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## The Wrong Side of History

When you hear the phrase, “the wrong side of history,” what comes to mind? I suppose different people would give different responses. Yet, there is one response I believe most everyone would have in common, for one of the most egregious and agreed upon examples of being on the wrong side of history was to be a proponent of slavery at the time of the Civil War.

When we reflect upon the tragedy of slavery in early America, we are rightly appalled that so many Americans were, at that time, engaged in the process of stealing men and women from Africa in order to make slaves of them here. It strikes most of us today as an utterly horrific notion, and we wonder how our ancestors could ever have approved it.

May I plead with you for a moment to recognize that here is a widespread ideology in our culture today that is just as clearly on the wrong side of history? It is the pro-abortion movement. If our nation ever regains its collective conscience, there is no question that we will one day look back upon abortion with the kind of necessary revulsion we now hold toward slavery.

Consider the ominous similarities between the pro-abortion movement of today and the pro-slavery movement at the time of the Civil War. Here are just a few: Democrats in Lincoln’s day believed that Lincoln had doomed his chances for reelection when he turned the war from a conflict to preserve the Union into a battle to abolish slavery. In the same way, today’s politicians and pundits adamantly declare that staunchly pro-life candidates have no chance of winning a national election. In addition, like pro-slavery proponents of old, pro-abortion forces today insist that the injustices they advocate are for the victim’s own good. Even as slave holders insisted that slaves would fold under the pressure of freedom, abortion advocates routinely stand on the chilling assertion that babies are better off aborted than born unwanted. Most importantly, both ideologies deny the humanity of an entire class of people. Just as pro-slavery voices rationalized their cause with the fallacy that “the slaves belong to an inferior race,” the abortion industry attempts to justify its horrors by denying or ignoring the intrinsic human dignity of infants in the womb.

Please know that I harbor no animosity towards those who advocate abortion. I write simply to express an urgent plea that we not allow our consciences to be seared by mindless political allegiances. All I ask is that you take a moment to ponder sincerely the miracle of infants in the womb. You have surely seen the amazing ultrasound images. Are they not the most delicate and precious of human lives?

How can our consciences be satisfied with the thought that the most helpless human beings among us are routinely crushed, ripped to pieces, and then sold for a profit? How can the fetal tissue be valuable to Planned Parenthood, but the human being to whom they belong not be? How could we value baby body parts, but not value the baby herself? Shouldn't the mother's womb be the safest place on earth? But the abortion industry has turned it into a chamber of horrors. Will we let our consciences feel what each of us innately knows we should feel about these tortured little ones? Or will we let the pressure of political ideology make us defenders of that which we know is abhorrent?

Senator Marco Rubio made the case very well at the first Republican presidential debate: “I believe that every single human being is entitled to the protection of our laws, whether they can vote or not... whether they can speak or not... whether they can hire a lawyer or not... whether they have a birth certificate or not. And I think future generations will look back at this history of our country and call us barbarians for murdering millions of babies who we never gave . . . a chance to live.”

Please do not linger on the wrong side of history. May I kindly beseech you to set aside politics long enough to give attention to your conscience? Hear what God’s Word has to say about children in the womb: *“You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother’s womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—and how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb”* (Psalm 139:13-15, NLT).

God clearly loves and treasures infants in the womb. Will we?