



Christian Citizenship

“You are the salt of the earth . . . You are the light of the world” (Mt. 5:13-16). One way to be salty and let our light shine is by being good citizens on earth. Our vocation as citizens of both the secular kingdom and God’s kingdom gives us the responsibility to proclaim God’s Word and care for our neighbors. We are called to engage the “public square” with our message of Christ’s mercy for all. Please pray for God’s will to be done... in Jesus’ name.

Hatred of Christianity

The leaked draft opinion of Justice Sam Alito explained why *Roe v. Wade* ought to be overturned. His views, explains Tucker Carlson, “were not especially controversial. *Roe* is bad law. . . .Over the past half-century, many have acknowledged that, including many pro-choice Democrats. . . .So, at this point, 49 years in, if you’re an office holder who supports legal abortion, the obvious solution is to vote for legal abortion, pass a law like they do in democraciesBut democracy is a tiresome process, and worst of all, the outcome isn’t always guaranteed.” The preferred choice of modern liberals is “what they call direct action, not democracy.”

Since the opinion leak, Supreme Court justices and Christianity have been threatened. “A group called Ruth Sent Us [named in honor of Ruth Bader Ginsburg] posted the home addresses of every Supreme Court justice who is conservative.” The goal was to “invite violence and harassment to get them to change their votes. [The intimidation of justices is a federal crime. But the Justice Department is silent.] Then Ruth Sent Us sent this to practicing Catholics across the country, ‘Stuff your rosaries and your weaponized prayer. We will be burning the Eucharist to show our disgust for the abuse Catholic churches have condoned for centuries.’”

In Wisconsin, a Christian counseling center that provides support for pregnant women was fire-bombed. The message written on the side of the center’s building read, “If abortions aren’t safe, then you aren’t either.” In Alexandria, VA., Concerned Women for America was attacked, not because they had anything to do with the leaked opinion of Justice Alito, but because they are Christians. Across the country, Sunday masses were terrorized. [Federal Law 18 U.S. C. 247 makes intimidating churchgoers illegal.]

Outside the Basilica of Saint Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City, a woman acted out an abortion, all the while crying out, “I’m killing my baby. I’m killing ‘em. I’m killing the baby.”

Tucker says maybe this isn’t actually about *Roe*. “Maybe it’s about something more than that. Maybe it’s about something much darker than that. Take a look at what Democrats are doing in Congress right now. If you want a sense of what their plans are. This is a real passage from a new abortion bill the Democrats are trying to get through the Congress and we’re quoting: ‘This act is intended to protect all people with a capacity for pregnancy, cisgender women, transgender men, non-binary individuals, those who identify with a different gender and others.’”

“So there it is. It’s not really about codifying *Roe*—abortions for people who ‘need them safe, legal and rare.’ It’s about something much bigger than that. It’s about displacing God as the great decider. Democrats now reserve the right to rewrite biology, which is to say dominion over nature. Now they’re in charge.” So again, this isn’t just about intimidating Supreme Court justices, five of them, into changing their views on *Roe v. Wade*. It’s about attacking Christianity because Christianity stands in their way.”

Why are modern liberals angry at Christianity? “You wouldn’t think they would be. Christianity has been the single greatest force for human rights in history. In fact, the Western understanding of human rights, our understanding of human rights, all of us, atheists included, is based on Christianity. That’s where it comes from. Christianity is the reason why we don’t have slavery and segregation and children working in factories. . . .So, if you’re a sincere liberal, it would seem odd to hate Christians. But the totalitarians always do hate Christians. The Soviets killed the priests first, so did Mao. During the Spanish Civil War, the Communists subjected a statue of Jesus to a symbolic execution in front of a firing squad.”

