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Salvation and the Sanctity of Life; Exodus 2:1-10
GPBC
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Introduction – The sermon title, Salvation and the Sanctity of Life, is intended to communicate that these two biblical truths are intertwined. As you read through the history of redemption in the Bible, you will often come across issues regarding the protection and preservation of life. The Bible is very pro-life.

Jeremiah 1:5 says, “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you.” So God not only created the first man Adam from dust and the first woman Eve from Adam, through the means of procreation, God remains the creator of every single life. That’s why we hold that life begins at conception. But here in this verse, God is speaking of pre-conception. He has a plan and a purpose for each and every life that He creates. God doesn’t make an accident even if the circumstances of conception were traumatic or even if the baby has difficulties. God is still the creator, and He still has a plan and a purpose.

Psalms 139:13-16. Read. God not only creates each life; He is intricately involved in every detail. Each person He creates is unique in physical feature, personality, gifts, right down to distinguishing finger prints. Each individual is placed by God in a particular setting, for a specific time. Thus every human life has meaning, dignity, worth, purpose. Life then is truly sacred because we are fearfully and wonderfully made. We’re not accidents. We’re not the culmination of a series of evolutionary phases. We are made.

Psalms 127:3 says “Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.” The miracle of life is a blessing from God.

When you put all of these descriptions together, there is no wonder that the miracle of salvation and the miracle of life are often intertwined in the unfolding of God’s great plan of redemption. He is Creator, and He is Savior.

- I. The Need to Save Lives Arises When Lives are Threatened
 - a. Statistically speaking, the most dangerous place for a child to be is in the womb. The innocent lives of boys and girls are threatened under the terminology of healthcare, access, and rights. But little innocent

babies having their lives threatened is nothing new. This has been a reality since sin entered the world. Sin is rebellion against God, and if God creates life, sin seeks to destroy it.

- b. This is what we find at Moses' birth. If we look back at ch1, the Egyptians were distressed because the Hebrews were growing at an alarming rate. The more Egypt would oppress Israel, the more they multiplied. So the king issues an edict to the Hebrew midwives to kill every male child as a means to slow the growing population.
- c. This is the first case of selective abortion or gender infanticide. China, which demands worship of the state, and India, which is dominated by Hinduism have enacted similar policies but targeted females. Both countries now face gender gaps in the millions that can never be rectified. Can you imagine destroying the little innocent life of a child merely because he/she is not the gender desired?
- d. V17 – these midwives feared God – you see they knew life was sacred. They knew taking innocent life would defy God, so they chose rather to defy Pharaoh. The need to save lives arises when innocent lives are threatened.
- e. Vv18-21 – God blessed the midwives and God blessed Israel because they chose to save, protect, and preserve life.
- f. V22 – Pharaoh is not happy with God's way. So he devises a new plan and issues a new edict for the Egyptians to get involved, take any new born son away from the Hebrews, and throw them into the Nile. You see, there is a pro-life agenda here and there is a pro-death agenda here. And those who consider the life of some children to be worthless are relentless.
 - i. An article a few months back reported that a college campus pro-life display had been vandalized. Someone painted across the display, we will keep killing our babies. I thought, well at least we can now have an honest conversation and quit trying to use terminology that tries to define abortion as anything except for what it is. It is a sad and tragic conversation to have, but at least we're getting honest about it.
- g. But in terms of how salvation and the sanctity of life are often intertwined, God's rescue of Israel from slavery pictured God's coming rescue of man from sin.

- i. When the time comes for God to rescue Israel, a male child is born who will deliver them. When the time comes for God to rescue us from sin, a male child is born who will deliver us.
 - ii. When Moses is born, Pharaoh is killing children. When Jesus is born, Herod is killing children.
 - iii. Satan's plan is death. God's plan is deliverance.
- II. There is Always a Way to Save Life Rather than Take an Innocent Life
 - a. We've already seen the midwives decided not to violate their conscience. Even if Pharaoh demanded it, they would not cross what down deep inside they knew to be wrong.
 - i. The point is – you don't have to do what the world and even those in powerful positions tell you to do if it violates your conscience. Just don't do it.
 - b. Then the midwives made up an excuse when their secret defiance became evident. They told a lie to cover up their plot to preserve life. Now we can get into the ethics of that at a later time, but God blessed them for doing what they felt they had to do to protect life.
 - i. The same thing happened in WWII when Nazis came hunting Jews and some daring people said there are no Jews here when Jews were hiding everywhere inside their homes.
 - ii. You don't have to go along with the narrative of taking innocent life even when you are pressured to do so.
 - c. Pharaoh devises another plan, and he calls all Egyptians to be on the lookout for male children. Moses' mother is aware of this deadly threat to her newborn son, so she hid him for 3 months. Can you imagine hiding a newborn?
 - d. Then look how creative she gets. She makes a little basket, puts Moses in it, and sets it in the river among the reeds. She did all she could do to save her son. And behold Pharaoh's own daughter shows up and takes pity on the child. It's so ironic it has to be God.
 - i. You see what's happening here. When we've done all we can do to save life, God can step in and do what we can never do – He can change hearts.
 - e. God calls us to stand for life, to seek to save life, and ultimately we find ourselves part of God's master plan. He meant for this child to lead His people out of bondage, and even the most horrific, evil

scheme could not stop it. Moses, a male Hebrew child, grows up in Pharaoh's house! The one God will use to save many lives is raised in the house of the very one who sought to murder him. God can do big, unimaginable things, if we would just obey Him and not fear man!

- f. God stepped in when Jesus was born and sent an angel to Joseph, warning him that Herod was going to seek to kill Jesus, so flee to Egypt. So Jesus too would come out of Egypt just like Moses led the people out of Egypt.
- III. How Adoption Has a Place in Salvation and the Sanctity of Life
- a. Moses ends up being raised by Pharaoh's daughter after being nursed by his biological mother. Adoption.
 - b. If the Supreme Court upholds the Texas fetal heartbeat law, the issue of abortion will essentially be returned to the states. After years of praying and laboring to make known the truth of abortion and the sanctity of life, Roe v Wade could be overturned in our lifetime!
 - c. If that happens, abortions will dramatically decrease in America, which means the number of children waiting to be adopted will dramatically increase in America. Where crises pregnancy centers were on the frontlines, adoption agencies will be on the frontlines to uphold the value, worth, and blessing of children.
 - d. Church, that will be the next frontier that God will call us to in the pro life movement. We will need Christian families by the hundreds to adopt these precious children and put our money, resources, and homes alongside our belief that children are blessings.
 - i. God may not call every home to adopt, but all of us can financially and materially support the families that do!
 - e. We have an organization right here in SC ready for the task – Christian Adoption Services.
 - f. You see, even here salvation and the sanctity of life are intertwined because adoption is actually a picture of the gospel. When we embrace Christ as Savior, God adopts us into His family. God chooses us to be His child. The Bible says we are adopted. We are made heirs with Christ.

Conclusion - Saving a life portrays salvation, for God, in Christ, has saved our lives forever!