

Palisades Community Bible Church
Online Sunday School

What Was The Leading Cause of Death in 2021?

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By Brent Briggs

The more I study the Bible, and learn about God's character, the feature that defines God most eloquently in my mind is; FATHER. God is the creator of life, and of the environment in which all of life can thrive. He is the author of laws that govern how humans must treat one another for their maximum benefit. He is the great provider, the fair judge of the wicked and the lover of our souls.

So, when I look at the rate of destruction of the USA....right before my eyes...I don't have to scratch my head very long to realize that God, though forgiving, will not tolerate our insults much longer (I'm speaking of our nation, corporately). It's easy to see that God has lessened His hand of blessing on this nation, and we are fools if we ignore it, or pretend to wonder why.

What earthly father would tolerate children in his home who behave as Americans do toward the very father who saw fit to bless this nation's birth? On every front, our society has degraded to levels that cannot be discussed in a format such as this. America now accepts, excuses and honors, some of the most egregious sins named in the scriptures. However, the single greatest insult to our Heavenly Father is ABORTION. Abortion encapsulates and involves a greater range of sins than almost any other; adultery, lying, hypocrisy, idolatry, murder, theft, and the list goes on.

To answer the question at the top of this page: Abortion was the leading cause of death in 2021. Before we look at some statistics, let's understand how it is that these statistics are tabulated. The reports that follow are based on data from "Reported Abortions." Here's how it's done:

"Reported abortions" reflects partial, voluntarily submitted state data on legal, surgically induced abortions as requested by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (that's a busy sentence, read it again). Official statistics should not be treated as an exhaustive count of abortions. California, Maryland, and

New Hampshire have never provided data to this reporting process and, so, are excluded from the count — meaning that the real total number of abortions is dramatically higher. Other states have also periodically chosen not to submit reports, and not all contributing states opt to collect or provide the same level of detail. Further, the CDC statistics report only “surgical abortions.” This excludes chemical abortions which are estimated at 250 million since 1973. It also excludes abortions not considered “legal” because they are unreported. As of this publication, the CDC reports 63,365,904 abortions in the USA since 1973. – source: USA FACTS

The total number of ‘reported abortions’ since Roe v Wade exceeds the combined populations of 27 of America’s states. If you were God, would you continue blessing a society that does this? If you refer to the Bible Study; “The Blind Man and the Lame Man, you’ll examine the multiple players involved in every sin. With each Abortion, there is a large cast of players involved.

Life News reports:

January 3, 2022

Abortion killed more human beings than any other cause of death in 2021.

A heartbreaking reminder about the prevalence of abortion, statistics compiled by Worldometers indicate that there were over 42.6 million abortions world-wide in 2021. The independent site collects data from governments and other reputable organizations and then reports the data, along with estimates and projections, based on those numbers. It reveals 42,640,209 people died from abortions in 2021.

When contrasting the abortion numbers to other causes of death, including cancer, HIV/AIDS, traffic accidents and suicide, abortions far outnumbered every other cause. By contrast, 8.7 million people died from cancer in 2020, 5 million from smoking, 13 million from disease, and 1.7 million died of HIV/AIDS. Deaths by malaria and alcohol are also recorded.

With 58.7 million people dying last year from causes other than abortion, that means abortions accounted for 42% of all deaths around the world last year.

When compared to COVID, the number of people dying from abortions dwarfs the number of COVID deaths. Worldometers indicates that approximately 3.5 million people reportedly died from COVID worldwide in 2020. There is considerable questioning as to whether those figures are accurate, as the CDC and state figures in the United States indicate a sizable percentage of deaths from COVID aren't the direct result of the virus itself, but are of people who had the virus at the time they died from some other cause(s).

In America, just under one million babies are aborted every year, remaining the leading cause of death in the United States.

**Occupants of our nation's high offices
are open about their views on Abortion:**

Life News reports:

Kamala Harris stirred up fake fears about abortion over the weekend, claiming "women will die" if the U.S. Supreme Court overturns or even weakens Roe v. Wade.

It's a claim abortion activists frequently make to stoke fears and garner support for legalized abortion on demand, but it has little basis in the truth.

Speaking with the San Francisco Chronicle, Harris discussed the possibility that the Supreme Court may overturn its 1973 abortion ruling through a Mississippi case that it heard Dec. 1. The justices likely will not issue a ruling until sometime next year, but already many are speculating about the outcome.

