



# 2020 IN 20/20

2020 (the year) IN 20/20 (seeing it clearly)

Part 3: The Issues – Pro-Life vs. Pro-Choice

Sermon Study Guide  
September 6, 2020

## **Introduction:**

Last week, I talked to you about 2 Issues: **The Sinfulness of Man and Law and Order.**

Surprisingly, I felt great passion surging through me as I spoke, especially as I shared about **“Law and Order.”** As a speaker, there are times when the subject matter resonates so strongly in you that the Holy Spirit speaks truth and passion – the listener would be called “being on fire.” That is truly what I have experienced in the last 2 weeks. Pray that the Holy Spirit will give me that passion again.

**When talking about issues that are complicated, controversial, and charged in our society, it is easy to come across to some in the audience in a way that you didn’t realize or intend.**

So, while there may be a general unity and agreement with the listener and with the speaker, the presentation can overshadow the intended message and cause some listeners to perceive things that the speaker is not meaning to or even aware that he is communicating. At other times, a well-meaning, spirit filled, and good-hearted speaker can just plain get something wrong. Remember the Sinfulness of Man? Unfortunately, that sinful shoe fits on both of my feet.

**That being said, I would like to clarify some of the things that I said in last week’s sermon and explain what I meant as well as what I didn’t mean.**

- 1. When I was passionately speaking against those who have been using violence, looting, and other forms of aggression in some of our cities, I was not referring to people who are peacefully protesting against racial injustice.**

I was referring to, and actually thinking about anarchistic groups of people that want to overthrow our government and are attacking, looting, setting on fire, disrespecting, and hurting the cities, the police, and the people in the cities that they are targeting.

I fully and strongly stand with African Americans in their continued fight for justice and equality in this nation. I am even further angered and infuriated that these anarchistic groups have stolen this opportunity from African Americans to see our country move closer than ever to being a place where “all men/women/races are treated equally.”

I apologize to those who didn't hear this clearly enough last week, and I ask for your forgiveness.

**2. I used a charged term last week that I have heard, but didn't fully understand, the term "White Privilege."**

I really was referring to "financial privilege", yet by using the term "white privilege", I opened up a can of worms that didn't need to be opened. Thankfully, a Hispanic person and an African American person from our church helped me to understand my limited understanding of that very charged term.

In the coming weeks when we discuss Racism - I will give a more informed definition of "White Privilege", and how the historic standing and treatment of certain groups of people in America has certainly been an advantage for some and a disadvantage for others.

When I felt God calling me to do this series, 2020 in 20/20, I knew it could be challenging because of the charged nature of the Issues this series will cover. I have been praying long and hard for God's Spirit to help me follow God in this series.

My desire as your pastor is to do a good job of informing you of these issues from a biblical perspective so we can see these things with God's eyes – with 20/20 spiritual vision.

**To do this, I will need 3 things:**

1. **Courage** – to not be afraid to speak about these issues that God cares so much about, regardless of how people react and regardless of the cost.
2. **Humility** – to know that I am capable of saying, doing, and even believing something that is wrong, and I being open to receiving help and at times being corrected.
3. **Wisdom** – to know what to say and what not to say in this series, when to offend with the truth, but not to unnecessarily offend with personal bias.

**I am ready for this challenge.**

**Perhaps, I need to ask you to take this challenge as well**

1. **Courage** – to listen to these things I share even though you would probably rather I talk about something else.

2. **Humility** – to know that you too could be wrong in some things you believe, or you could be right, and you could be an agent to help me come to a greater understanding of God’s perspective on some of these things (please meet with me if you have something to say).

3. **Wisdom** – to know that we as children of God and representatives of His kingdom on earth need to embrace the importance of lovingly speaking the truth to a lost world

### 3 – Pro-Choice or Pro-Life

- As we look at this issue, the question really is, “When does life begin?” Why is the answer to this question so important? Look at Exodus 20:13, what does God say about it?

**If life begins at conception**, while the child is in the womb, then abortion is the taking of the life of an innocent and helpless child -which is murder. **If life begins at birth**, then the time when the child is in the womb would be a valid, faultless, and guiltless time to end/abort a pregnancy.

- **In Genesis 2:4-9** – When did life began for Adam?
- In a **Biblical world view**, how are humans distinguished from all other beings?
- **Jeremiah 1:4-5** - What did God tell Jeremiah about his birth?

- **Psalm 22:9-10** - What did God reveal to David about his birth?
  
- **Job 31:15** - What did God reveal to Job about how a person made?
  
- **Psalm 139:13-16** – This passage reveals that God is the creator and master designer of us. Read this passage and make a list that shows God’s hand in our birth.
  
- **Luke 1:39-45** – What are the ramifications of Jesus taking on the form of an embryo and being placed in the womb of Mary? What happened to Elizabeth and Mary when they greeted each other?

**A Christian world view is one that believes that there are God-given moral absolutes in the Bible that have been given to us by our Creator. If we hold this ideological approach to life, we will find it easy to agree that life begins at conception, in the womb.**

**Let’s see if what the Bible says lines up with reality.**

On a website called **Women's Health**, it described the development of a fetus for the benefit of expecting and excited moms.

*"Step one of [conception](#) is when the sperm penetrates the egg to complete the genetic make-up of a human fetus. At this moment (conception), the sex and genetic make-up of the fetus begins. About three days later, ..."*

**Compare how God and how the world value the life of the unborn child.**

## God

- **Psalm 127:3-5** How does God view children?
- Why do many families look at children as a liability instead of viewing them a blessing?
- What are some of the blessings of having children-whether the pregnancy was planned or unplanned?
- From a Christian world view how are we to view and take care of our children and grandchildren?

## The World

**Top 10 Causes of Death in the World in 2020  
(period: January – June)**

1. ABORTION	19,743,100	*many do not consider this to be death
2. STARVATION	5,192,340	
3. CANCER	3,812,930	
4. SMOKING	2,320,850	

5. ALCOHOL	1,161,160	
6. HIV/AIDS	780,453	
7. MALARIA	455,388	
8. COVID-19	452,852	*could be as high as 800,000
9. UNCLEAR WATER	390,964	
10.FLU	226, 230	

### **How do we as Christians see this Issue with 20/20 vision**

1. Agree with what the Bible clearly teaches (which also lines up with reality) that life begins in the womb.
2. If you have knowingly or unknowingly violated this teaching or even disagreed with it, confess that to God, as I did shortly after becoming a Christian. (Remember, I violated this 3 times).
3. Accept, embrace, and cling to the grace of God that is freely given to you (as it was given to me, 3 times).
4. Allow this belief/conviction to influence the choices you make moving forward.

As you and I see the Issues of the day from the perspective of God's Word and the moral absolutes we have been given, we will see life in our world clearly.

### **Closing:**

Take a time of prayer of repentance and receive the grace of God that forgives and cleanses from all sin. In what ways might you apply the truths of this lesson?



If you have a need and you don't know who to call – Metroplex Women's Center will be glad to listen to you!

*PHONE: 817.299.9599*