

LOVE, LIFE AND FREEDOM

Volume II: Time for Repentance and Reconciliation by Dr. Philip G. Ney

Foreword

I'm confident in the prediction that more than one blunt statement or strong opinion in this book will offend or upset every reader, no matter what expression of Christianity you come from, what school of psychology you profess, no matter your gender or age. Philip Ney does not mince words with his diagnosis, does not add "a spoonful of sugar" to the medicine he prescribes. For instance, he concludes, "It's time to start closing churches" because pastors and priests need to actively engage their followers, like Jesus did, not entertain them in the pews. And, "all real pro-life people should buy second hand cars and live in small house" because when nations are at war the people scrimp, save, and work hard.

Moreover, unless you are a medical person, as Dr. Ney is, you will also be uncomfortable with his biologically detailed descriptions of some of the unnatural sexual practices today, the ones that lead to shocking sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV Aids. He gives five stars, instead, to the "missionary position" which respects the biology of the sexual organs and, of course, makes conception possible – something that today's "sexual partners" want to exclude no matter what the cost to their own health and to the future of the human race.

This particular discussion in the book is a perfect example of one of Dr. Ney's premises: the truth as revealed through scientific study (in this case, how the sexual organs and hormones are biologically designed) is reflected in the moral truth that sexual intimacy in the "marriage act" is the only right and good sexual morality, as we know from the Biblical account of the creation of man and woman in Genesis. The truth is one.

I first met Dr. Ney over 20 years ago, when I had just resigned as a college English professor to become President of Heartbeat International, which was then only 100 affiliated pregnancy help centers, mostly in the U.S.A. (Now it is perhaps the most expansive pro-life organization in the world, with about 2,000 affiliated pregnancies help centers, medical clinic, maternity homes, and related ministries, in 50 countries.) My husband and I had been involved in pregnancy help, and fighting abortion in every way we could, since 1973 when the notorious Supreme Court decision *Roe v. Wade* overturned all the laws in all 50 states that protected women and children from abortion. Instinctively, and from my religious upbringing (and belief that we had a county that was based on the unalienable right to life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness), I was repulsed by the idea of abortion. My first motivation to get into the battle was "they are killing babies." Yet, within a couple of years, it was clear to me, after getting to know women who had had abortions, that abortion was harming women, and soon I met a man who was devastated that his child had been aborted against his will and strongest convictions.

Still, I only had a glimpse of the depth of the harm caused by abortion until I met a woman in Oslo who claimed she would never be the same because she had a sibling who had been aborted. Was this woman overly dramatic, I wondered? How could that be?

Very soon after, I met Dr. Philip Ney who was teaching about abortion and its effects in Eastern and Western Europe, just as Heartbeat was expanding our help centers into the same areas. His teachings opened up my mind to ALL the victims of abortion, including what he terms “abortion survivors” – abortionists and those in the abortion industry, the mothers and fathers who have been deeply damaged, and also the siblings of those aborted, in fact, the entire family, and, since the family is the basic unit of society, the entire society and civilization as a whole. He was the first expert in the field of psychology or psychiatry (and still a lonely voice) to connect abortion as a cause and effect of child abuse and neglect, and the first to thoroughly study the process needed for healing after abortion, and the strongest voice to warn that the effects of abortion do not simply “go away” after the sin of abortion has been forgiven – the consequences in this life must be recognized and dealt with, as best as we can.

From Dr. Ney I also learned to appreciate even more the preciousness of each child who has a Blueprint given by God, most sensed by the child and her mother. It is up to the parents to discern what this Blueprint is, give the child all the tools she needs to build the structure that God designed, and when this happens (unfortunately, rarely these days because of the dehumanization in this world caused by abortion) the child is a true Pilgrim, committed to a life’s work that suits her blueprint perfectly, on her way to enjoying eternity with the God who made her in order to enjoy her company forever.

These theories of Dr. Ney, born from his research, assessment, and counseling of thousands of post abortion women, have been pioneering and profound. They have affected, in one way or another, all the current abortion healing programs and counseling approaches used in the world today. They have certainly impacted my own thinking through the years, which has affected the programs of Heartbeat International around the world.

They are all here in this book, woven through the various chapters. Because all truth is one, Dr. Ney connects them to the truth of the Scriptures and how God has created man and women, in His own image and commanded them to increase and multiply and fill the earth.

This book is called Love, Live and Freedom. It is the Freedom part that has complicated God’s Plan of love and life. Woman’s and man’s choice of the “knowledge of good and evil” has led to 60 million abortions around the world every year and millions of wounded; perhaps half of the people now living are abortion survivors. The situation is dire, Dr. Ney concluded. It would be foolhardy to think we can turn around the decline, our cultures are “unraveling.” We are in a downward spiral (pp. 157-58): “/The/ vicious cycle is accelerating. . . Evil sought to put humans in conflict with themselves and with each other. Males and females in conflict lead to derogatory discrimination, marital violence, dishonor and abandonment. Parents turned against their children destroy their young (abortion) or mistreat those who are born (abuse and neglect). To provide some justification they engage in eugenics to “improve the race” or to end

the “suffering” of those whose lives are deemed to have “no value to them.” When the young turn against each other it creates sibling rivalry and warfare. When the young turn against their parents it is euthanasia. Humans, in their wanton selfishness, are progressively destroying their environment so that their environment eventually becomes hostile to humans. . . . Though evil cannot destroy humanity, it can get humanity to destroy itself.”

Yet, Dr. Ney believes, we have hope in that we can help individuals to heal and we can help reconciliations to take place, we can bring individuals to Christ in the process, and we can all become more mature before we meet the LORD.

Dr. Ney and his books are learned, blunt, and provocative – they will disturb you, make you think, react, respond, perhaps draw alternate conclusions, and ask more questions. It is Dr. Ney’s hope (and mine) that it will also make you act. As “observers” who do nothing, we are as much a part of the problem as are the victims and perpetrators.

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