

New York Passes Horrific Late-Term Abortion Bill

I could not believe what I was reading: People actually applauded the slaughtering of children. Was I having a dream ... a nightmare? Was this real?

“Why didn’t someone do something?” Those five words still haunt my thoughts today. Some time ago, I sat speechless as I listened to a man recount his trip to a Holocaust museum with his young daughter. As they walked by photos of the death camps and gas chambers, his daughter silently contemplated the horrors that were unfolding before her eyes.

When the tour ended, they drove home without saying a word. The father wondered if she truly understood the significance of the event. Was she too young to view such depravity? Was she too fragile to cope with the truth of the Holocaust? Would it make a negative impact on her life? Would it leave her fearful and wounded? Would she begin to doubt God?

His questions were answered nearly two hours later when his daughter finally spoke. She looked at her father and asked, “Daddy, why didn’t someone do something?”

Will we hear those same haunting words from our children and grandchildren? Yes! If we fail to contend for what is right, we may see a time in our history when our children will ask, “Why didn’t someone do something?” Sadly, we may not be able to answer.

With rapid-fire changes in a culture saturated by political correctness and relativism, we are inclined to ask, “Is there any hope for America?” If we continue down this slippery slope, there is little hope. Apart from a national spiritual awakening, it will be difficult to turn the Titanic around; the vessel has been struck. But if God brings revival—if we

once again set our hearts and minds on Him—there is tremendous hope. God's call is not to Hollywood, Washington or the media, but to us. If "My people" turn back to God, He will heal and restore.

As the moral and cultural war rages between our shores, the need to be awakened from our spiritual slumber has never been greater. "Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is tested" –Martin Luther.

One problem is silence in the pulpit. The silent pulpit is not God's pulpit. Did you catch that? The silent pulpit is not God's pulpit. *World* magazine featured an article in its Jan. 25, 2014 edition entitled "Still-silent Shepherds," which motivated me greatly and caused me to begin to speak out even more.

For example, tomorrow, on Jan. 24, 2019, I'm scheduled to be on *Spirited Debate* with Lauren Green on Fox News. If all goes well, it should be available at the links below. The topic will center around the moral divide in America—no doubt from gay marriage to abortion. You can also search YouTube under Shane Idleman on Fox News for more clips.

Pastors, make no mistake about it: We play an enormous role in shaping the direction of the country. We can no longer remain silent while silent screams go unheard. Deep repentance must take place at the individual and national level; our consciences have been seared. Our job is to preach the totality of God's Word, including those things that are hard to hear, so that both conviction and comfort take place. Ironically, one characteristic of a false prophet is to avoid controversial topics such as repentance, sin and judgment. (For those interested, visit and watch the new series on the book of Jude.)

When human life is devalued, atrocities such as the Holocaust, slavery, sex-trafficking and abortion occur. God help us when

we ignore our calling to confront evil. Pastors are to be pillars who support truth and defend the faith. “We need more prophets in our pulpits and less puppets” (Leonard Ravenhill). We need men and women filled with the Spirit of God rather than the things of the world. This battle is for the very soul of our nation. It’s our choice—stand or fall. Watch the video on defending the faith [here](#).

Today, the truth is often neglected, watered down or avoided altogether in the hope of not offending and building an audience. Abortion is rarely mentioned, so repentance is rarely sought and hope is elusive. We want to build a church rather than break a heart, be politically correct rather than biblically correct, coddle and comfort rather than stir and convict.

The graphic description of abortion is heart-wrenching and soul-searching and would require a warning for the graphic content if I included it. Life is precious. We must fight for it: “From the formation of a child’s first tiny cell to life’s final breath, all life has dignity and value because each and every one of us is made in the image of God” —Focus on the Family.

Hope for the Hurting

How can we undo the emotional pain we experience from abortion? First, don’t allow past brokenness to cause future pain. We are to forget those things that are behind us and focus on those things ahead (Phil. 3:13). You can’t change where you’ve been, but you can change where you’re going. Abortion is not the unpardonable sin. Christ died for every sin, including abortion.

Second, realize that there is hope for those who have participated in or who have had an abortion. If this is you, I encourage you to read Psalm 51 often. God’s unfailing love and compassion will see you through. We lean on His strength for

the future, not on our failures from the past.

John 10:10 says that Jesus came to give us life, freedom and a relationship with Him. He is our only hope—the only source of true peace. Are you experiencing this peace? If not, that can change if you trust in Him as Lord and Savior, repent, and turn to Him: “If you confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved” (Rom. 10:9).