

570.

Ministers  
Rev. R. A. Burrows  
Rev. Glen Baker

FIRST UNITED CHURCH  
320 East Hastings Street,  
Vancouver 4, B.C.

Organist  
Douglas Prior

1:00 A. M.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1971

7:00 P. M.

"COME IN TO WORSHIP"

The Praise of God  
The Call to Worship  
Hymn: 5 (Moscow) "Come, Thou almighty King"  
Prayer of Invocation  
Responsive Reading: 701  
Anthem: "All My Hope On God Is Founded" The Gloria  
from the  
New Hymnary

7:00 P. M. - Broadcast of "First Church Sunday Night" on CKWX. The "magazine" portion, pre-recorded, tonight includes an interview with Dr. Joseph McLelland of McGill University.

The Word of God

Scripture Reading: Selected  
Hymn: (See Bulletin Insert) "Hymn for 1971"  
Sermon: "Notes From Niagara"  
Rev. R. A. Burrows

WORSHIP

Organ Voluntary — *Beth McQuinn, Olwen Chipman*  
Opening Statement — *Gerald Britland, Tom McManis*  
Quartette: "Sometimes I Feel Like A Motherless Child"  
Prayer  
Scripture Reading: I Corinthians 1: 17 - 25  
Soloist: Gerald Britland — *Great Peace Hymn* *Lully*  
Message: "Goodness In a Vacuum Is a Monster"  
Anthem: "Sing Unto The Lord A New Song" McAfee  
Prayer  
Hymn: 86 "When I survey the wondrous Cross"  
Benediction and Choral Amen

Our Response to God's Word

Prayer of Response  
Soloist: Gerald Britland  
Prayer and The Lord's Prayer  
Offering - Dedication Prayer - Doxology, 625  
The Life and Work of The Church:  
1) Announcements  
2) Welcome of Transferred Members  
3) Installation of New Members of The Official Board  
Hymn: 313 (Diademata) "Make me a captive, Lord"  
The Benediction and Choral Amen

Offering - Dedication Prayer - Doxology, 625  
Dismissal

"GO OUT TO SERVE"

WELCOME - We extend a sincere welcome to all who are visiting with us today. An informal Coffee Hour will be held immediately after both Services in the Gym-Hall, and all are invited.

WE WELCOME AS OUR PULPIT GUEST this evening the Rev. M. J. V. Shaver. Mr. Jack Shaver is Research and Development Officer for the Metropolitan Council of The United Church.

NEXT SUNDAY, February 21st, Rev. Reg Redman will preach in the Morning Service. Rev. Glen Baker will be in charge of the Evening Broadcast Service, on the Theme of "Despair".

I think we are in a moral crisis  
deep and frightening kind.

And I think it is being compounded by  
 the remedies we seek to apply.

Preach about Sorrow also

Set the back to this theme using  
 a couple of experiences of the past week or so.

1. I attended a Day Long Conference on Abortion and the Right to Life.  
 Sponsored by the Roman Catholic Church

2. I had ~~the~~ a ~~visit~~ visit with two couples -  
 - members of the ~~you~~ Youth Culture  
 a thing we are coming to call  
 the Youth Culture.  
 who met with me to discuss marriage.

These events sharpened the focus on a  
 problem that is constantly with us.

Profound Moral Exposure: -

(1) One Evening and Morning of the Next day  
 I met with a ~~large~~ group of people who  
 were deeply  
 & actively concerned with the problem of abortion.  
 Laws probably about as big as ~~liberal~~ ~~excess~~ ~~excess~~  
 → Presence from various groups  
 how to such - no prohibited at all  
 Abortion on Demand.  
 Once you allow this to be the answer to an unwanted

} personal  
 social reasons

What have you started - ? unfortunate next  
 he's hell babies - ~~from~~ started  
 a bad of babies -  
 Deformed - Mentally ill - Unobservable,

I Corinthians 1:17-25The Apostle Paul

wrote pages &amp; pages that ended up in the N.T.

you have to read only a little of it to realize that his motivation in writing most of it was that he felt people were hearing the opposite to what the Xn message was saying.

I got the feeling reading him that he would be just as upset to be - with what people are hearing from him

Ironical - understandable.~~This seems exactly -~~

He himself is understood by many today saying the kind of things that he actually wrote his letters to correct.

I'd like to explain one of these ones tonight.

I'm going to reveal a passage where Paul is talking about how the Wisdom of God comes on as Foolishness.

