

## The Demise of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Christianity – Article 3

### The Sanctity of Life

All would agree that life is precious – all, that is, except liberal-minded politicians and evolutionary-thinking scientists. Their lives are precious to them, but no one else's is, especially those who cannot protect themselves, like the unborn (abortion) and the elderly (euthanasia).

Is abortion a sin? Is it murder? The answers for any Christian depend solely on what God's Word says about it. According to the creator of life and the foremost authority on life, life begins at conception. A human being is a human being the instant that first fertilized cell comes into existence. At that point, *everything* about the one to be born nine months later is intact: all the genes and chromosomes that will develop into a fully viable body of flesh.

According to Hosea 9:11, Ephraim was a living creation “from the birth, and from the womb, and from the conception.” Not only are we human beings when we are born and take our first breath of air, but also while we are developing in the womb. But that is not far enough back. We are fully human “from the conception.” From birth, i.e., from the first breath of air; from the womb, i.e., from the forming of the body; from conception, i.e., from the very moment life begins, we are fully human.

In the womb, God is actively forming our bodies (Jer. 1:5; Psa. 139: 13-16). Then abortion is a direct and deliberate interference with the work of God.

That same verse in Hosea mentions Ephraim's glory, and says it “shall fly away.” How will it fly away? In the same chapter (v.13) we are told that Ephraim “shall bring forth children to the murderer.” Is that not what mothers the world over are doing, even some Christian mothers?

Babies are human from their conception, but many people do not consider their unborn children to be human. The unborn are viewed as just a blob of protoplasm with no real value before birth. In the Roe versus Wade case, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun said that until viability, the state has no compelling interest in protecting the fetus. (Viability means able to survive outside the womb.) (We also object to the scientific terms “fetus” and “embryo.” Such words dehumanize unborn babies, promoting the idea that there is something there, but it is not yet human.)



May we say in passing that abortion, the deliberate murder of unborn children, is just as heinous as what Dr. Josef Mengele (called the Angel of Death) did to countless children (and adults) in the Nazi Auschwitz death camp. Some abortion techniques would rival some of Mengele's cruel methods. One record of Mengele's dealings with children states, “...afflicted children were killed so that their preserved heads and organs could be sent to the SS Medical Academy in Graz and other facilities for study.” Sounds like some of the atrocities done to aborted babies in the name of scientific research, such as embryonic stem cell research. (To quote “science”: “To obtain embryonic stem cells, the early embryo has to be destroyed.”)

Ephraim's glory, mentioned in Hosea 9:11, is the glory of human life (Psa. 8:5). The more we sin (murdering babies in this discussion), the more God turns that glory into shame (Hos. 4:7). Isaiah wondered what we will do in the day God visits our sin (Isa. 10:3), and asks, “where will ye leave your glory?” Could we say in this context that our human glory will be left in the trashcan of aborted babies!

So, let's answer the questions. Is abortion murder, that is, the deliberate taking of a human life? Yes, it is. Then is abortion a sin? Yes, it is.

What if the mother's life is at risk, would God not allow murdering the baby in such a case? Actually, the risk of a mother's life during pregnancy is about 1%, per pro-abortion UCLA Professor of Obstetrics Dr. Irving Cushner. In a multi-state survey of why women obtain abortions, of the 1.3 million surveyed women who had had abortions, only 1.03% replied that it was to protect their lives. So much for the scarecrow of threat to the life of the mother.

Interestingly, Alan Guttmacher of Planned Parenthood and great promoter of abortion on demand said, “Today it is possible for almost any patient to be brought through pregnancy alive, unless she suffers from a fatal disease such as cancer or leukemia, and if so, abortion would be unlikely to prolong, much less save the life.”

Or, consider this statement by Dr. Bernard Nathanson, American Bioethics Advisory Commission: “There are no conceivable clinical situations today where abortion is necessary to save the life of the mother. In fact, if her health is threatened and an abortion is performed, the abortion increases risks the mother will incur regarding her health.”

There is only one purpose for abortion, to end the life of the child. Thus, all other reasons or logic are nonsense.

We all know the Catholic Church stands against abortion. While we do not stand with the Catholic Church, a statement by Pope Pius XI, spoken decades before abortion was legalized, is appropriate. He said, “However we may pity the mother whose health and even life is imperiled by the performance of her natural duty, there yet remains no sufficient reason for condoning the direct murder of the innocent.”

Well, what about a victim of rape? Should not the woman be allowed an abortion? Again, the numbers are miniscule, only .39% due to rape or incest. Even those numbers have been proven to be greatly exaggerated. Under the Pennsylvania Abortion Control Act, records stated that many women *admitted* they were reporting rapes just to justify getting an abortion. People in authority have even promoted such lying. Congresswoman Nita Lowey, trying to get federal funding for abortions, said, “I’d tell my constituents, ‘Send a letter. Say you were raped. Say it was incest. Say you have heart disease.’”

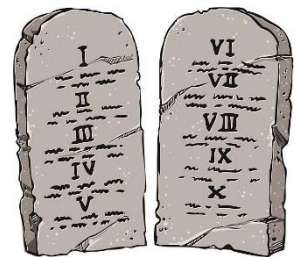


We do not belittle the fact that there are real women who suffer the trauma of rape and then discover they are with child from it. Even so, abortion is still murder. Could not the victim have the unwanted child and give it over for adoption, rather than having it murdered? Many rape victims blame themselves. Adding abortion will only increase their remorse. And think of this. Those who cry so loudly about having a rape-conceived child aborted, say nothing or little about the rapist. Do they not know that God’s law *requires* a rapist to be executed? (See Deut. 22:25-27.)

The pro-abortion Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice says that pro-lifers must *never* condone a single abortion and must *never* apologize for fighting abortions due to rape and incest. They said, “Opponents of abortion rights walk a fine line within their own movement when they condone any abortion. Based on their own definition, they are guilty of being accessories to ‘murder’ in certain circumstances by accepting rape and incest exceptions.” Why can’t Christians see that connection?

While rape and incest are horrible crimes (sin) against innocent victims, there are many famous people who were not aborted when their mothers were victims (and certainly many, many more who are not famous). The well-known Gospel singer, Ethel Waters was the result of rape when her mother was only 12 years old. Eartha Kitt, Zahara Jolie-Pitt, Jesse Jackson, Layne Beachley, Janet Sheen, and many others came into this world because their mothers were victims of rape or incest. (We are not condoning any of those named. They are noted only to make the point that abortion destroys future lives and future accomplishments.)

The sixth commandment, “Thou shalt not kill” (Exo. 20:13), should settle the matter once and for all for all Christians. When Jesus reworded that commandment, He defined the word “kill” as “murder” (Matt. 19:18). Murder is defined as the unlawful killing of a person especially with malice aforethought. (That definition eliminates warfare, self-defence, and legal execution as being murder.) God’s decree for violating that commandment is: “Whoso killeth any person, the murderer shall be put to death...” (Num. 35:30).



May we Christians stand firmly against murder of any kind, including abortion and euthanasia.

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