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ABORTION!! WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

By Elder Bill Caraway

FORWARD.

World wide statistics show that 1.5 million abortions are performed daily-. The alarming rate of abortions should be of great concern to all of God's children. The term 'abortion' applies to a woman that is pregnant and loses the child she is carrying either from a natural, accidental or intentional circumstance. The intent of this writing is to address the intentional abortion of a child and to search the scriptures for' related information. The Bible and other available documentation was used in the composition of this writing to help us understand the issue of abortion from a biblical point of view, The prophet Hosea voices my concern and states the real problem when he says in Hos 4:6, "My people, are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."

This writing is submitted (I in hope that it may assist or help someone come to a better understanding of the subject and make a decisions based on God's pure word rather than options of society'. 24:1, "The earth is the LORD'S, and the fullness thereof: the world, and they that dwell therein."

Psa 34:19, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of of them all."

Pro 3:5-9. "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart: and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. Honour the LORD with thy substance. and with the first fruits of all thine increase:"

1. PERTINENT DEFINITIONS.

In order to better understand abortion. it is helpful to review the definitions of some key words surrounding the subject.

PREGNANT:

Webster's New World Dictionary, Second Edition;

Having (an) offspring developing in the uterus: that has conceived: with young or with child.

CHILD:

Webster's New World Dictionary. Second Edition:

1. An infant, baby.

2. An unborn offspring.
3. A boy or girl in the period before puberty.

EMBRYO:

Webster's New World Dictionary Second Edition:

An animal in its earliest stages of development in the uterus: the human organism up to the third month after conception is called an embryo. thereafter a fetus.

FETUS:

Webster's New World Dictionary Second Edition:

1. The unborn young of an animal while still in the uterus.
2. In man, the offspring of the womb from the end of the third month of pregnancy until birth: distinguished from embryo.

ABORTION:

Webster's Dictionary 1828 Edition;

1. The act of miscarrying, or producing young before the natural time, or before the fetus is perfectly formed.
2. The fetus brought forth before it is perfectly formed.

Webster's New World Dictionary, Second Edition;

1. Expulsion of the fetus from the womb before it is sufficiently developed to survive; miscarriage: called criminal abortion when unlawfully induced.
2. An aborted fetus.

In all the definitions cited above life and development are in progress in the child, fetus, embryo, young or offspring at the time under consideration. To perform an abortion on a fetus or a embryo in the womb before it is sufficiently developed to survive clearly, indicates that the fetus has life and is in the process of growth at the time of the abortion. If the fetus has life when an abortion is performed then surely we must conclude that the life of a child, fetus, embryo, young or offspring has been terminated. If the definitions cited from Webster's Dictionary teach that a child's life is taken when an abortion is performed, why is there so much confusion about this issue? Is it because some people would like to complicate the facts to the extent that they could justify or legalize abortion? Man has so confused the issue that the United States Supreme Court has ruled that it is legal to abort a child up to the sixth month [of pregnancy] of life.

A definition of murder cited in the same dictionary is: 'The unlawful and malicious or premeditated killing of one human being by another; to kill inhumanely or barbarously. Surely the process by which an abortion is performed is 'premeditated'. The question then, is whether abortion is unlawful or not? Abortion throughout history has never been lawful until now. It has already been stated that the Supreme Court has legalized abortion but does the Bible support the Court's decision.

2. THE ORIGIN AND VALUE OF LIFE.

Gen 2:7, "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Human life is precious and is a gift of God.

Gen 3:20, "And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living." The extension of life is arranged by the design of God, to require male and female [husband and wife] to propagate mankind.

Isa 44:24, "Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things;

that stretcheth forth the heavens alone: that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself;"

Joh 10:11, "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

Rom 5:10, "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life."

Joh 10:10, "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."

3. WHEN DOES LIFE OF A CHILD BEGIN?

Lev 17:11, "For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul." The inspired writer states that life is in the blood, therefore when one drop of blood is pumped through the veins of an embryo it is an individual with life even though it resides within another human being, the mother. Medical science has proven that blood flows through the veins of an embryo three weeks after conception and they believe it to have started much earlier due to the development at that stage of growth.

2 Sam 11:5, And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, I am with child." When Bathsheba conceived she notified David that she was with child.

