

LETTERS FROM GRANDPA
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Dearest grandchild,

On August 1, 1966, after stabbing his mother and his wife to death, Charles Whitman took an arsenal of weapons and barricaded himself at the top of the University of Texas tower in Austin. Over the next 96 minutes he shot and killed 17 people, including an unborn child. 31 other people were wounded but did not die. Whitman was stopped when two policemen and a civilian somehow made it to the top of the tower and killed him. Some have suggested that his violence was the result of a brain tumor, but his motivations didn't matter to the people he killed. Fortunately he was stopped!

Civil government is ordained by God to protect society from men like Charles Whitman. Murder is not good and capital punishment has been decreed by God since the days of Noah. Some say that capital punishment doesn't stop murder, but it certainly stopped Charles Whitman. God told Noah: **"Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man"** (Gen. 9:6). Paul wrote to the Romans that an officer of the law is **"God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer"** (Rom. 13:4). It seems evident that Charles Whitman would have continued killing people if he had not be stopped by the police. In resolving this situation with lethal force the police were not guilty and Whitman was not innocent.

The heavens declare the "glory" of God (Ps. 19:1), but only man embodies God's "image". **"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them."** (Gen. 1:27). Man is therefore unique! You can kill a tree to build a house and not be guilty. You can kill a fish to feed your family and not be guilty. You cannot kill an innocent man, however, without being guilty before God. Only man is created in the image of God. Murderers who kill innocent people deserve to die for the protection of society. The Bible has many warnings for those who shed innocent blood. Here are a few examples:

- There are seven things the Lord hates and shedding innocent blood is # 3 on the list (Prov. 6:17).
- God ordained cities of refuge so that innocent blood would not be shed in the land (Deut. 19:10).
- Shedding innocent blood separates us from God (Is. 59:1-8).
- When Jesus was crucified Judas killed himself because he had **"Betrayed innocent blood"** (Matt. 27:4).
- Killing children is especially sinful for they personify innocence. Jesus said: **"Unless you change and become like little children you will never enter the kingdom of heaven"** (Matt. 18:3).
- The wrath of God came upon his people when **"They sacrificed their sons and daughters to demons. They shed innocent blood of their sons and daughters whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land was desecrated by their blood"** (Ps. 106:37-38).
- Etc.

ABORTION IS THE SHEDDING OF INNOCENT BLOOD

Aunt Nancy's father, the late Judge Herbert Casteel, wrote a book about abortion called "*The Drums of Moloch*". When the Canaanites burned their children to death by casting them into the fiery arms of the bull god Moloch, they would beat their drums to drown out the screams of their dying children. The sad fact that American mothers have sacrificed over 60 million unborn babies to the goddess of pleasure is proof that we too have been distracted from reality.

Dr. Bernard Nathanson was licensed to practice medicine in New York state in 1952. He was board-certified in obstetrics and gynecology in 1960. For a time he was the director of the Center for Reproductive and Sexual Health which was the largest free standing abortion facility in the world. During that time he presided over the deaths of 60,000 – 75,000 innocent babies. After his conversion to Christ he produced an abortion documentary called *The Silent Scream* (1984). The film compiles a series of ultrasound images of unborn babies being killed. He notes how the baby's heart rate increases, tries to escape, and then opens its mouth in a chilling "silent scream" as it is killed. Unborn babies do feel pain! In 1987 the American Academy of Pediatrics formally declared that it was unethical to continue to operate on unborn infants without the use of anesthetics. Sadly, killing an unborn baby without anesthetics is still legal. Nathanson displays the instruments used in abortions and describes how they can crush a baby's head and tear off its arms and legs. His repentance is revealed in his 1996 autobiography, *The Hand of God*. Dr. Nathanson died Feb. 21, 2011 and is now in the hands of God who specializes in forgiving repentant people.

If you destroy the egg of a sea turtle you are subject to a \$5,000 fine and up to 5 years in jail. According to the Eagle Protection Act of 1940 if you destroy the egg of a bald eagle you are subject to a \$100,000 fine and a sentence of up to one year in jail for the first offense. If you shed the blood of an innocent unborn baby, however, you will be celebrated by the very people defending turtles and eagles.

Remember, God hates the shedding of innocent blood. If you have erred and been involved in an abortion, you can repent like Dr. Nathanson did! Some of the greatest pro-life workers have followed his example and found forgiveness in the arms of our loving Heavenly Father.

I love you,

Grandpa Boyce