Modern liberals, says Tucker, “hate Christianity, not because it’s repressive, but because they are. Any religion that puts God before government is, by definition, a threat to their power. Most offensive of all,

Christianity specifically rejects their most cherished dogma, which is racial hierarchy. The Christian message is the opposite of the equity agenda.” (Excerpts from “Tucker: Modern liberals hate Christianity, not because it’s repressive, but because they are,” Fox News.com, May 9, 2022)

What can we do? Know your Christian heritage. Teach it to your children. Tucker explains, “Christianity describes a universal brotherhood of man, every person created in God’s image and therefore, for that reason, morally equal. That is gravely disempowering for the Left. If all people are equal, you can’t really divide your population by skin color. You can’t really set one group against another.” Make sure that a copy of *How Christianity Changed the World* by Dr. Alvin Schmidt is in your family’s library for constant reference.

Please pray to speak truth... in Jesus' name.

The Christian Roots of American Individualism

The idea of individualism, which boldly contrasts national socialism (think WWII Germany) and international socialism (think Marxism), grew from Christian roots. Susan Hanssen, Associate Professor of History at the University of Dallas, explains that even when individualism might raise up “the filthy connotations of materialism, consumerism, and selfishness . . . conservatives did not publicly attack the belief in the value of the individual human person, invested with God-given dignity and rights.” Social conservatives used to embrace “the idea that a single immortal soul is worth more than the entire material universe in all its splendor.” This idea “was the starting point for the pro-life movement that emerged slowly from the fringes of American society and culture into mainstream politics in the 1980s.” In the twenty-first century, however, the individual—that person “of infinite value and inviolable dignity”—is under full assault. Hanssen reasons that “we need to reconnect with our earlier vision of conservatism.”

Hanssen gives an example of the “earlier vision of conservatism” that understood and respected the God-given value and dignity of each human life. In contrast to mass graves are the military cemeteries of the Americans at Anzio and Normandy where thousands of individual markers are labeled with individual names; and the English at Monte Cassino where “each individual gravestone is personalized, with a story [or poem, hymn, or prayer] of the young men who died . . . One could wander such a cemetery for hours.”

Hanssen reminds us that “St. Paul, who indeed gave us the wonderful image of social organicism or corporatism—the Mystical Body of Christ made up of many members—also proclaims like a trumpet that the Word became Flesh not to save Eternal Rome, but to save this mortal body that will put on immortality. This insistence on individual immortality, an idea hammered home by the almost preposterous teaching of the resurrection of the body, makes Christians dyed-in-the-wool individualists.” (Source: “The Christian Roots of Good Old-Fashioned American Individualism” by Susan Hanssen, *Public Discourse*, 4-18-22.)

What can we do? Resist the Marxist religion that does not see human beings as “being fashioned in the image and likeness of our Maker,” but as highly evolved, soulless beings obedient to the state. Hanssen encourages us to remember that “it is the individual substance of a rational nature that is immortal: not the family, not the community, not the state.” We must believe that each human being faces “his own conscience and judgment of good and evil. Original sin is new in every generation, in each person; freedom is new in every generation, in each individual . . . There never was a Christianity that didn’t proclaim the radical freedom of the individual.”

Please pray in thanksgiving for God’s gift of individual personhood... in Jesus’ name.

A Time of Repentance

The unborn child is a human being. This is biological reality. This—not circumstances or sexual autonomy—is the only pro-life argument. It is long past time for Christians to stop saying, “I would never have an abortion myself, but I support the right of a woman to choose.”

As Christian citizens, we must see abortion as a form of idol worship. Desiring good crops and a better life, mothers and fathers of Israel gave one of their children to Molech. Their sacrifice profaned the Lord’s holy name. God said, “. . . I will set My face against that man and against his clan . . .” (Leviticus. 20:5). Today, we in America have given over 60 million babies to Abortion since 1973. Desiring convenience and a better life, our sacrifice has profaned the name of the Holy God, the Creator and Redeemer of every born and unborn.

What can we do? Repent. No matter if we’ve had an abortion, failed to support mother and child or been silent, it is time to repent and ask for God’s mercy.

Please pray for a repentant heart... in Jesus’ name.

