

## Mary Craig

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**From:** Mary Craig  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 01, 2009 8:19 PM  
**Subject:** Mary Craig Ministries September 2009 wmail



Mary Craig Ministries, Inc. September 2009

Healthcare reform is a big issue right now in the USA. Some think of it more as health insurance reform. People are up-in-arms over all kinds of things, from the quality of care, to the cost of care, to how much the government will step in to control life spans, or even if one gets born at all. Death and destruction vie for dominion in this nation and around the world; but God is the God of the Living. Think! Pray!

Sanctity of Life. God made human beings in His image and likeness. He made Adam and Eve deathless. He gave them qualities like reason, personality, and intellect, and a capacity (though animals have souls) higher than other creatures. He commanded man to have dominion (not domination) over every living thing that moves on the earth. (Genesis 1.27, 28) He made the Sabbath for man that both people and animals and even the land might rest. (Genesis 2.3; Exodus 20.8) Adam was placed in the Garden of Eden to tend and to keep it alive. Adam gave names to each living creature. (Genesis 2.15, 19-20) As Adam was created to live in relationship with his Creator, so also Adam was to live in relationship with God's creation, the work of God's hands. The point is; he was to live and to sanctify life.

Sin brought death because when Adam sinned, he listened to another word. He transgressed the boundaries established by God for life. He ingested into his system something that would bring death and not contribute to his life. Adam's sin corrupted and disrupted the peace of God's good creation. Adam broke covenant with the Almighty, bringing just consequence upon himself and his posterity. His unbelief dishonored God who is deathless and who made him in His image and thus separated him and so brought the curse. When one drifts and doubts, one then disobeys and dies. Sin offends a holy God, the Lord of Life; sin is what brings death to you.

With Adam's sin, hostility and discord entered the system. The harmony and order of life was now countered by forces opposing life. Thus God became the preserver of life, the One holding things together (Colossians 1). God would now preserve man and beast. (Psalm 36.5, 6)

With Adam's sin, with his transgression of the boundaries God established for deathlessness, or life, man was separated from his Creator and could do nothing to bridge that separation. Without a means back to the Father, the Author of Life, death would rule or have dominion. So God, in the greatness of His love and power, took the initiative to "save"

us and bring us back to Him that we might have life, deathlessness.

Everything not contributing to life and the order of God was thus “unclean,” “unholy,” “polluted,” “corrupt,” “impure,” “mixed,” etc. There was thus nothing in any human being that could appease the wrath of God, His holy recoil against things contributing to death, satisfy divine justice against the sin that leads to death, and overcome the alienation from the God who is Life. Man needed a Redeemer.

God the Father sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to be that Redeemer. Jesus Christ came in the power of an endless life. Before Abraham was, Jesus says, I AM. Jesus Christ is God, a divine person with a divine nature who takes on human nature in a human body, God Incarnate. He is fully God and fully man; thus making Him the perfect Mediator between the Author of Life and man. Jesus comes to show us the way back to life, the truth about life and death, and to give us life eternal. In Him, we live and do not die. His death on the cross was voluntary. He had power (authority) to lay His life down and to take it up again, as was given Him by His Father. He became sin for us, the offering of Himself as a sacrifice for sin, that the wrath of God might be propitiated and that God would terminate His alienation from those for whom Christ died. Death could not hold Jesus because He never transgressed the boundaries, the order of Life. He was full of Life. There was nothing in Him that wanted otherwise. Anything that smells like death is a stench in the nostrils of God. Therefore, Jesus died to pay the penalty for our sin, to stand in our place and take the punishment, the alienation, the bondage, the wrath our sin deserves, and rose from the dead victorious. Our redemption was both by power and by price, the Blood of Christ. Jesus is alive forevermore. He was and is and will be. As long as He lives, those in Christ will live. Those born out of God ones cannot die; for God IS.

To come to Jesus is to come to life. In Christ we live. Through Christ, and those in Christ, the creation has hope for harmony, order, goodness, and love. There is rest. Sanctity for life means doing what is necessary to sustain life and thus bless. The Law of Love is the Law of Life. The Law is spiritual and good. To those outside of Christ, it shows the boundaries of life, how and when one transgresses those boundaries through missing the mark or through the bent of the heart to do evil (iniquity). To Israel, the Law was a schoolmaster training them in the ways of life and blessing or disobedience and curse. To those in Christ it serves as a guide for Life. God is a God of order, peace, harmony, love, mercy, grace. God is for Life. Are we?

Jesus came into the cosmos to bring life and to bring it more abundantly. (John 10.10) He calls us to a life of blessing, a life free of exploiting others for personal advantage, a life of giving, a life of joy. He calls us to sow seeds of life wherever we go, wherever He sends us in the cosmos. We are messengers of the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. In Jesus is Life and that Life is the light of all people. Wherever we are, we are to give hope and love and the hope of harmony and order to all creation. Will you?

*Go into all the world (cosmos), and preach the Gospel to every creature (ktisis). Mark 16.15*



Regular schedule:



Sundays, 4:30-6:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

Celebrate Grace!

Rev. Jim Craig, Senior Pastor

Communion served first Sunday of the month



Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m. beginning Sept. 8 \_\_\_\_\_

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Rev. Jim Craig

Discover what is better about the New Covenant as Pastor Jim takes you through a translation from the Greek. \_\_\_\_\_



Wednesdays, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

“3.16: A Devotional Survey of the Bible”

A teaching on the whole counsel of God from Genesis to Revelation.

How did the prophetic operate in the OT? Study the OT minor prophets with us!

With Dr. Mary Craig

No Class Wednesday Sept. 16 and Wednesday Sept. 23



Fridays, 7:30 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

“Who Is Jesus Christ?”

A life that made a difference; the Truth that sets people free!

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With Dr. Mary Craig

Special Events:




# KINETIC KOINONIA

Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Worshipful music, prayer, fellowship, fun, food...with Steve Craig & friends

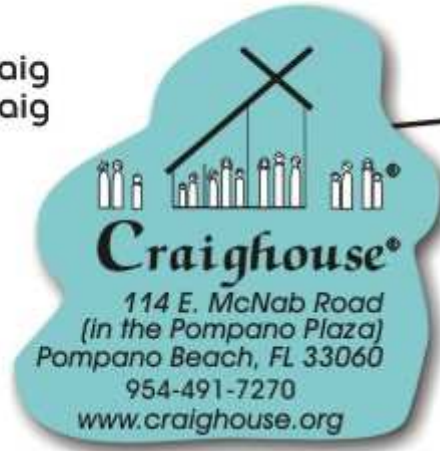


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