

The Chicken

Several years ago, conservative radio jock Michael Savage touched on, or should I say hammered on, the inconsistency of the PETA crowd's valuation of human life.¹ He drew several salient points from a popular propaganda advertisement decrying the maltreatment of chickens, as they presented them as being cooped for the killing fields.

“These neo-socs have no regard for the value of human life. They care more for chickens than captive Jews. These bird brains launched an extensive billboard campaign with photos of Jews incarcerated at Auschwitz on the left and chickens pictured in a coop on the right – as if there is a moral equivalence between people and birds. Their slogan? “End Today's Holocaust: Go Vegan.”

Among the many disturbing implications of such drivel, several of which Savage pointed out, there existed an overt and overbearing implication that humanity is nothing more than an evolved animal. With this subversive message, American culture has grown to accept abortion as “birth control” but then wonders why a teenager slipped into the bathroom during prom night, delivered a child and promptly threw him in a trashcan. I cannot think of a more fitting analogy to American morals: trashed!

The biblical perspective on human value is far and away superior to subjectivism. God made man a receptacle of divinity. **“Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth’”** (Genesis 1:26). Not only does humanity carry a spark of divine light, creation was created for its benefit.

We should own up to our responsibility of taking care of God's creation but it does not follow that the reason resides in some fabricated fantasy that we are nothing more than self-appointed guardians by virtue of our superior evolution. We are special because God made us that way; and the implication of this truth makes the difference between a meaningless existence of hopeless cynicism and an optimistic, abundant life of philanthropic purpose and eternal hope.

Now, here's the punch line: having been inundated with this kind of pop-culture, politically-correct brainwashing, do we respond with cowed, spineless silence? Or, perhaps some would argue to find common ground; you know, emphasize the things upon which we agree and minimize our differences? Or, should the Christian **“Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth... and (take) the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God”** (Ephesians 6:14, 17) and defend the unique nature of humanity. The value of human beings is far and above anything else in God's creation; and for that reason, the treatment of baby seals is nowhere near an equivalent to the treatment of unborn humans.

¹ Michael Savage, *The Enemy Within, Saving America from the Liberal Assault on Our Schools, Faith, and Military*, (Nashville, TN: WND Books, 2003), 158.

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This assertion is not a compromise, it is a fact: if you will not stand, you are the chicken!