

Definitions

Life- (1) the quality that distinguishes a vital and functional being from a dead body. (2) an organismic state characterized by capacity [potential] for metabolism, growth, reaction to stimuli, and reproduction. (3) the sequence of physical and mental experiences that make up the existence of an individual.

Death- the irreversible cessation of all vital functions especially as indicated by permanent stoppage of the heart, respiration, and brain activity : the end of life

Abortion- the termination of a pregnancy after, accompanied by, resulting in, or closely followed by the death of the embryo or fetus (better to read "baby" rh).

Questions:

Does God consider abortion to be right or wrong?
What does the Bible say that relates to the issue of abortion?
Nowhere in the Bible does it say "Thou shalt not abort your children."

Yet, neither will you find specific words forbidding suicide, infanticide (killing newborn children), or same-sex marriages. Yet, the Bible clearly teaches us that these things are wrong.

The Bible condemns the shedding of innocent life:

Few people would argue this point. The Bible clearly prohibits taking the life of an innocent person. It follows that if the developing baby is a "qualified" member of the human race, all of these scriptures apply:

Genesis 9:6 -Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: For in the image of God made he man.

Exodus 20:13 - Thou shalt not kill.

*Deuteronomy 27:25a –Cursed be he that taketh a bribe to **slay an innocent person.***

*Proverbs 6:16,17–There are six things which Jehovah hateth; Yea, seven which are an abomination unto him: Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And **hands that shed innocent blood;***

A child is a "person" whether born or unborn:

The Bible consistently uses the same word for a "born" or "unborn" baby. This is because the divine Author of the Bible did not recognize a material difference between the two.

In Scripture, there is not some special event when a "human being" becomes a "person". Rather, he or she is a person from the beginning who goes through growth and development both inside and outside of the womb.

In the New Testament the Greek word "brephos" is used to describe the unborn, newborns,

and youth. In Luke 1:44, the word is used to mean unborn baby: "*For behold, when the sound of your greeting reached my ears, **the baby** leaped in my womb for joy.*" Then, in Luke 2:12, it means a newborn: "*So they came in a hurry and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and **the baby** as He lay in the manger.*" And in Luke 18:15, "brephos" refers to a young child: "*And they were bringing even their **babies** to Him so that He would touch them, but when the disciples saw it, they began rebuking them.*"

In the Old Testament the Hebrew word "yeled" is used in the same way. In Exodus 21:22 it means an unborn child, "*If men struggle with each other and strike a woman with **child** so that she gives birth prematurely...(NKJV)*". And yet, in other Old Testament usages, it means "youth" or even a teenager.

As late as the 16th century in our own culture, "child" was the word used for both the born and unborn baby. Late in the game, we have developed a new word, "fetus", to describe a developing baby (even this word is defined in some dictionaries as an "unborn human being"). Today, we often reserve the word "child" for a person already born. Be careful that we don't fall into the modern thinking that babies are BORN people. Unborn babies are people too!

God established laws that had those who took the life of an unborn child killed :

Exodus 21: 22-25

(King James Version)

22 If 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]. 23 And if [any] mischief follow, then thou shalt give life for life, 24 Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, 25 Burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.

Exodus 21: 22-25

(American Standard Version)

22 And if men strive together, and hurt a woman **with child**, so that **her fruit** depart, and yet no harm follow; he shall be surely fined, according as the woman's husband shall lay upon him; and he shall pay as the judges determine. 23 But if any harm follow, then thou shalt give life for life, 24 eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, 25 burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.

According to the Bible, God knew you before you were born:

*Psalm 139:13-16. For thou didst form **my** inward parts: Thou didst cover **me** in my mother's womb. **I** will give thanks unto thee; For **I** am fearfully and wonderfully made: Wonderful are thy works; And that **my** soul knoweth right well. **My** frame was not hidden from thee, When **I** was made in secret, [And] curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see **mine** unformed substance; And in thy book they were all written, [Even] the days that*

were ordained [for me], When as yet there was none of them.

Luke 1:15—For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and he shall drink no wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb.

Jeremiah 1:5—Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee, and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee; I have appointed thee a prophet unto the nations.

How should Christians respond?

We need to realize that it is one thing when godless, secular people try to dehumanize the unborn to support their view of abortion on demand. It is quite another matter when these same people attempt to distort scripture and church history to fit their agenda.

There is not a legitimate "pro-choice" position that can be derived from the Bible. To support this position, it would be necessary to use text out of context, ignore the Bible's attitude toward the young and innocent, and be ignorant of the history of the early church.

God calls each of us to defend the innocent. Christians should elect leaders who share the Biblical view of abortion and support groups working to make abortion unacceptable in our country. Every Christian should know the facts and be ready to defend what the Bible really does say about abortion. And we should pray that God will change the hearts of those promoting the genocide of our nation.

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RAGER ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

5775 Rager Rd, Canal Winchester, Ohio 43110

Phone: 614-830-0110

Website: www.ragerroad.org



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

SUNDAY MORNING	BIBLE STUDY	9:30 A.M.
	WORSHIP	10:30 A.M.
SUNDAY EVENING	WORSHIP	6:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY	BIBLE STUDY	7:30 P.M.
Preachers:	Robin W. Haley	614-751-1082
	James Grayson	614-409-0941

February 1, 2009

Weekly Budget: \$1360.00

WELCOME!

Again, thanks to all who stayed last Sunday to hear the budget report and Josh's reminder of our duty and privilege of giving. We can meet this budget if we but will choose to do so.

An urgent need: A 44 year old Christian sister in Guthrie, OK, Stacy Lester, is in dire need of medical help and her insurance simply will not cover what she needs. Her insurance is due to expire next summer. This need was made known to us by brother Jerry Brewer.

She and her husband currently owe \$2,000.00 in medical bills. The congregation where they live is supporting them all they can...and by brother Lester's own words...doing a great job. Any help would of course be welcomed. Let Robin know if you would like to help and he can get you the details.