

"Sanctity of Human Life"

Ps. 139: 13-16

1-15-17 Sun AM

This "Sanctity of Human Life" Sunday, I thought it would be timely and needful to share what Scripture says about the sanctity of human life, since we believe in the authority of Scripture for faith and practice.

Its not what the president says, what the congress says, what the Supreme Court says, nor Planned Parenthood. We take our beliefs from the Scripture rightly interpreted.

TT- I want to look at Scripture and the sanctity of life:

We begin where the Scriptures begin, and share 5 major truths.

1. Human life is sacred because God is Creator.

Gen. 1:1, "In the beginning God created..."

John 1:3, "All things were made by Him; and without him was not anything made that was made."

God as creator is fundamental to the Christian faith. We worship him and submit to his authority to rule our lives based on creation.

Life is sacred because we were created, not evolved, and not a little higher than the animals. We are set apart for God.

We have purpose and meaning as the crown of God's creation created in his image and capable to have a relationship with him and make moral choices.

2. Satan's wants to usurp God's authority as Creator.

Jesus came to save, restore, and renew life. Satan comes to steal, kill, and destroy.

Abortion is the child sacrifice of the O.T.

Jer. 19: ⁴Because they have forsaken me, and have estranged this place, and have burned incense in it unto other gods, whom neither they nor their fathers have known, nor the kings of Judah, and have filled this place with the blood of innocents; ⁵They have built also the high places of Baal, to burn their sons with fire for burnt offerings unto Baal, which I commanded not, nor spake it, neither came it into my mind: ⁶Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that this place shall no more be called Tophet, nor The valley of the son of Hinnom, but The valley of slaughter.

God desires to give life, while Satan wants to take life.

3. The baby in the mother's womb [pre-born] is a human life.

A. In the O.T.

God had plans for us before we were conceived or born.

Jer. 1: ⁴Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, ⁵Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

Ps. 139: John Stott says the Psalmist surveys his life in 4 stages- past, present, future, and before birth. In all 4 he refers to himself as "I." Whether he is in or out of the womb, he has personhood.

There is no difference between "potential life" and "actual life."

B. In the N.T.

Paul was set apart from His mother's womb.

Gal. 1:15, "But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace."

The baby is human life, not a blob of tissue. The Greek word for babe or baby describes the pre-born and the born- John Baptist pre-born [Luke 1:41, 44] Jesus born [2:12, 16].

4. **Abortion has consequences.**

In the O.T. there was a severe punishment for anyone who takes an innocent life and protected by O.T. law.

Ex: 21: ²²If men strive, and hurt a woman with child, so that her fruit depart from her, and yet no mischief follow: he shall be surely punished, according as the woman's husband will lay upon him; and he shall pay as the judges determine. ²³And if any mischief follow, then thou shalt give life for life, ²⁴Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, ²⁵Burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.

Permitting the murder of innocents pollutes the land and brings God's judgment.

Numbers 35: ³³So ye shall not pollute the land wherein ye are: for blood it defiles the land: and the land cannot be cleansed of the blood that is shed therein, but by the blood of him that shed it. ³⁴Defile not therefore the land which ye shall inhabit, wherein I dwell: for I the LORD dwell among the children of Israel.

5. **God is in control of the "hard cases," using them for our good and His glory.**

1. The disabled child- God created the disabled or handicapped child [Ex. 4:10-12]

2. The child conceived from rape- Children should not be put to death for the sins of their father [Deut 24:16].

3. The child conceived from incest or adultery- God can redeem even the tragic events of sin [Gen. 38] incest of Judah and Tamar

4. It's my body I have the right to choose- We do not have an "Unqualified right" to our bodies [1 Cor. 3:16-19; 6:18-20; 2 Cor. 6:16-17].

Our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.

The baby in the womb is a separate life and body. A woman can go have her baby killed in a clinic and it's called a procedure or reproductive right, yet she and the baby can be killed on the way to the clinic and it's called a double homicide.

Why do they hate life so? Because Satan hates life!