"I'm very concerned about it," Harris told the newspaper. "I don't mean to sound alarmist, I mean this: Women will die."

She repeated the same claim again later in the interview, calling it a "fact."

Life News reports:

New Mexico Gov. Michelle Grisham marked the Advent of Christ's birth Tuesday by celebrating her work to expand the killing of unborn babies in abortions in her state.

Grisham, who professes to be Catholic, has been counting the 12 days leading up to Christmas with social media posts about her political achievements.

On Tuesday, the second day of her "12 Days of Delivering for New Mexicans" campaign, she celebrated how New Mexico repealed its 1969 abortion ban earlier this year. As a result, aborting unborn babies through all nine months of pregnancy will remain legal there even if Roe v. Wade is overturned.

"Standing up for women's rights has never been more important. I am proud that under my leadership, New Mexico was one of the few states to advance access to reproductive health care and abortion in 2021," the Democrat governor wrote....

Elisa Martinez, executive director of the New Mexico Alliance for Life, called out the governor's hypocrisy for using the birth of a child to celebrate legalizing the killing of other unborn babies in abortions up to birth.

"It's sad that Governor Grisham chose to conflate her abortion up-to-birth radicalism as 'standing up for women,' when she ignores women who are injured during unsafe and unregulated abortions in New Mexico," Martinez said. "It's especially sad she's using the '12 Days of Christmas,' which commemorates the birth of Christ, to celebrate full-term abortions."

The people who hid Anne Frank were breaking the law. The people who killed Anne Frank were obeying the law. The law is not a moral compass.

What does God's Word have to say about it?

Psalm 139 :16 "Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be."

Jeremiah 1: 5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born* I sanctified you. I made you a prophet to the nations."

Luke 1:41 Well, as Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the infant in her womb leaped, and Elizabeth was filled with holy spirit.

The issue that Jesus confronted most vehemently in His earthly ministry was religious hypocrisy. It relates directly to this commandment;

Exodus 20: 7 "You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

This commandment warns us not to pretend to be followers of Judaism, or Christianity, and go on living lives of apostasy and heresy.

Mark 12: In his teaching Jesus also said, "Watch out for the experts in the law. They like walking around in long robes and elaborate greetings in the marketplaces, 39 and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. 40 They devour widows' property, and as a show make long prayers. These men will receive a more severe punishment."

2 Peter 2: 1 But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.

There are many references in scripture about the heathenistic practices involved in worshiping pagan gods. These false gods represented a range of human desires; sensuality, wealth, social standing, fertility, safety, control over natural elements, etc. Very much like the cults and idols of today (false religious teachings, education, employment, insurances, pensions, etc.). A couple of examples:

Moloch is presented as a foreign deity who was at times illegitimately given a place in Israel's worship as a result of the syncretistic policies of certain apostate kings. The laws given to Moses by God expressly forbade the Jews to do what was done in Egypt or in Canaan. **"You shall not give any of your children to devote them by fire to Moloch, and so profane the name of your God" (Leviticus 18:21).** Yet kings such as Ahaz (2 Kings 16:3) and Manasseh (2 Kings 21:6), having been influenced by the Assyrians, are reported to have worshipped Moloch at the hilled site of Topheth, outside the walls of Jerusalem. This site flourished under Manasseh's son King Amon but was destroyed during the reign of Josiah, the reformer. **"And he defiled Topheth, which is in the valley of the sons of Hinnom, that no one might burn his son or his daughter as an offering to Moloch" (2 Kings 23:10).**

In Leviticus 18:21, above, it clearly states that devoting one's children to a false god PROFANES the name of the living God. That is taking God's name in vain, and it comes with a guarantee that God will not hold them guiltless who profane His name. Get it? **Profane: "to treat (something sacred) with abuse, irreverence, or contempt : DESECRATE. - Webster's.**

Although **Tanit** did not appear at Carthage before the 5th century BC, she soon eclipsed the more established cult of **Baal Hammon** and, in the Carthaginian area at least, was frequently listed before him on the monuments. In the worship of Tanit and Baal Hammon, children, probably firstborn, were sacrificed. Ample evidence of the practice has been found west of Carthage in the precinct of Tanit, where a tofet (a sanctuary for the sacrifice of children) was discovered.