Psa 51:5, "Behold. I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me." David teaches here that he was David at conception [not before but when conception was accomplished] and was already a sinner before God, not a sinner by practice but a sinner by nature, therefore an individual accountable to God.

Luk 1:35-44, "And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible. And 'Mary said Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her. And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda; And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth. And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost: And she spake out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb. Mary arose and departed with haste after conception and when she arrived at the house of Zacharias, Elisabeth speaking by the direction of the Holy Ghost states that Mary is a Mother and the fruit of her womb is the Lord. Then at conception there is life and individuality. Elisabeth was in her sixth month when Mary arrived and John the Baptist leaped for joy because he was in the presence of the Lord. At six months of development John the Baptist had comprehension of being in the presence of his Lord and he expressed this joy by leaping.

These scriptures as well as others provide biblical evidence that life and individuality begins at conception. The child is housed in the mothers womb for protection and sustenance and as he develops and grows, he reaches the point where he can live outside the womb, thence birth. After birth the child is almost as dependent as before birth.

4. GOD'S WORK AND CONCERN WITH THE UNBORN.

Job 31:15, "Did not he that made me in the womb make him? and did not one fashion us in the womb?"

Psa 139:13-16, "For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously, wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them."

Isa 49:1, "Listen, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far; The LORD hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name."

Jer 1:5, "Before 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."

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

A brief description of how God deals with His children before they are born [naturally] are described in the above scriptures. If God deals with them as individual children before they are born and reveals His actions to us through the scriptures. then we too should acknowledge the individuality of an unborn child.

5. GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING LIFE AND DEATH.

1 Sam 2:6, "The LORD killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up." God reserves unto Himself the right of life and death.

Exo 20:1, 13, "And God spake all these words, saying, (v:13) Thou shalt not kill."

Exo 23:7, "Keep thee far from a false matter; and the innocent and righteous slay thou not: for I will not justify the wicked." An unborn child surely, is considered as innocent and righteous.

Jam 2:11, "For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law."

God set laws over man to instruct, guide and direct him in the ways he should conduct himself. In addition to the laws. the penalties for the transgression of the law are also stated.

6. THE LAWS OF GOD PROTECTS CHILDREN BEFORE AND AFTER BIRTH.

Exo 21:22-25, "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. And if any, mischief follow, then thou shalt give life for life, Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, Burning for burning, wound for wound. stripe for stripe." These verses of scripture sets forth how God's law protects a pregnant woman and prescribes by law the penalty for anyone who injures that woman and harms the unborn child.

Amo 1:13, "Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of the children of Ammon, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have ripped up the women with child of Gilead, that they might enlarge their border:" It is a transgression to kill a woman with an unborn child and punishment is assured to those that do such things by the word of God.

Mat 18:10, 14, "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven. (v:14),

Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish."

The warning is set forth in many, scriptures, that to kill, abuse, misuse or mistreat innocent children of any age, whether before or after birth will be dealt with by a most Holy and Just God. God's justice will be administered in accordance with His laws and not the laws of the United States.

7. SHOULD A CHILD CONCEIVED THROUGH RAPE OR INCEST BE ABORTED?

Deu 24:16, "The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin."

Rape or incest is one of the most evil, humiliating and degrading acts a woman could ever suffer. The man which commits such a crime should be punished to the fullest of the law. If conception should take place as a result of such a crime, the woman and the infant are innocent of any transgression of the law but the man is guilty. To commit suicide or abort the child would be to punish the innocent. The woman that aborts a child under such circumstances compounds the evil act by taking the life of an innocent child. It is understandable that a woman would not have a desire to raise the child because of the shame and the terrible way it was conceived, but God's law is firm, therefore it would be in keeping with the law to give up the child at birth for adoption.

8. SHOULD A DEFORMED OR RETARDED CHILD BE ABORTED?

Exo 4:11. "And the LORD said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the LORD?"

Rom 9:20-21, "Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?"

Joh 9:1-3, "And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him."

If a woman is carrying a child and it is known that the child is malformed [mentally or physically] the hardship of carrying for the child [mentally, physically and financially] throughout its life is a very great responsibility on the parents. Under such a responsibility the temptation to have the infant aborted would try the love and godly fiber of the parents. To succumb to such a temptation and have the infant aborted would be to take an innocent life in order to relieve the burden of raising or carrying for the child, that is to say, for the convenience of the parents.

