

Remnant Life Church
Sunday, December 16, 2012

Trying to Make Sense Of It All
Psalm 23

Friday –

- Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn (near Danbury)
- 20 year old Adam Lanza
- 20 children shot and killed, 6 adults at the school, his mother in their home, and the shooter
- 28 lives lost

Tuesday –

- Lloyd Center Mall in Portland Oregon
- 22 year old Jacob Roberts
- 2 dead and a 15 year old girl in critical condition

Total of 16 mass shootings this year in the US leaving 88 dead

- Twice in the Bible we read of children being killed – Ex 1; Matt 2

Why is this happening?

- 1. Satan is the prince of the air – Eph. 2:2**
 - a. The air is the earthly realm that we also inhabit
 - b. When he was banished from heaven he came to the place that God had created for us
 - i. Since that time he has been attempting to destroy it in every way
 - ii. God's best of creation – Gen. 1:31 – Very Good
 - c. Not creative but crafty – names of the two Adam and Jacob
 - i. Adam – the only man to walk and talk face to face with God
 - ii. Jacob – became Israel in Gen. 32

2. The hearts of man (the flesh) are evil without God

- a. Eccl 9:3 – “the hearts of all people are filled with evil”
- b. When Eve ate the fruit having been deceived by Satan the flesh nature entered the world through the hearts of man.
- c. The flesh nature is ruled by our ungodly desires that are fed to us by Satan
 - i. Incessant violence, depravity of every kind, video game death, desensitization
 - ii. Continual breakdown of the moral fiber of our society

3. We have done all that we can as a nation to remove God

- a. On June 25, 1962 the US Supreme Court removed prayer from schools (it became a moment of silence or reflection)
 - i. The Engel v Vitale ruling was on a prayer prayed by a group of school students in New York
 - ii. “Almighty God, we acknowledge our dependence on Thee and beg Thy blessing over us, our parents, our teachers and our nation.”
 - iii. Since this ruling we have watched the erosion of the four elements prayed in this prayer
 1. Children and youth
 2. Family
 3. Education system
 4. Our nation
- b. In 1980 the supreme court struck down a law in Kentucky that called for the display of the 10 commandments in the courthouse
 - i. Today multiple states have adopted similar resolutions
 - ii. Freedom From Religion Foundation, ACLU, scores of atheistic organizations

What Can We Do?

- The most powerful and important thing you can do is PRAY
- Do not be afraid – (spirit of fear)

- Psalm 118:6 – The Lord is on my side; I am not afraid. What can people do to me?
- Be vigilant and aware
 - Matthew 10:16 – “I am sending you out like sheep surrounded by wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.”
- Do not take one moment for granted
 - Love each other wastefully
- Emphasize the good in every situation
- Don't take the events of your everyday life or yourself so seriously
- Live life with an over-abundance of gratitude for God's blessings in your life