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Societal Issues through Scripture's Eyes: Abortion

By Rev. Aaron Soto

Our society says that abortion and murder are two different things. Murder is a crime; abortion is a right. Murderers are a societal evil and should be brought to justice; abortionists are “doctors” who should be unfettered in their daily clinical schedule of exterminating the lives of children.

Abortion is a polarizing topic with few people standing anywhere near the middle. How could a nation, which has such deep compassion for endangered animals, the environment and poverty-stricken people, be so divided about the practice of exterminating babies? The divide is primarily due to two radically different attitudes toward God and His Word.

Pro-abortion advocates keep their conversation and views on a cultural platform. They tether their arguments to recent laws made by secular humanists and activist judges who deny that human life exists in the womb.

God-honoring people recognize that the Bible, God’s inspired Word, *is* the “last word” on all subjects – cultural, moral, or otherwise. The Psalmist rightly observed, *Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.* (Psalm 119:160, KJV)

Regardless of what man says or legislates, the Bible’s “righteous judgments” endure forever. Aside from the fray of human opinion and even bio-ethical ideology, it is important to have a biblical world-view based on the “righteous judgments” of the Bible regarding life and the unborn.

Before we delve into key points regarding God and His position on life, it must be acknowledged that God is the Creator of human life. The first chapter of Genesis teaches us that God is the Creator of life. Moses reminds us in Genesis: *So God created man in his [own] image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.* (Genesis 1:27, KJV)

God is the Creator of life. For this reason, a human life is precious to Him. Whether it is a baby in the mother's womb, a child, a youth, an adult or an elderly person, God values us all at whatever stage or state of life we happen to be in.

The weight of Scripture also informs us that unlike animal life, which God put under humankind's dominion, humanity is subject to God Himself. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 11:3 that that head of every man is Christ.

In addition to these foundational truths, there are four irrefutable facts regarding life that can help us to draw proper conclusions related to the subject.

- 1. God loves human life.** The Lord declared, *I have inscribed you in the palm of my hand. (Isaiah 49:16, NKJV)* Think about the nail-scarred hands of Jesus. That is our signature upon the hand of God; it is also a testimony of God's irrefutable love for humanity. God is an equal opportunity lover. His redemptive plan is for everyone, everywhere.

When a life is conceived, God is not surprised. Jesus suffered and gave His life's blood for all human life, even if it happens to be in the first trimester. He does not love a life less if it is in its embryonic state or stricken in a nursing home.

Conclusion: God would never approve of the act of snuffing out any life that He loves so completely.

- 2. An unborn child is in a divine process with God.** Each of us has had the privilege of being masterfully crafted by God in the womb. Read the following passage carefully: *For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully [and] wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And [that] my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, [And] skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, (Psalm 139:13-16, NKJV)*

The Bible is clearly telling us that unborn human life is much more than protoplasm. Regardless of how few cells there might be in the first days of life, every cell has DNA; God authored the DNA. DNA indicates divine intention or purpose.

"Who can add measure to their height?" (NKJV) Jesus asked in Luke 12:22. Human development is the work of the Almighty. A growing child, whether in the womb or on the playground, is God's miraculous purpose in process. We can agree with the Psalmist: the result is marvelous!

Conclusion: No man has a right to violently snatch a life off of God's worktable.

- 3. Every unborn child is known by God.** The Lord made an incredible statement to Jeremiah the prophet: *Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.* (Jeremiah 1:5)

It is a fact that abortion doctors wield their “surgical” instruments with the full intention of mortally impacting the life of a baby. Could they perform such a procedure upon their three-year-old daughter or niece? Certainly not! Why? They have a relationship with the child. Abortion is an industrial, impersonal procedure to the abortionist because there is no relationship with the life they are destroying. This is not so with God.

God does not have an industrial approach to the creation of human life. He doesn't delegate baby development to a stork or anyone else. Every time life is conceived, God is there, celebrating. Before a doctor or pregnancy test announces the news, God has already planted the first kiss.

Every child is fully known by God. Every unplanned child, every unwanted child, every refugee child, all are known by God. God doesn't just know the “make and model”, (i.e. Hispanic, boy), He has the full disclosure report. He has already ordained grace to cover every sin as well as ability to equip for the life journey.

Conclusion: Because God knows every child in the womb; he will not sanction the impersonal, industrial, and brutal murder of an unborn baby anymore than he would sanction such a death of a three-year-old.

- 4. God does not place a different value on life because it happens to be in a womb.**

While the pro-abortion groups would suggest that a nine-month-old is only an embryo while in the womb and a child outside, we instinctively know better.

Modern medicine has discovered a baby is genetically distinct from its mother and father at conception. A human being has 46 chromosomes. A man's seed and women's egg each have just 23 chromosomes. An embryo has 46 chromosomes!

A trained geneticist can distinguish between the DNA of an embryo and the DNA of a man's seed and a woman's egg. However, a geneticist cannot distinguish between the DNA of a developing embryo and the DNA of a full-grown human being. Why? Because an embryo is a human being! God saw this before science did.

In Exodus 21:22-23, God warned that if a woman lost a child due to a man's violence, the offender's punishment would be “life for life”. Why life for life? Because there is no difference between life in the womb and life outside of the womb.

Conclusion: God is not a respecter of persons, regardless of a person's stage of life or physical condition.

Finally, Abraham Lincoln told the story of a farmer who, on a spring morning, led his son onto a field with a team of horses. It was the son's first day ever to plow. The father instructed the boy that in order to cut a straight furrow, he must walk behind the horses with his eyes fixed upon an object across the field; maybe a post, a tree or a rock. After a few hours, the farmer returned to see the field covered in meandering furrows with more curves than a mountain road. The angry father stormed over to his son and demanded to know why his son had forgotten such easy instructions about cutting a straight furrow. The son replied, "Oh I didn't forget to fix my eyes on something, Dad. See that cow grazing over there? That's what I've been looking at!"

Judges and political leaders will come and go. The abortion legislation and abortion debate will meander to the left and to the right. But we must fix our gaze upon the unchanging judgments of God's Word when we cut the furrow of our convictions regarding life.

The above provided courtesy of Apostolic Truth Church, Appleton, Wisconsin.
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