November 1986

Message from the Spiritual Advisor: Killing Brings Condemnation

Dino J. Lorenzetti

Follow this and additional works at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq>

Recommended Citation

Lorenzetti, Dino J. (1986) "Message from the Spiritual Advisor: Killing Brings Condemnation," *The Linacre Quarterly*: Vol. 53 : No. 4 , Article 2.

Available at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq/vol53/iss4/2>

Message from the Spiritual Advisor

Killing Brings Condemnation

When Peter and the Apostles were challenged before the Sanhedrin and the high priest, they were told "not to teach about that name (Jesus)." Peter, however, responded, "it is better for us to obey God than men". (Acts 5, v. 27-33).

Today that same message is relevant to all persons of faith who believe in the Word of God. The fifth commandment of the Decalogue consists of only four words: "Thou shalt not kill" — words that are clear, distinct, precise and in no way should be disputable. Yet man has ignored the divine mandate and has legislated laws which are in direct violation of what God has said in the name of some social or economic "good".

With federal and state legislation, abortions have become legalized. Now with euthanasia and living wills being made popular, the intent is to lure the approval of the general public into this style of killing.

The killing of the body or the spirit of any person brings with it curses and condemnations. St. Luke, physician and evangelist, reports the words of Jesus: "Scandals will inevitably arise, but woe to him through whom they come. He would be better off thrown into the sea with a millstone around his neck than giving scandal ... Be on your guard."

When Jesus was speaking to Nicodemus, teacher in Israel, He said, "Whoever believes in the Son has life eternal. Whoever disobeys the Son will not see life, but must endure the wrath of God." (John 3 v. 36).

For the physician believing in the God Who gave Moses the Ten Commandments, and for the Christian who upholds in faith the teachings of Jesus, certainly the direct and deliberate killing of an innocent person will be subjected to the "wrath of God".

The first killer recorded in the Scriptures was Cain. (Gen. 4, v. 8). Since then, many have joined him. The numbers are legion and include among

others, surgeons, counselors and legislators. Cain's question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Gen. 4, v. 9), is still the same for all those who claim man's law of death is superior to the Divine law of life.

The Apostles, when leaving the Sanhedrin, did so "full of joy that they had been judged worthy of ill-treatment for the sake of the Name." (Acts 5, v. 34-43).

Dear God ... May ill-treatment in praise of Your name not bring us discouragement but joy, peace and life eternal as was given to the Apostles ... Amen.

Msgr. Dino J. Lorenzetti