

Hot Topic #4 – What the Bible Says About the Sanctity of Life (and when Life Begins).

January 19, 2020

Today's Scripture:

Introduction: Poll of Christians and abortion. (see addendum) Pete Butigieg Life begins at first breath"!!!??? Even if there was 1% doubt in his mind, shouldn't he (and all who hold this view) err on the side that life just may begin at conception? It's like telling a person that eating this particular plant has a 1% chance of giving you cancer and a heart attack. What's the alternative? Not eating the plant! And it is far more likely that they are 99% wrong rather than right and we will show you in Scripture that that is so. They are wrong. Life begins at conception.

Main point: Destroying life anywhere between conception and birth is murder.

1. Ignorance of the law is no excuse and neither is ignorance of when life begins an excuse to abort a baby. **Proverbs 24:11–12 Rescue those who are being taken away to death; hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter. If you say, "Behold, we did not know this," does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who keeps watch over your soul know it, and will he not repay man according to his work? (ESV)**
 - But people do know. Their conscience tells them. **Romans 2:15 They (Gentiles) show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them (ESV)**
2. Just because civil law permits an action, does not mean that action is moral or just.
 - People cannot hide behind the law when they know in their hearts what they are doing is wrong.
 - Let's discuss this law made out of nothing. On January 22, 1973 47 years ago this Wednesday the Supreme Court passed by a vote of 7-2 (these judges were Masons) the famous Roe v Wade law permitting abortions in the U.S. Since then 60 million babies have been aborted. 926,000 each year, 2500 each day and 105 each hour. Selah.
 - In that decision the U.S. Supreme Court held that until a child in the womb is viable (capable of sustaining life outside the womb) or "capable of meaningful life" (the court reckoned this to be six or usually seven months), the mother's desire for an abortion should take precedence over the baby's right to life. For the last two or three months, the court said that the state may protect the unborn, but that it must allow an abortion if the life or health of the mother is threatened. The court defined her "life or health" to mean her physical, emotional, or psychological health, her age, her marital status, or the infant's prospects of a distressful life and/or future. In other words, a woman can kill her child in the womb legally for any reason right up to the moment of birth!

3. The Bible does not say all human life begins at first breath. **Genesis 2:7 then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. (ESV)** It says that Adam's life began when God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. If this was a prescriptive statement rather than a descriptive statement we would have to say that all women are made when some man gives up a rib to create a new woman!!!

4. The Bible clearly teaches that life begins at conception.
 - God considers all pre-born as persons. See the following:
 - Psalm 139:13–16 For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them. (ESV)
 - Jeremiah 1:5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” (ESV)
 - Job 31:15 Did not he who made me in the womb make him? And did not one fashion us in the womb? (ESV)
 - Psalm 22:10 On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God. (ESV)
 - If the pre-born were nothing but a clump of useless cells then there would be no penalty for killing it as described in Exodus. But, there is.
 - Exodus 21:22–25 “When men strive together and hit a pregnant woman, so that her children come out, but there is no harm, the one who hit her shall surely be fined, as the woman's husband shall impose on him, and he shall pay as the judges determine. But if there is harm, then you shall pay life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe. (ESV)
 - The Bible teaches that pre-borns, even in the first and third trimester are persons and can feel and respond. John the Baptist jumping for joy when Mary showed up. Luke 1:41. Elizabeth was in her 6th month, Mary in her first trimester.
 - Specifically in regards to the moment of conception and personhood:
 - Numbers 11:12 Did I conceive all this people (who were complaining about having only manna to eat)? Did I give them birth, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a nursing child,’ to the land that you swore to give their fathers? (ESV)
 - Job 3:3 “Let the day perish on which I was born, and the night that said, ‘A man is conceived.’ (ESV)

- Psalm 51:5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. (ESV)
- Romans 9:10 And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, (ESV) she didn't conceive a blob of tissue, she conceived children. Otherwise the Bible should have said when she *birthed* two children.

5. Common arguments for aborting babies conceived in adverse circumstances.

- What if a child was conceived as a result of rape or incest? Deuteronomy 24:16 "Fathers shall not be put to death because of their children, nor shall children be put to death because of their fathers. Each one shall be put to death for his own sin. (ESV)
- What about babies who are deformed? Exodus 4:11 Then the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? (ESV)

6. And can anyone who has had an abortion find forgiveness in Christ? Ephesians 1:7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, (ESV) and, Isaiah 43:25 "I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins. (ESV)

Action and Application

Elections have consequences. President Trump was elected on a pro-life platform and he was able to nominate pro-life judges because he was supported by a Senate who believed as he did. What about Colin Peterson? He says he is pro-life. Will his opposition in the next election be as pro-life as he?