THE SANCTITY OF THE GERMPLASM

During medical school days at the University of Michigan in the Department of Pathology, the teachings of a great Michigan Pathologist, Dr. Aldred Scott Warthin, were given great credence. Doubtless students graduating from the University of Michigan in the years after World War II were perhaps better instructed in Pathology than any other discipline.

One of the major tenets of Dr. Warthin's philosophy was that the most precious possession of any individual was his germplasm, that is to say, the spermatozoa of the male and the ovum of the female. Much time was spent in the discussion of hereditary and congenital illnesses and also those diseases which could be transmitted from one generation to another through abnormalities of the genes.

Dr. Warthin felt, as many scientists do, that there is a form of eternal life which is illustrated in the natural realm through the creation and bringing into the world of children and grandchildren. One thus sees in his own children and his children's children the spelling out of the earthly form of eternal life. We were thus taught that one should be extremely careful with reference to any kind of activity which in any way could damage or distort one's germplasm. We were taught that alcohol, drugs and syphilis, for example, were injurious substances or illnesses which could have profound effects upon subsequent generations of one's family. Based upon this philosophical framework, Dr. Warthin created a credo of a biologist in which his students were asked to state that they believed in the sanctity of the germplasm and that they would do everything in their power to maintain the sanctity of their personal creative substance.

In our present era, we are seeing the critical need of a re-emphasis of the Warthin belief. Neo-natologists tell us that cigarette smoking causes prematurity as does alcoholism. Among women who have contracted AIDS through sodomy and have become pregnant there is now developing an increasing number of newborn infants with immune deficiency. Even if one is not a Christian or a practicing Jew, or a practicing Hindu or Muslim, or if the person has no religious belief whatsoever and only believes in himself, it would seem that he should have a desire to keep his germplasm normal and free from the corruption and contamination of the world. How terrible it must be to think that one has allowed to come into the world a child with AIDS syndrome or with mental deficiency or some other anomalous condition directly resulting from sin. Sin in this instance is seen as a failure to consider how precious a substance man really has in an uncontaminated and perfect chromatin network in his gene system. God has promised to give us life and give it to us abundantly but He has also told us that the product of sinfulness is death. Those of us in the practice of Medicine are definitely seeing spelled out before our very eyes and in our own practices the terrible consequences of sin and violation of traditional Biblical principles. AIDS syndrome is not viewed as a judgment of God against sinful man but this condition and all other venereal infections are seen as the result of modern man violating the commandments of a righteous God. God will not be mocked. St. Paul tells us that if one sows to the flesh he will of the flesh reap corruption. On the other hand, sowing to the Spirit brings about the reaping of life eternal. Thus we see that the failure to know what the Word of God says, or the fallacy of the demythologizing of Scripture allows modern man to fall into self-indulgence and death rather than finding life and peace through God and the development of the Spiritual mind.

It is well to consider the following scripture in reference to homosexuality and sin in general:

I Cor. 6:9 "Do you not know that the unrighteous and the wrongdoers will not inherit or have any share in the Kingdom of God? Do not be deceived (misled); neither the impure and immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor those who participate in homosexuality, nor cheats — swindlers and thieves, nor greedy grappers, nor drunkards, nor foul-mouthed revelers and slanderers, nor extortionists and robbars will inherit or have any share in the Kingdom of God."

I Cor. 6:17-18 "But the person who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him. Shun immorality and all sexual looseness — flee from impurity in thought, word, and deed. Any other sin which a man commits is
one outside his body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is the temple—the very sanctuary of the Holy Spirit who lives within you, whom you have received as a gift from God? You are not your own. You were bought for a price—purchased with the preciousness and paid for, made His own. So then honor God and bring glory to Him in your body.

Romans 1:18 "For God's holy wrath and indignation are revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who in thier wickedness repress and hinder the truth and make it inoperative."

Romans 1:32 "Though they are fully aware of God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve to die, they do not only do them themselves but approve and applaud others who practice them."

As we launch into 1988 may those who are a part of Christian Medicine and Nursing seek to find life and wholeness through the knowledge and adaptation of God's Word to life and living in our apostate age. May our credo be to live in Christ and He in us so that we keep our lives and our very germplasm holy and righteous.

William Francis Reed M.D.

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DR. DOBSON'S WORK IN CANADA

C.M.F. of Canada would like to draw your attention to the ministry of Dr. James Dobson through the organization Focus on the Family International, which has a Canadian office at Apt. #202 – 540 Burrard Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, V6C 2K1. Mr. Geoffrey Still is the president of Focus on the Family Association for Canada and the phone number is 604-684-8333.

The emphasis of this organization is very strongly prolife and profamily, and they make available several publications on a routine basis. These include Focus on the Family Magazine for adults and family, and Clubhouse Magazine for older children and Junior Clubhouse Magazine for children under eight years of age.

These as well as other booklets and pamphlets which they make available supporting the family and marriage relationships would make excellent literature to have available in the waiting rooms of our offices.

I would encourage you to contact Mr. Still at the above address if you would like to see any representative examples of this literature for consideration in your office.

We would encourage you to prayerfully support this vital ministry to the family.

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THE ABORTION PROBLEM IN ONTARIO

It is our understanding that there is an abortion clinic run by Dr. Morgenthaler functioning illegally but permitted by the authorities in Toronto. In addition there is the plan in the province to establish twelve "women's health clinics" which in essence, are abortion clinics established in various places throughout the province. Because the laws of Ontario do not allow free standing abortion clinics, this attempt is being made to establish such clinics in existing hospitals. This endeavor was attempted in Peterborough recently. Dr David Hurst and a number of physicians, nurses, and people in general who support "right to life" have been effective in at this time, blocking the effort to set up such a clinic in the Peterborough hospital.

It's imperative that those who are interested in the preservation of the life of little infants in the womb, write to their Parliament Member representing their areas in Ontario. Also a letter to the Honorable Eleanor Kaplin, Minister of Health of Ontario would be most effective.

Only the concerted, energetic, spirit-led endeavors of concerned Christians can stop the attempts constantly being made to destroy the lives of little unborn children, not only in Ontario, but elsewhere across the Dominion.

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!