9. SHOULD A WOMAN HAVE CONTROL OVER THE LIFE IN HER BODY?

There is a lot of difference between 'having control over her body' and 'having control over the life in her body'. A woman should have control over her body in keeping with God's law and the law of the land [where the law of the land does not conflict with God's law]. The child that is housed in the womb is not part of the body of the woman. The Child is a product of conception and is an individual receiving protection and nourishment from the mother as it grows. Much has already been said to prove that life and individuality begins at conception, therefore the infant in the womb of a woman is not 'just a part of her body' but it is an

individual depending completely upon the mother to provide all that is necessary for proper growth and development. Abortion is the intentional expulsion [killing] of the individual housed in the mother's womb, which is dependent upon her. When a mother abandons a baby at birth and it dies the mother is charged with abandonment and murder, but when she goes to a clinic and has the child killed and removed from her womb it is said to be legal. God forbid !!! Consider the following scriptures:

Psa 127:3, "Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward."

Eze 18:4, "Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die."

1 Cor 6:19-20, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

10. IS ABORTION A CONSIDERATION FOR A UNDESIRABLE PREGNANCY?

When a pregnancy creates a crisis for a woman it is certain that she is in a dilemma as to what to do. To calmly determine what course of action she should take is the very best approach. To assist in that determination she needs the very best information available or her resolution may add to her crisis. To rely on any thing less than God's instructions would be unwise. The verses of scripture above, together with many other scriptures, teach God's children how they should conduct their lives and the benefits they receive when they comply with God's instructions. It may be much easier to follow the advice of friends, doctor, relatives, or even the federal law but when one makes a decision that concerns the life of another individual, that decision should be weighed by the infallible word of God. Consider the following scriptures:

Pro 21:2, "Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but the LORD pondereth the hearts."

Pro 17:15, "He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the LORD."

Pro 14:12, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

Isa 49:15, "Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her wombs yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee."

11. CAN FORGIVENESS BE GRANTED A MOTHER IF SHE ABORTS HER CHILD?

Forgiveness as taught in the Bible embraces two phases: First, the eternal phase wherein God's children are passive; Jesus on behalf of His children, and in accordance with God's will, accomplished all that was required of Him in order that their sins be put away [eternally from the Father] as far as the east is from the west [this phase of forgiveness is reflected in the first three scriptures cited below under this heading]. Second, the timely phase, wherein God's children are taught to repent of their sins [turn away from] in order to receive forgiveness [to relieve their guilty conscience in this life] from their sins [this phase of forgiveness is reflected in the last three scriptures cited below under this heading] .

Eph 1:7, "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;"

Eph 4:32, "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven

you.

Isa 43:25, "I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins."

Act 13:38, "Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:"

Act 8:22, "Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee."

I Joh 1:9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

12. WHAT ABOUT THOSE THAT PERFORMS ABORTIONS?

The oath that a doctor swears to uphold, states that he will do everything in his power to preserve life, yet many of them perform abortions without any thought of the oath or the life they destroy. These acts of abortion performed in privacy may not be known to anyone else but all things are known by an all wise and Almighty God.

Heb 4:13 "Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do."

Deu 27:25, "Cursed be he that taketh reward to slay an innocent person. And all the people shall say, Amen."

Jer 22:17, "But thine eyes and thine heart are not for thy, covetousness, and for to shed innocent blood, and for oppression, and for violence, to do it."

Luk 17:2, "It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones."

13. WHAT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CHILDREN OF GOD?

Rom 12:2, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Eph 2:10, "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

Pro 24:11-12, "If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?"

Gal 6:9-10, "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

2 Tim 2:25-26, "In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will."

14. SCRIPTURAL CONSIDERATIONS.

Jer 33:3, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

Jam 1:5-6, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and

tossed."

2 Tim 3:16-17, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

Rom 15:4, "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."

2 Tim 2:15-16, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness."

Jer 17:5, "Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD."

Jer 17:7, "Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is."

1 Joh 2:1, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:"

CONCLUSION.

Rev 4:11, "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."

I Cor 1:30-31, "But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord."

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18 Sep 1991