## **DEPRAVED MINDS**

"Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done" (Rom. 1:28).

When you don't like to think about God, there is no limit to the way your mind can become depraved. Killing babies is a prime example of a depraved mind. Babies are the personification of innocence. Only a depraved mind would want to kill a baby. Enter Andrew Cuomo. He is the governor of New York, and he delights in killing babies. He signed his "Reproductive Health Act" on the 46<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Roe v. Wade. That legislation makes it legal to kill an unborn baby up to the moment of birth. Lawmakers and bystanders were so excited by this law that stood and applauded the killing of babies. To further celebrate the occasion Cuomo said: "I am directing that New York's landmarks be lit in pink to celebrate this achievement and shine a bright light forward for the rest of the nation to follow." There was a time when abortion was to be "safe, legal, and rare". Now, however, women are encouraged to "Shout Your Abortion". Bragging about killing a baby is depraved!

Ironically, the very people celebrating the killing of babies are usually passionate in opposing the death penalty for murderers and valuing the lives of animals, birds, and fish. For example:

- Under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act it is illegal to destroy an eagle egg. The first criminal offense is a misdemeanor with a maximum penalty of one year in prison and \$100,000 fine for an individual (\$200,000 for an organization). The second offense becomes a felony with maximum penalty of 2 years in prison and \$250,000 fine for individual (\$500,000 for an "organization" such as a business). The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act also provides for maximum civil penalties of \$5,000 for each violation. Killing an unborn baby is celebrated!
- Destroying a sea turtle nest or eggs is a third-degree felony, punishable by up to a \$5,000 fine and/or five years in prison. No penalties at all, however, for killing an unborn baby!
- California Governor Gavin Newsom wants to stop euthanizing animals. In a press conference he laid out plans for a \$50 million one-time general fund allocation to develop a grant program for animal shelters. He opposes killing animals but is in favor of abortion and euthanasia. The pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute estimates 95,000 abortions occur annually in California. Further, in 2016, California became the seventh state to allow physician-assisted suicide.
- In 1993, ethicist Peter Singer shocked many by suggesting that no newborn should be considered a person until 30 days after birth and that the attending physician should kill some disabled babies on the spot. Singer is the Ira W. DeCamp Professor of Bioethics at Princeton University, and a Laureate Professor at the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics at the University of Melbourne. Sadly, his "ethics" apparently come from a depraved mind!
- On May 14, 2017 Dr. Joyce Starr pointed out that one billion people throughout the world are suffering from hunger, yet farmers in Fresno, California are denied water to irrigate their drought stricken land to preserve the rights of a small endangered fish. She said that 45,000 jobs have been lost in the area. It seems they want to save the fish and let people die!
- Dr. Bernard Nathanson presided over more than 75,000 abortions. One of those abortions involved his own child. Writing with deep regret in his moving autobiography *The Hand of God* (1996), Nathanson confessed his own heartlessness in performing abortions. The Bible word for "repentance" is "metanoeo" which literally means to change your mind. To his credit Dr. Nathanson "changed his mind" and became an effective pro-life advocate. The Silent Scream (1984) is but one example of his efforts to end the depraved practice of killing babies. He passed away February 21, 2011. Thank God he changed his mind!
- Dr. Nathanson is not unique, in that God commands all men everywhere to repent (Acts 17:30.