

# Reflections

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St. Paul Ministry

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## Do We Need a Moral Compass

### **Blessings to All:**

I recently had an experience of a young man who told me he was not religious and was "nothing" referring to his non-belief in any religion. Since he started off with, *"I am not religious...I am nothing"* ...it seemed to me that he was making a statement that he did not need religion in his life to function or to be a part of a religious culture.

His demeanor may have suggested he was either mad at God or mad at someone who may have represented himself as a religious person. Hard to tell as he would not look directly at me. He stared into the distance and it was obvious that he did not want me to discuss his comment further.

Within the same week, I also received an email from a very liberal person who posed the question. *"Without using religion as a reason not to have an abortion, why shouldn't we allow women to have abortions if they want too?"* Or words to that effect.

Although the two situations are a bit different, they both bring into play the question of whether we need a moral compass in our lives.

### **How do you address moral issues if we don't have a standard to measure things by?**

We have all been in the dog house as children when we broke one of our parents' rules. As adults, we may find ourselves in similar situations if we break the rules of our employer; or commit a crime or a variety of things by which we live by. There are rules for children and there are rules in society. If there were no standards the world would be in perpetual chaos. The dictionary gives chaos a definition of *"a state of utter confusion or disorder; a total lack of organization or order."*

So, to have a way to add meaning to life, there should be an order about it. God the Creator exists and has given order to things by His very nature. Order in the universe; order to the seasons; and order to those that He created. You can call God's order, the 10 commandments and the Gospel found in the writers of the New Testament and the Acts of the Apostles. These are the things that most of us live by. *We have an innate sense within us that knows right from wrong.* This inner sense was put there by God to help us relate to others and the responsibilities we

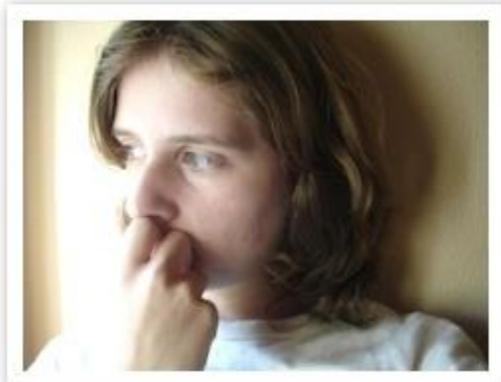
have throughout our lives. Some people due to mental illness or drug addiction or other means, block out their conscience and therefore have no rules to live by.

Christians abide by the rules laid down by God and written about in the Gospels. These are our guidelines and standards. ***What happens when moral guidelines are abandoned?*** You need to look no further than your daily news.

Religions that call for mass slaughter of people because they are of a different religion is not a commandment of our Creator. It is an abandonment of the moral law. It is an illusion drilled into others thinking by their leaders telling their followers *that this is what God wants.*

Our own faith was guilty of this during the Inquisitions. What we must grasped from this injustice is that religions within themselves have all sorts of sinners and knaves. And some of them obtain positions of responsibility and make terrible mistakes that hurt others and corrupt the moral law. Then we see the *destruction of the love* of a mother for her unborn through abortion.

### Is Abortion Okay?



This leads to me answering the question I got in an email from a very liberal thinking person. She wanted to say that it is "okay" for women to *have abortions as it is their body...* And wanted a reason why it should not be okay, ***but I could not use religion as a source to answer her.***

She demanded I take God out of my response, who is our source of life and moral laws. And instead, to use human logic based upon false reasons to allow a woman to take the life of her unborn baby.



To take a life without cause, brings a tear to our eyes. A great deception has been sold to the world that babies in the womb are not humans. Instead the world has been feed the untruth that the baby has no protection and its life and death is in the authority of the mother alone. *And she will act as God to destroy a most precious gift as it is her right since it is her body.* ***The great lie from the father of lies.***

There is an article in the Catholic Educational Resource Center written by Erika Bachiochi called "*How Abortions Hurt Women; the Hard Proof*". I think it is a great article and have added a small portion of the article to this Newsletter. It helps answer the question posed to me by the liberal lady in her email to me. You can read the entire article at...