Let's listen for what he's trying to say. ~~rather than~~ instead of hearing what we know he's going to say.

5708

I Corinthians 13:17-25

# GOODNESS IN A VACUUM IS A MONSTER

I think we are in a moral crisis  
 so deep & frightening bad  
 and I think it is being confounded by the  
 remedies we seek to apply

I was going to preach about something else  
 but got sent back to this theme by a couple of experiences  
 last week.

1. I attended a day-long conference on "abortion and the Right to life" sponsored by an arm of the P.C. Church
2. I visited with two couples who have joined what we  
 have come to call the youth centers.

These events sharpened the focus on a problem that  
 is constantly with us.

1. The Abortion Conference - profoundly moving experience  
 for an evening & many & obvious of the next day - I met  
 with a large group of people who were deeply &  
 achingly concerned with the problem of abortion.  
 Laws prohibiting abortion - liberalized everywhere  
 Pressure from various groups - ~~that~~ legal prohibition  
 to be removed - abortion on demand  
 Once you allow this to be the answer to unwanted pregnancy  
 personal (selfish) Reason  
 social (altruistic)

What have you started?

- next lets kill unwanted babies - no history  
 or memory - consciousness
- Legal
- Deformed
- Mentally ill
- Undesirable - point of view of society

Does it happen?

Did

Does

Speaks from Germany

His wife worried that group

add - pressure  
 enormous moral  
 questions

1. Over population

2. ~~Defination~~ legal & Medical Definitio of death  
 - clarify - question ~~by~~ keeping alive through  
 painful suffering

opens prospect - happy life goes - ~~blow~~ stops

3. Genetic engineering - coming [for spare parts]

Present these questions from troubling us into a  
Moral Disaster?

→ Sabharwal - so Define like

Ultimate definition - can't be tampered with.  
free of moral distinctions  
won't hold up under examination  
won't withstand pressure  
of vested interest.

Human like beings - conception

Compelling Solution

whether any time - indeed MURDER

Especially Turn to the extreme opposite solution  
"People can have what they want"  
work at - getting rid of a bad conscience about it.

Forgoed state - anyone doing what they want - share any  
part of the world with each other  
- any way raise human without a bad  
conscience.

NEED - What we have to deal with Both our inefficiency  
and our bad conscience  
but we destroy each other

Same Time: Compelling solution - Somehow freedom  
Brutalization of our relationships with each other  
is not remedied by definition

We have had periods - agreed definition of right & wrong were  
relatively concomitant  
they closed a mass of Brutalizations

Indeed

It is against the Brutality of our present day complacent  
righteousness that the radical movements of our time  
are revolting.

our rigid definitions are prevented what causes the offense  
and prevents us from seeing the brutality  
~~our~~ society perpetrates against its victims

Compelling Solution

- Finding a saving definition is isolation

confronts the problem - as much as that which  
leads to give people what they want while  
ignoring their bad conscience.

The encounter with the kids was another thing

There were beautiful kids

one couple living with a fragile premise  
on only the Gulf Island - spitting

in a relationship endeavoring to keep beautiful  
in contrast to the ugly empty they are  
society had made of marriage.

They felt part of a whole sub-culture - perhaps not very big  
perhaps bigger than we think.

The active part here was the feeling that they sub-culture  
was becoming more and more isolated.

Starting history of civilization all over again.

and they to be bound from the beginning the hard way.

— forgotten they have

— How could it have any sense in isolation?

It seems to me — no way for our wisdom to grow

AND NO way for keep our righteousness from  
defeating others.

if we pursue our wisdom

and our righteousness — in isolation from one another

It is not just that in definition we find goodness it is  
in dialogue with each other

Goodness in a vacuum is a monster.

If we fragment & splinter — no amount of appropriate  
definitions will save us — this ~~can~~ help to hide our  
evil from us,

In isolation from each other we will see only our own wisdom  
and God's wisdom will look like foolishness.

The only way to morality lies in our facing each other

Can you imagine what that would be like

"Don't go away just because you have a different  
righteousness from me." —

This means — "Stay with me while I rain blows on you"

It looks like the cross of X.

It looks like God's foolishness.

This is the kind of right from wrong  
distinction Paul is talking about  
Cross of X - Foolishness  
a a Shrinky Babes

---

you test it meaning whenever you meet another  
in order to discover the good together

~~and not just~~  
~~rather than~~

in contrast to knowing you right from  
wrong before you meet

---