

“The Truth As We Know It”

Where is the Father?

6/14/15

This week I want to address the breakdown of the American family and the damage that that is doing to our beautiful country. The Family is God’s idea! It is the foundation of any solid society. I am convinced that the onslaught of the Devil against the family is a major strategy in destroying the American culture and the stability of our nation. Before there was a nation, Before there was church, there was the family.

I believe the push to legalize and normalize the homosexual lifestyle is a direct assault on the family. As the family goes, so goes the country. The push to legalize same sex marriage destroys what God has set in motion at the very beginning of creation and defies God, common sense, and thousands of years of biblical culture.

More and more couples are deciding not to marry, but rather co- habitat as though they were married. This leaves either of the partners without any real long-term commitment to the relationship. Divorce rates may be down in America, but that does not tell the real story of the homes in our country because couples are separating at a higher rate than ever. Leaving behind countless fatherless children who have no real direction for their lives.

Every false teaching brings with it it's own judgment. There are serious consequences to violating the biblical guidelines for our families. Fatherless children are at the root of a

great percentage of all the crime and violence in our country. I will list a few of them here. In an article called, **'How Important are fathers in the home? Are fathers necessary?'** these statistics are shown.

63% of youth suicides' are from fatherless homes.

90% of all homeless and runaway children are from fatherless homes.

85% of all children that exhibit behavioral disorders come from fatherless homes.

80% of rapists motivated with displaced anger come from fatherless homes.

71% of all high school dropouts come from fatherless homes.

75% of all adolescent patients in chemical abuse centers come from fatherless homes.

70% of juveniles in state-operated institutions come from fatherless homes.

85% of all youths sitting in prisons grew up in a fatherless home

These statistics translate to mean that children from fatherless homes are:

- 5 times more likely to commit suicide
- 32 times more likely to run away
- 20 times more likely to have behavioral disorders
- 14 times more likely to commit rape
- 9 times more likely to drop out of high school
- 10 times more likely to abuse chemical substances
- 9 times more likely to end up in a state-operated institution

- 20 times more likely to end up in prison.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services says, “Fatherless children are at dramatically greater risk of suicide.”

Jean Beth Eshtain, "Family Matters says, “Three out of four teenage suicides occur in households where a parent has been absent.” .

In an article in the San Francisco Chronicle (12/9/94) called. '**JUVINILE DELINQUENCY/ CRIME/ GANGS,** we read, "Criminal behavior experts and social scientists are finding intriguing evidence that the epidemic of youth violence and gangs is related to the breakdown of the two-parent family. Juveniles have become the driving force behind the nation's alarming increases in violent crime, with juvenile arrests for murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault growing sharply in the past decade."

In an article called, '**Does divorce affect the children?**' we read, "Among teenage and adult populations of females, parental divorce has been associated with lower self-esteem, greater delinquent-like behavior, and more difficulty establishing gratifying, lasting adult heterosexual relationships for years into adulthood."

Divorce or parental separation affects girls more even after some time has passed. **According to the, 'American Journal of Orthopsychiatry.'** "...Of adolescents whose parents have divorced within the last five years. The impact

of the marital disruption was most pronounced among girls, who skipped school more frequently, reported more depressed behavior, and described social support in more negative terms than did boys from recently disrupted homes."

In an article called, '**What is wrong with our culture?**' '**Our Family Crisis**' we read, "Consider what our family brokenness has done to society: *3 in 10 children grow up in broken homes. *In the African-American community, it's far worse: two-thirds of black children grow up with only one parent.* More than half of all babies are *conceived* out of wedlock. * Of those conceived out of wedlock, 4 in 10 are aborted. And so, the cycle of violence begins. * Of the survivors of abortion, half the children born out of wedlock end up in poverty."

Can anyone argue that the breakdown of the home has no affect on our culture? That children in same-sex partnerships are as good as in a heterosexual marriages? All children need a father and a mother where that is possible. They need the nurturing of a mother, and the leadership and example of a father.

God hates divorce! He hates divorce because the children always get hurt! In Mal 2:13-16 from the New Living Translation He tells us, "Here is another thing you do. You cover the LORD's altar with tears, weeping and groaning because He pays no attention to your offerings and doesn't accept them with pleasure. You cry out, "Why doesn't the LORD accept my worship?" I'll tell you why! Because the LORD witnessed the

vows you and your wife made when you were young. But you have been unfaithful to her, though she remained your faithful partner, the wife of your marriage vows. Didn't the LORD make you one with your wife? In body and spirit you are His. And what does He want? Godly children from your union. So guard your heart; remain loyal to the wife of your youth. "For I hate divorce!" says the LORD, the God of Israel. "To divorce your wife is to overwhelm her with cruelty, " says the LORD of Heaven's Armies. "So guard your heart; do not be unfaithful to your wife."

I believe the only thing that will save and restore America back to its former status is true, sweeping, culture changing revival in our land equal to the great awakening. We are in serious trouble as a nation if revival does not take place. Please Join me in praying earnestly for that revival!

I believe it is the church's responsibility as much as is possible to reach out to those around us who are fatherless to help bridge the gap. In Exodus 22:22-24 we read, "Ye shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child. If thou afflict them in any wise, and they cry at all unto me, I will surely hear their cry; And my wrath shall wax hot, and I will kill you with the sword; and your wives shall be widows, and your children fatherless." Wow! That is a very serious statement. He does not specify why someone is fatherless, just that they are.

Job tell us the source of his great blessings in Job 29:12-13

and we read, "Because I delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless, and him that had none to help him. The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me: and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy." God has a supply for each child born.

God gives to us so can we can minister to those in need around us. Paul tells us in 2Co 9:8-11, "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remains for ever.) Now he that ministers seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness; Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causes through us thanksgiving to God.

In Jas 1:27 we read, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, *and* to keep himself unspotted from the world."

Listen again next week.

This we do know, The Bible is God's Word, God's word is true, Jesus Christ is God's son, Jesus died to save us from our sin, Without Jesus we are eternally lost. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is no other name under heaven given among men,

whereby we might be saved. Atheism is a temporary condition, for every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord! Jesus stands ready to save you now, Will you call on Him today?

Until next week, God bless.