"<https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/controversy/abortion/how-abortion-hurts-women-the-hard-proof.html>

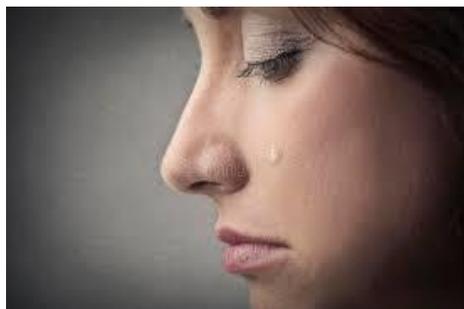
"Over the last three decades, the abortion debate has been characterized as the clashing of rights: the human rights of the unborn on the one hand and the reproductive rights of women on the other. This decades-long rhetorical deadlock has left a good number of Americans – the great majority of whom understand that an individual human life is taken in each abortion – personally opposed yet unwilling to impose their beliefs on anyone else.

The popularity of this so-called pro-choice position is due, in large measure, to the success abortion advocates have had in convincing Americans that abortion is a necessary precondition to women's well-being and equality. *If you want to stand for women's progress, the line goes, then you must stand for abortion.* Indeed, in our current cultural milieu, to oppose abortion is to risk being called anti-woman – and few, regardless of their sense of the moral wrongness of abortion, can withstand that accusation. Personally, opposed but can't impose seems to many the only pro-woman option. I once numbered myself among the ranks of personally opposed pro-choicers, though I must admit to being more pro-choice than personally opposed. I penned the following words during my junior year at Middlebury College while one of the leaders of our women's center: *The states suppression of a woman's right to choose [was] simply a perpetuation of the patriarchal nature of our society.... To free women from [the] gender hierarchy, women must have a right to do what they please with their bodies.*

The story of how I came to change my mind about abortion is rather lengthy, complicated by elements that are philosophical, religious, moral, psychological, and political. *Suffice it to say, my unwavering support for abortion was based on my status as a feminist.* Thus, central to my eventual opposition to abortion was the dual realization that abortion both harms women's well-being and that it is antithetical to a genuine feminism – one that recognizes and celebrates the uniqueness of women as women. In order to persuade the personally opposed pro-choicer like me, then, we must address this 1970s feminist fallacy that abortion is necessary for women's sexual equality and well-being. In point of fact, medical

evidence, sociological data, and the lived experience of many women tell a very different story: Abortion harms women physically, psychologically, relationally, and culturally.

### **Destroying Women's Health**



Women who have had abortions suffer an increased risk of anxiety, depression, and suicide. A study published in a recent edition of the *Journal of Anxiety Disorders* found that women who aborted their unintended pregnancies were 30 percent more likely to Over the last three decades, the abortion debate has been characterized as the clashing of rights: the human rights of the unborn on the one hand and the reproductive rights of women on the other. This decades-long rhetorical deadlock has left a good number of Americans – the great majority of whom understand that an individual human life is taken in each abortion – personally opposed yet unwilling to impose their beliefs on anyone else.

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## The Moral Compass Is Under Attack. Why Follow Jesus?

The New Testament addresses many teachings of Jesus including the many parables to drive home *His point on forgiveness, sacrifice and the meaning of love.*



When you think about Jesus' death and the way in which the Apostles died, you conclude that they believed Jesus was the Messiah and rose from the dead. Surely if Jesus died for us, he did not die for "nothing" but gave Himself up to the horrible crucifixion because He knew that this would free us from sin and provide us the means to eternal life in Heaven. So, he died for "something". Yes, *He died to give us direction in our lives. He provided us*

*the **moral compass** of how to live our lives. A soul is everlasting and without a moral compass how can you find your way? God gave each of us a moral compass and we can decide to use it or put it in the closet!*

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"

-John 14:6

Jesus wants us to live in Truth and love one another and to forgive one another. To love one another also means the babies in the womb! To deny the Truth that the unborn have no rights is a lie created by the father of lies. Some Feminist and all pro-choicers have overruled their moral compass in denying love for the unborn. They also deny Jesus in the killing of the unborn. There are

a few bible verses to drive home the point that to take the life of the unborn has direct consequences to the acceptance of Jesus' words.

Proverbs: 6:16-17. "There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood."

*And when the Son of Man returns and judges all*, there is a verse in Matthew 25 that has great meaning to those that kill the unborn and advocate abortion. They should heed Jesus' words. ""And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.'Matthew 25:40.

