far from those ideals in its 228 years (*now 232 years—AJB*) of existence as a Representative Republic. Crime (both personal and property) is a major problem in this country, the God-ordained institution of marriage has become a disposable commodity as the divorce rate hovers around 50%, a militant minority is able to force its views on homosexuality and other moral outrages while the majority does its best “head in the sand” impersonation. When God’s Word is abandoned as the standard for objective truth, all of the aforementioned issues are serious concerns as well as the issue that haunts the legacy of this country on a daily basis—murder of the unborn, also known as abortion.

Since January 22, 1973 (*Roe v. Wade*), America has slaughtered over 44 million babies in the name of “pro-choice.” When one strips away the façade of this “pro-choice” label, one will find it to mean pro-death for any child whom the mother deems an inconvenience or a burden in her life. Every 20 seconds, on average, an unborn child is murdered in America. As outraged as humanity was at the Jewish holocaust (and rightly so) that led to the systematic extermination of Jews throughout Europe in the 1930s and 1940s, the six million lives lost in that psychopathic pogrom represents about a four-year total of babies that are violently killed in (or partially out of) the mother’s womb in this country in the name of “healthcare.”

The potential for being a victim of some type of violent crime (rape, robbery, murder, terrorism, et. al.) in this country pales in realistic possibility to the premeditated killing done every day in the abortion clinics of America. This legacy will not escape the judgment of the God of heaven who said that among the things He hates are “hands that shed innocent blood” (Proverbs 6:17). Who is more innocent than a defenseless child whose safe haven in the womb is murderously ruptured by the abortionist’s instruments of death?

I feel that God’s people have allowed themselves to be duped over the years by the media into thinking that abortion is somehow simply a political issue that has nothing to do with morality. In fact, the very use of the word abortion does not evoke the true impact of what is truly under consideration. What is under consideration is murder. What is under consideration is the invasion of a mother’s womb with medical instruments (forceps, scalpels, scissors, suction devices, etc.) and literally chopping up an unborn child whose heart is beating, whose brain is emitting waves of activity, whose body is developing, and who is a living soul (Genesis 2:7; Jeremiah 1:5; Job 31:15; Psalm 139:13-16). In some even more gruesome cases, known as partial-birth abortion, a baby in the last trimester (6-9 months along) who could live outside of the womb without major medical difficulty is partially delivered (feet first) only to have a pair of scissors jammed in the back of his skull and his brains sucked out with a medical vacuum tube. This is the reality of the murder of the unborn. This is why those

“...then said the Lord, Behold, I will set a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel...” (Amos 7:8)

THE PLEASANT VIEW PLUMB LINE

**CONSIDERING OUR WAYS:  
LIFE LESSONS FROM THE ANT HILL**

Text: \_\_\_\_\_

I. \_\_\_\_\_ Yourself Into \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

II. \_\_\_\_\_ Away \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

III. \_\_\_\_\_ Up and Get to \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

**LIFT UP YOUR EYES  
AND LOOK UPO NJESUS**

Text: \_\_\_\_\_

I. The \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

II. The \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

III. The \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

IV. The \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

who proclaim to be Christians who knowingly stand in agreement with this infanticide by their support of public officials who endorse this heinous sin as a “woman’s right to choose” are involved in self-deceit to its sickest extent. Christians are the salt of the earth and as such, we are to influence the world for positive things (Matthew 5:13-16).

Our Saviour loved infants and children and said of them, “for of such is the kingdom of God” (Luke 18:15-16). Dare one who claims Christianity be so brazen as to persist in his support of those who hold up the hands that shed innocent blood, knowing that one day we will stand before the Righteous Judge (Jesus) and give an account for such complicity with evil (II Corinthians 5:10)? God forbid! But nevertheless there are Christians who are less wise than those in the world concerning this matter. Many in the world make a much stronger public stand against murder of the unborn than do those who claim to be New Testament Christians. Who is this so? It seems that many in the church have become as pluralistic as the society that surrounds them, and have blended into the world landscape as so many spiritual chameleons, who have cast off their heavenly hue for the darkness of the world (I John 2:15-17).

