

The Pro-Life Pentecostal Promise for Mothers and Others

ACTS 2:38-39

INTRODUCTION: What does Pentecost, Mother's Day, and Pro-Life have in common? Aside from each one being celebrated this Sunday (or at this time of the year), each one also deals with God's gift of Life -- physical & spiritual. And these words from Peter's Pentecostal sermon serve as a fitting, uniting thread among the three.

I. The Promise Concerns the Precious Gift of Life

A. Our physical life is precious

1. God is our Maker

- a) He created us at the time of our conception
- b) Psalm 139 (or some similar verse)

2. God is the creator of all life

- a) Regardless of how that life came about (example of rape and/or incest is often used as a reason for abortion. However, even in these cases we are dealing with God-given life)
- b) Regardless of whether that life is wanted or unwanted. (God wants that life. He created that person)

TRANSITION: Our physical life and the life of every person regardless how young, even the life of the unborn is precious. God has created that life. But our physical life is wasted if during our lifetime we do not receive another life from our God.

B. Our Spiritual Life is Equally Precious

1. The need for spiritual life

- a) We are spiritually dead
 - dead because of our sins (Eph. 2:1)
 - sinful and therefore already dead from our conception (Psalm 51:5)
 - spiritual death leads to eternal death
- b) God is the Giver of spiritual life also
 - our Lord Jesus removed our sins from us (Gospel message)
 - the Holy Spirit gives us spiritual life by bringing us to faith in Christ (verse 38)

TRANSITION: Our life is precious. God has been gracious to us and given us both physical and spiritual life. Because Jesus won forgiveness for us and the Holy Spirit brought this forgiveness to us, we have eternal life. But this gift of the Holy Spirit isn't only for us.

II. The Recipients Include Mothers and All Others

A. An Eternal Mother's Day Gift

1. Motherhood is a highly honored position
 - a) Examples: Sarah, Hannah, Elizabeth, etc.
 - b) It is good to honor our mother
 - not only with gifts and cards and words of love on Mother's Day
 - but honoring and obeying them everyday
2. Remember, though, that your greatest honor lies in God's gift to you through Christ.
 - a) No Mother's Day gift can match that gift
 - b) God wants every mother to receive this gift
 - no matter what your sin-even if you had an abortion
 - Romans 6:20b

TRANSITION: Mothers, God has forgiven you in Christ for all your sins. And he wants you to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit so that you may live before him now and forever. But he also wants others to receive this gift.

B. The Promise is Also for Your Children

1. God wants us to baptize our children and bring them up in his Word
 - a) The Holy Spirit is active in Baptism
 - b) He is active whenever we teach them God's Word
2. This is why pro-life work is so important
 - a) abortion ends that child's time of grace and leaves doubt about that child's eternity where there should be certainty
 - b) it ends the godly influences you can have on your child
 - c) abortion is a sin which jeopardizes the soul of the aborting mother and others involved with the decision
3. This stresses the importance of mothers
 - a) You are God's instruments to bring the life he created into this world.
 - b) You are also used by God to bring the gift of the Holy Spirit to that child so that he may have spiritual life.

CONCLUSION: The connection between Pentecost, Mother's Day and Pro-Life is that they consist of temporal and spiritual concerns. The promise of Pentecost is a promise of hope and deliverance for mothers and others. Its promise of salvation reaches even into the womb. Love your mothers as God's instruments to bring you physical and spiritual life. And mothers, love your children, born and unborn, as the recipients of God's gift of physical life and promise of spiritual life through the Holy Spirit.