Pray for those that turn their backs on love by taking the lives of the unborn. Do not judge them but pray for them. They are like the parable of the Prodigal Son. They have wandered far away from the Truth and Love. Jesus left us with His teachings about how we are to treat each other in the New Testament, the Acts of the Apostles and in Church leaders. This compass is True.

The early church fathers followed the compass set by Jesus and the Apostles. The early church fathers believed in Jesus as the Son of God and all that He taught. **How do we know this to be true?** *Because all of Apostles were martyred for their belief in the resurrected Jesus save St John who died on the Isle of Patmos.*

The Apostles did not die for "nothing". They died believing in Jesus and His Gospel. And so did many early church bishops and clergy who were killed for believing in what was taught to them by the Apostles through apostolic succession. ***This killing of the followers of Christ and the killing of the unborn has been underway since Jesus walked the earth and is present to this day.***

### **The Roman Colosseum Was Built With the Temple Treasure**



**The story of the Christians killed in the Roman Colosseum is even more proof, of people dying for their faith and having a moral compass.** It is probable that some of the women who died there were also pregnant. Dying for "nothing" is not what these Christians did when they would not renounce their faith as some would have you believe.

The construction of the Colosseum has an interested twist of fate in the annals of history. ***Do you know how it was financed, built and maintained?*** Here is the rest of the story...The sack of Jerusalem occurred in the reign of the Emperor Caesar Vespasian Augustus in AD 70, when a revolt by the Jews was crushed and Jerusalem was captured by the Emperor's son, Titus. *The Temple was destroyed, and up to a million people were said to have died in the siege.*



The Arch of Titus, at the end of the Roman Forum nearest to the Colosseum, commemorates the victory, and bas-reliefs show Roman soldiers making off with booty from the Temple. Two years after the sack of Jerusalem, in AD 72, work on the Colosseum, officially known as the Flavian Amphitheater, began. **Jewish masons cut the stone, and the money that financed the project came from the Roman looting in 70**

**C.E. of the Temple in Jerusalem and it was also maintained with the loot taken.** *It is said, that it took three trips back to Jerusalem to carry all the gold and loot back to Rome so great was the wealth.* Christians were killed in this Colosseum for amusement of the Romans, but no number was recorded. Today's Christians are being killed all over the world for their belief in Jesus. The killing of Christians continues to this day. Most of us will not have to face this test of our Faith. But we do have to stand up for what we believe in. The unborn belong to God but their lives are denied through abortion. You can be a moral compass to others without judging them. You are sons and daughters of the Truth, the Life and the Way. Help others by showing them the Way by your actions, sacrifices, and by showing good moral values to all you encounter. Do not judge others. Jesus has that job.



**God's spirit is within you.** You cannot be defeated by Lies that Satan uses through others as truth. Please continue with your daily prayers for an end to Abortion; to the killing of innocent people throughout the world dying for their Faith; for America's leaders; for our Deacons, Clergy, Bishops, the Pope... and all religious. For they are the Moral Compass that Jesus has called, to show us the Truth in a world full of Lies. And pray for those that believe in "nothing" and that are looking for Truth in their lives. Especially pray for our young people. They are so bombarded with Lies in all aspects of their lives. The horrible lyrics in music; videos and in teachers who have lost their moral compass. The senseless killings in our schools is another example of the moral compass being destroyed. **The killing of innocence will not be forgotten by God.** <sup>1</sup>*Since 1980 1.5 billion babies have been aborted in the world, that is 5 times the population of America. And 15 million in 2018 from Jan-May 2018 worldwide. Jesus Wants You to be the Light in Our World.* As followers of Jesus you can bring light into a world filled with darkness. Follow Jesus. Be the moral compass. Stand fast. Pray for the sins of the world.

### **St Paul writes in Romans About Our Moral Compass**

"They can demonstrate the effect of the Law engraved on their hearts, to which their **own conscience bears witness**; since they are aware of various considerations, some of which accuse them, while others provide them with a defense . . . on the day when, according to the gospel that I preach, God, through Jesus Christ, judges all human secrets." (Romans 2:15-16)

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.numberofabortions.com/>



**Our mission statement is to motivate people to pray and to be Christian examples in their work, home and with others, for those needing the Light in a world of Darkness.**

**St. Paul Ministry, Cypress, TX**

