

ABORTION A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE

H.L. Collett

The abortion issue is of great significance to all people, especially to the Christian. Is abortion right or wrong? On January 22, 1973 the United States Supreme Court decided: "We, therefore, conclude that the right of personal privacy includes the abortion decision ..." It is a date and a decision that will live in infamy. The Supreme Court is not the highest authority for the Christian! The ultimate test for what is right or wrong is God, and what He says in the scriptures. "Peter and the other apostles answered and said, *"We ought to obey God rather than men."* (Acts 5:29) Please note that all of the official representatives of Christ said it. Those who believe in legalized abortion believe that a woman has the right to do what she wants with her body.

Such is not in harmony with the Bible. The Bible tells the Christian that: *"...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? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. (1Co 6:19) Your body belongs to God and as a steward of that which is God's the Christian must use it lawfully. (1 Cor. 4:2)*

But what about the non-Christian, does she have the right to do what she wants with her body? *In as much as God is the God of all and all must one day stand to account for their lives here before God it is still God's law that stands supreme even for the non-Christian. (Acts 17:30-31)*

Furthermore, the prostitute, the heroin user, and the one contemplating suicide could all say the same thing. Is the person who thinks this way really only affecting her or himself? We always have an effect on those around us and there is a price we must all pay for the mischief of another. Much of the crime in this country can be traced directly to the use of drugs such as heroin and crack-cocaine. When that addicted body forces a person to rob or even kill to get money to support that drug habit, it gives the lie to that selfish statement. Now we see that those who do such things force the rest of us to pay in higher taxes for more police, more prisons, more rehab, more sorrow, more pain, and more anguish! Neither can one argue that abortions don't cost us anything. Look at Planned Parenthood, one of the leading promoters of abortion, who got 272 million dollars of our tax money in 2005 along! It does affect all of us who pay taxes.

One of the sorriest and weakest arguments for abortion is to compare it to something that is imagined as far worse such as "war" and declare that it is not as bad as _____. Yet that is exactly what is done. It is important to realize that we are not talking about war but abortion. One wrong does not make anything else more wrong or less wrong.

Shedding innocent blood is condemned by the LORD in His Divine Book.

- Deuteronomy 19:10 – *That innocent blood not be shed in thy land, which the Lord they God giveth thee for an inheritance, and so blood be upon thee.*
- Deuteronomy 19:13 – *Thine eye shall not pity him, but thou shalt put away the guilt of innocent blood from Israel, that it may go well with thee.*
- Psalm 106:38 – *and shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed unto the idols of Canaan: and the land was polluted with blood.*
- Proverbs 6:17 – *A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood.*

What is more innocent than an unborn baby? Forty-eight million unborn babies have been slaughtered since January 22, 1973. That is 48,000,000 babies murdered in approximately thirty-five years, most for no other reason than mother did not want to be burdened with the responsibility occasioned by her indiscretion. She didn't want to suffer as a consequence of her "mistake." Ever wonder if some of these babies might have grown up to have been a great

benefactor of mankind, maybe finding a cure for cancer, or heart disease, or stroke or maybe even a gospel preacher who would have been instrumental in saving hundreds and thousands of souls? But, because of abortion we are the poorer for it! Would you want to stand before God on judgment day with the innocent blood on your hands?

Abortion is as the sin of Judas. We are not left to guess the horror with which Judas will meet his maker and Judge.

- Matthew 27:4 – Judas said, *“I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood.”* This is possibly the one thing that was more innocent than the unborn baby.

**Many think abortion is OK because “the fetus is not a human being.”
But the Bible teaches otherwise!**

Lu 1:39-44 *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 for joy.*

This passage is definitive.

1. Joy is an expression of great happiness, pleasure and delight.
2. Before John the Baptist was born, while still in his mother’s womb, he expressed joy.
3. John was a human being while yet in the womb. This could not be attributed to a blob of biological material.

The Bible also teaches that the “fetus” has a soul.

In deep despair Job cursed the day of his birth. Job 3:1-3 After this opened Job his mouth, and cursed his day. And Job spake, and said, *Let the day perish wherein I was born, and the night in which it was said, There is a man child conceived.*

This is a forthright and clear statement that at conception a man child came into existence.

Job 3:11 *Why died I not from the womb? Why did I not give up the ghost when I came out of the belly?* Job says that if he had died at birth, he would have been with kings and counselors, and included in the list of those he would have been with are, “...infants which never saw light.” (Job 3:16) It is obvious that Job considered stillborn infants as having souls, since he classed them with all the others in death.

In addition, James tells us the human body is dependant on the spirit for life.

“For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” (James 2:26) It is obvious that the unborn child is alive. To be alive, the spirit must be present. So by inspiration, we can see that both soul and spirit are in the unborn child.

One of the most common words used in the New Testament for a baby is the Greek word **brephos**. Notice:

- Luke 1:41 – *And it came to pass that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe [brephos] leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost.*
- Luke 1:44 – *For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe [brephos] leaped up in my womb for joy.*

- Luke 2:12 – *And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe [brephos] wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.*
- Luke 2:16 – *and they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe [brephos] lying in a manger.*
- 1 Peter 2:2 – *As newborn babes [brephos], desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.*

We can clearly see that the scripture makes no distinction, no change of word, whether the baby be in the womb or out of it. That babe is as much a human being before it came out of the womb as it is after birth.

So what do we have now?

1. We ought to obey God rather than men.
2. We are all adversely affected by abortion.
3. We do not have the right to do anything we want with our own bodies.
4. Abortion sheds innocent blood.
5. Abortion is as the sin of Judas (betrayal of innocent blood).
6. The Bible teaches that the unborn child is a human being.
7. The Bible teaches that both soul and spirit are in the unborn child.
8. The Bible uses the same word [brephos] to describe a child whether in the womb or in the manger.

We should also take this to heart when selecting our public servants. For if someone supports this great evil and we give them our support then we become partakers in their evil deeds (2 John 11)