2 Chronicles 23: 16 Then Jehoiada made a covenant between himself and the king and the people that they would be the LORD's people. 17 So all the people went to the temple of Baal and tore it down. They smashed the altars and idols to pieces and killed Mattan the priest of Baal in front of the altars.

In dramatic contrast to the worship of heathen gods, Jesus demonstrated His Father's love in this way:

Matthew 19:13 Now people were bringing the little children to Jesus for Him to place His hands on them, and the disciples rebuked those who brought them. 14 But when Jesus saw this, He was indignant (very angry) and told them, "Let

the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them! For the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. 15 Truly I tell you, anyone who does not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” 16 And He took the children in His arms, placed His hands on them, and blessed them.

Christians are called to defend the fatherless

Psalm 82:3 Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed.

Psalm 68:5 A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling.

James 1:27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

As with so many accounts of the Jews in the Old Testament, Americans have the freedom to honor God, or reject him. **In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes. (Judges 21:25)**

Let us examine the failures of Israel and purpose not to repeat them.... in our congregation, in our personal lives, in our professions, as parents, as spouses and as leaders in our homes. Consider what happened to Israel for their own pagan worship and murder of children:

Psalm 106:

34 The Lord told the people to destroy the other nations living in Canaan. But the Israelites did not obey him.

35 They mixed with the other people and did what those people were doing.

36 They began worshiping the false gods those people worshiped. And their idols became a trap.

37 They even offered their own children as sacrifices to demons.

38 They killed their innocent sons and daughters and offered them to the false gods of Canaan. So the land was polluted with the sin of murder.

39 They were unfaithful to him (God), and they became dirty with the sins of

other nations.

40 So, the Lord became angry with his people. He rejected those who belonged to him.

41 He gave his people to other nations and let their enemies rule over them.

42 Their enemies controlled them and made life hard for them.

43 He saved his people many times, but they turned against him and did what they wanted to do. His people did many bad things.

44 But whenever they were in trouble, he (God) listened to their prayers.

45 He always remembered his agreement, and because of his faithful love, he comforted them.

46 Other nations took them as prisoners, but the Lord caused them to be kind to his people.

47 Lord our God, save us! Bring us back together from those nations. Then we will give thanks to your holy name and joyfully praise you.

48 Praise the Lord, the God of Israel! He always was and will always be worthy of praise. Let all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the Lord!

What are we to do?

All of us have sinned and we fall short of God's perfection. God is forgiving. We must confess the sin in our lives and ask forgiveness that is only available to us through Jesus' shed blood. As those who are not perfect, but forgiven, we must praise our heavenly father, not only from the pew, but wherever we go. The highest praise of God is to tell the truth about Him – this truth is found in His word and through his mighty acts as the only living God, creator of the universe, and author of eternal salvation.

John 3: 16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

We must live our faith in how we witness Christ to others. We must live our faith by exercising the full measure of our responsibilities as citizens of this nation; that means researching and voting in a godly manner.

... about 40 million Christians don't ... vote (15 million Christians are not registered; the total of non-voting adults, registered and not registered, was 102.7 million in 2016, or 44.4% of the 231.5 million eligible voters). – The Independent Sentinel

As US citizens, we have the responsibility to obey our laws and to respect authority. Likewise, “we the people” have the ultimate authority, which is ours at the voting booth. We dare not keep our faith contained inside the walls of our church while the wicked select the godless, lawless, corrupt authorities THEY want. Elections are an opportunity to exercise our faith in a tangible way.

As a body of Christians, churches must provide leadership, first to their congregations and then to their communities. There must be sincere calls for spiritual revival, and for loving outreach that draws the unsaved to Christ. Only when the people called by God’s name seek Christ with sincerity and walk in faith, will there be hope for the nation.

2 Chronicles 7:14 if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

DO NOT expect the unsaved to turn from their wicked ways without coming to Christ. It is the responsibility of those who bear the name of God (not in vain, not misusing it) with honor, humility and integrity. The body of Christ must be faithful to the full word of God and walk daily under its guidance. If there is a cross on the steeple, the congregation must walk in faith! We must have compassion on the lost and seek them fervently:

2 Thessalonians 2: 11 For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie 12 and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.

1 Thessalonians 5: 5 You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. 6 So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. 9 For God did not appoint us to suffer

wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. 10 He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Finally, we must pray:

1 Thessalonians 5: 17 Pray without ceasing.

We must pray, for this is the will of God!