

Gloucester County Community Church Message Jan. 23, 2022

Good morning! Blessing to be back at GCCC. Especially to be the speaker on the topic of Fake news! (1) Before I begin if I may speak to this sensitive topic which many of you know I will be addressing....abortion(1)

I wasn't delegated this topic, actually I chose it. "Fake" news is something I have been dealing with for the better part of my career.

As an Executive Director of a pregnancy help center. I spend a lot of my time simply raising awareness on the abortion issue. I have to do that because it's not covered by MSM or at least not covered particularly well.(2) I will get to that in a minute. Phil Donahue...does

anyone remember the show? Back in the early 1980's he aired an interview with Dr. Bernard Nathanson. An abortionist turned pro life. He showed on live tv his film; the Silent scream. A film of a first trimester abortion as Dr. Nathanson performed it. (3) This would never happen on live television today.

True Investigative reporting has all but disappeared. Reality TV (which isn't really reality) and propaganda news have replaced what used to be legitimate reporting personal feelings about the liberal media.

My progression: I can't watch, I won't watch. Finding other new sources Social media censorship Caution it's a slippery slope

Conservative vs crazy Conspiracies Fearmongering too many too much.

The death of dialogue

Nobody wants to listen; everyone wants to speak, tweet, post, video, text, blogetc.. Why can't we have an open dialogue about vaccines or the election irregularities with experts from both sides?? Where it's in a town hall type of format and the audience can submit questions. What are we afraid of?

Thousands of portals of communication and no one is really listening. Everyone is talking could this be why God placed masks

over the mouths of the entire world. Maybe the masks will come off when we get the message. Remember St. Steven (right before they stoned him they were screaming and covering their ears because they couldn't bear his message. Acts 7:57)(4)

This anger comes from fear. What is being said is too hard to accept so we silence the speaker through intimidation/violence.

We have had some informal threats against the ministry. A few outbursts at our mobile unit location and people a few times have walked out of church while presenting on this topic. Things are heating up though as colleagues of mine had to hire bodyguards so they can speak on college campuses. At the colleges' suggestion.

What I hope to accomplish through this message Renew the cause for love 1 John 4:18 (click); Raise your awareness Hosea 4:6 (click); Inspire change Prov. 4 (5)

What is fake news? This term was brought to life by a former president, but I think it's the wrong terminology; from Dennis

Prager News with omission of information Often False or deceptive facts A Bias narrative. Right, left and nothing in between Right wing slant / fox news Progressive left; ABC, CBS, NBC, MSNBC, CNN/10x the viewership combined of Fox These networks confirm their own prejudices But are they doing this deliberately or are they simply speaking from their own humanistic secular world view. I think it's both. Example: only covid deaths posted never recoveries Who Told You That? Genesis 3:1-11 3 Now the

serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'"² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³ but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"⁴ "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and

you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”⁶ When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”¹⁰ He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”¹¹ And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”⁽⁶⁾

Let us pray

The characters **The deceiver-the serpent**

The question to open the can of worms: Did God really say?

Undermining the truth from the jump Testing her knowledge of

God's word He gave half-truths but just enough to tempt Eve.

His agenda; destroy the relationship between God and man

He looked harmless so it was a subtle offering of something

appealing (click)

The ill informed-Eve She didn't know what God really said and this

led to her ultimate demise, look at Gen 2:16

And the Lord God commanded man You are free to eat from any

tree in the garden, but you must not eat from the tree of the

knowledge of good and evil for when you eat from it you will

certainly die.

God never said anything about touching only eating.

Consider the idea that because Eve believed touching would kill

her then when she touched it and nothing happened, she probably

figured then eating must be ok too! She never even inquired of her

husband or God about what the serpent was telling her She blindly followed a stranger's voice not a trusted voice(click)

The apathetic-Adam

He didn't speak up. He stood by and watched it happen. He was right there Gen. 3:6 who was with her, because she gave it to her husband His silence made him complicit.(click)

Truth giver-God

God's questions where are you and Who told you that? Truth causes us to come to grips with reality. He knew where they were and He knew who was responsible but He still asked, why?

Because the beginning of forgiveness is confession of guilt by the guilty. Ultimately, they never confess only play the blame game which tells us something else about the truth giver He LOVED

While they stood there hiding in shame not when they asked forgiveness; He still covered their nakedness Eventually promising

their salvation through a redeemer. He kept His word. He communicated the consequences.(click)(7)

The very first story with tension in all of scripture is a snapshot of exactly where we are today.

Today, we have two groups of people; the unknowledgeable and the apathetic being influenced by two other groups the deceived or the truth givers. This story gives a good example of not only how deceptive information can harm us but how easily it can forever change us. Never can this be seen any clearer today; than in the discussion over abortion.

Prior to 1973 all 50 states had laws either outright banning abortion or severely restricting it. How the fake news narrative started regarding abortion;

Lie: Make abortion legal and rare

Since 1973 there have been over 63 million abortions performed in the United States alone. Nothing rare

about it as 1 in 4 American women will have had an abortion by 40.

Lie: It's my constitutional right

Abortion rights are nowhere in the constitution; the 14th amendment says that no state can deprive a person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law.