When you wake up on Saturday, January 22, 2005, remind yourself that 32 years ago (now 36 years ago), the United States Supreme Court made an unconstitutional (but much more serious than that, a SINFUL) decision to allow open season on the unborn in this country and 45 million children later, this sad and sickening legacy moves forward. The only comfort we as Christians can take from over three decades of innocents lost is that they will all be in heaven (II Samuel 12:23). However, in this life, let us fight against this abomination as efficaciously as we can. If all you can do individually is be informed and refuse to vote for anyone who supports the killing of the unborn, let that be your voice of protest. If you can do more by being involved in right-to-life efforts and education, please fight for the unborn children. Indeed, as Jesus said, “*except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven*” (Matthew 18:3).

-Steven E. Yeatts

[NOTE: This article was obviously written a few years ago, as per the date references, but the truths in it will always be accurate regarding the topic. Plans have come to light these past couple of weeks that now involves America in abortions more broadly. Let’s be as active as we can to put an end to this atrocity and protect the innocent unborns of the future.]

## ONE WIN TO GLORY

In any athletic climate, there is the general fact that even if a team is fortunate and talented enough to make it to that sport's championship game or series, still they are one victory away from glory. Runners-up are rarely recalled and many view second place as the "first loser." There is, then, great pressure on competitors to produce and win; and there is equal pressure upon every soul in the game of life. We, like athletes, are still one victory away from glory, but what victory is it to which we refer?

The Corinthian church was confused. Will we rise from the grave or will we not? What type of resurrection will it be and how can we be confident in that resurrection? All of these were questions that they apparently were struggling with, and when Paul wrote to them the first time he dedicated a lengthy chapter to deal with those concerns. It is, however, in I Corinthians 15:51-55 that Paul refers to this victory to which we can look forward and that ensures our glory:

*"Behold, I shew you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?"*

What is this victory to which we look? It is the victory our God shall grant us over death made possible because of Christ's resurrection from the grave! And it is only fitting that our time on earth conclude with one final victory because the Lord has blessed His children with other victories through their lives leading up to this great finale. In each human being's life Christ has given a victory over the law of Moses by having nailed it to the cross (Colossians 2:14). In each Christian's life Christ has given a victory over sin by having made Himself the atonement for it (Hebrews 7:27). It can only be according to pattern that one final victory is granted by the Lord and it is victory over the grave.

With all of this in mind, consider three questions about this one win to glory that a better understanding and appreciation might be gathered regarding this great victory. First, when will this victory come? Paul answers in verse fifty-two that it will come at the last trump. When, though, will that trump sound? Paul later stated to the Thessalonian church, who likewise had questions and concerns about the end day:

*"But I would not have you ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you be the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (I Thessalonians 4:13-17).*

Our answer is that the victory will be granted when Christ returns to reclaim His disciples that we might forevermore dwell with Him.

Second, how will this victory be claimed? Back to I Corinthians 15, Paul refers to a change that will take place; a change from corruptible to incorruptible, but to what does that refer. We each inhabit a corruptible body made of flesh and blood, but Paul stated that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of heaven (I Corinthians 15:50). Therefore if we will inherit heaven as our eternal home there must be a change. Our victory will come as God claims us from the grave and our physical bodies are changed to spiritual, corruptible to incorruptible, and mortal to immortal. Therefore our second answer is that this victory will be granted by the power of God.

Then third, why will this victory take place? Because Jesus Christ first overcame the same foe. On the third day after His ruthless crucifixion the tomb was found empty because Christ came out of the grave. *"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (I Corinthians 15:57).* And thus, our third answer is that He won, thus we will win. Pure and simple.

Many view death as a captor or as a sure demise. Christians, though, because of the grace and power of God can view death as nothing more than a rival over which one day we will win. Brethren, we are but one win from glory, therefore, according to the instruction of Paul *"be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord..." (I Corinthians 15:58).*

-Andy Brewer