



The President's Perspective



Supply and Demand

This past week, another Amber Alert was issued, signaling that a child, or children had been abducted or was missing. This time, the tragedy occurred in Coeur'd Alene, Idaho, a resort community just across the state line from Spokane, Washington. This situation holds particular interest for me since we have ministered numerous times in Coeur'd Alene over the past 15 years.

As details have emerged surrounding the triple homicide and disappearance of two small children, one cannot help but be overwhelmed by the brutality of this crime. Someone, most likely a relative or acquaintance, bludgeoned to death the mom, her son, and her boyfriend. Whether the two young children, who are missing, witnessed the gruesome murders, is a topic of much debate among authorities. Several family members, including the estranged husband, have consented to taking lie detector exams. Although the estranged husband and father of the two children failed several parts of his test, at this point he is not considered a suspect. By the time you read this, that may have changed.

Whether or not this dad played any role in these killings, one fact is certain. This is one more incident in an ever increasing trend in America, that of children being harmed by those who should love them most. In II Timothy 3, Paul told Timothy to note certain characteristics of the end time. Chapter 3, verse 1 states, "This know also, that in the last days perilous (troublesome) times shall come." In verse 3, Paul makes mention of two disturbing characteristics. First, the last days will be characterized by a void of "natural affection." While homosexual behavior is one aspect of this, that is by no means the only thing to which Paul is referring. It is not "natural" or normal for a parent to kill one of their own children, whether that murder occurs in the womb or after birth. Yet, news reports, almost weekly, chronicle the brutal murder of children by their own parents. In the latter part of verse 3, Paul mentions the word "fierce." The word literally means "ferocious." That is, in the last days, people will commit all types of "ferocious" acts, because they no longer possess natural or normal ability to love. We now live in a world of totally perverted ideas regarding what love is. It is a perverted idea about love that results in the rest of the things that Paul mentions. Because of a lack of natural affection, men become "trucebreakers"(covenant breakers), "incontinent" (lacking in self-control), and "despisers of those that are good."

To conclude, Paul admonishes Timothy by saying in 3:14, "But continue thou.." Keep on doing what you know is right. Live godly! (3:12) To use a monetary analogy,

we live in a world where the SUPPLY of godly living is at the lowest point it has ever been. The DEMAND (need) for godly living is at the highest it has ever been. The law of supply and demand says that when you have a low supply of a product, but a high demand for that same commodity the price for that commodity goes up. Godly living in dark days is more valuable and needed today than at any point in history.

Friends, we are uniquely privileged to live in these dark, last days. If we shine at all as lights in this world, we WILL be noticed. Live godly! Love scripturally! And, let your light shine brightly!

Dave Kistler

President,

H.O.P.E Ministries International
www.hopeministriesonline.com

Email comments to:
davekistler@hopeministriesonline.com

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