Lie: Outlawing abortion will harm women

Abortion is a violent act. Women who have had an abortion often suffer from post traumatic stress related to the abortion. PAS can include addiction, depression, recurring nightmares and even suicide

Lie: It's not a baby:

the use of ultrasound and our knowledge about fetal development shows that as early as 4 weeks a heart beat is detected

**10 weeks and all systems are in place and baby is only
needing to grow**

**The most popular abortion is the abortion pill;
RU486 is taken up to 10 weeks of pregnancy, it
can be administered through tele-health and
recently became allowed to be sent by mail to
women(8)**

**The Federalist, a conservative news outlet
reported there was an investigation of the
University of Pittsburgh, because they were
allegedly harvesting fetal tissue from living
aborted babies . On MSM this news story was
only covered by Fox. As alarming as this report is,
it now becomes more clear why procedures like
partial birth abortion are so important to the
abortion industry.**

Lie: Only the SCOTUS can change abortion laws in my state

**There are many states passing laws to limit abortion,
NJ is not one of them.**

NJ has the 3rd highest rate of abortion in the U.S.

Recently passed NJ Reproductive Freedom Act

Allow non physicians to perform abortions

Allow abortion up to the last day of

pregnancy

We did alert our donors to this legislation

and directed them to appeal to their

assemblymen and senators. I did meet with

our State Senator. He did vote “no” but it

wasn't enough.

The devaluing of life ...How did we get here? If the definition of fake news is where we receive false information or information that omits facts or its facts presented with bias; then Fake news just doesn't

come from MSM. It can also come from places like schools, figures in authority like politicians, or teachers and yes even churches, seminaries and pastors. A slow drift away from the inerrancy of scripture and the sacredness of life as described in the bible was the beginning of the deception. The teaching of evolution in our schools is one example, I remember attending parochial school and in 4th grade religion class we were discussing a topic and I brought up Adam and Eve.... It did not end there in 6th grade....then in high school....what I was being taught that the “stories” in the bible were just that stories, not actual history because they claimed that they contradicted science and history! My HS was the very place that exposed me as a teenager to the horrors of abortion. It was where I saw for the first time the film called “the silent scream”. That film changed my life and compelled me to act. That very school who was bold enough to expose the students to the tragedy of abortion, did

not realize that they themselves were contributing to the root of that tragedy because they were denying the accuracy of scripture.

Being told that Scripture is inaccurate is a lie from the pit of hell! Letting theories like Evolution replace Creation is deception. It's the serpent asking all over again; did God really say? Did God really say we are made in His image? If we are not then we become just another cluster of atoms and molecules. Abortion would be considered as part of the survival of the fittest. The great deception as it happened in the garden is happening ALL OVER AGAIN. 2Timothy 4:3- For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. (9)

When building a house or any structure a contractor's primary tool is a ruler or level. Without it nothing would stay standing for very long. It's their guide for measuring, straightening, and determining if they are on

track with the architect's drawings. In the past the absolutes of the Bible provided the basis for law. They were the "ruler" so to speak. Today people plead for laws not based on right or wrong but what will make life comfortable. Facing the truth is too difficult so we silence the truth givers.

In summary; we have discussed the real definition of fake news. The origin of deception as it was told in Genesis. The loss of absolutes in our society and how the media and others have contributed to the loss of a biblical values and ultimately the greatest tragedy of our times; abortion.

All of us fall into one of the four categories mentioned previously; the deceived, the ill-informed, the apathetic or the truth giver. I believe as Christians God has called us to be truth givers and that means truth in love ALWAYS. The pregnancy center provides a great model for our culture in laying out a strong response to this epidemic of "fake news". There 2700 PHC worldwide. They are truth givers. They are speaking for

truth and the truth is winning! This is Evangeline and Joelle, they were twins ready to be aborted by their mom because she believed the lie that abortion was the best way to deal with her inability to provide for these babies. She was already had an abortion at 15 and believed it to be her best choice. The truth of an ultrasound and the love of a listening ear from one of our advocates empowered her to make a better choice and she placed her babies up for adoption. Their mom went from being deceived to being a truth giver. She gave life and love to another couple. Our center embraced her BEFORE she ever made one good decision. We didn't judge her. WE heard her!(10)

Be Truth Givers

Turn off the rhetoric, if its causing division or fear RUN from it Prov. 4 says avoid it at all costs. Get your news from more than one source and do your research and don't blindly follow any fool into a rabbit hole of conspiracies. Ask yourself Who told me that? Know your sources!

Speak truth to those who don't know like your local politicians, school board/teachers, pastors, neighbors. Pressure on our local senator worked! Doing nothing is being complicit in any lie, find a place like COTH to volunteer your time, talent or treasure. Pray for the church and your pastors. That they keep the pulpits sacred and sound doctrine should be their banner. Individually seek to live out the Christian life in your homes, in our work place and in our communities and not shrink back when challenged on your beliefs. I cannot stress how important it was that my parents made sure I understood the bible as it was written. Their guidance in teaching the Scriptures as literal gave me the ability to defend God's word in a place, I never would have thought it needed defending. Parents, it starts with us in our homes. Thank God for churches like this; because YOU are the hope of the world. You are the first defense in the SOHL and your support of Coth helps us to continue our defense of life