

- **“Behold, children are a gift of the Lord, the fruit of the womb is a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth. How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them; they will not be ashamed when they speak with their enemies in the gate.” (Psalm 127:3-5)** The Psalmist makes his point crystal clear. Children are one of the greatest blessings that God gives to parents. In the days of David, children were especially seen as a symbol of pride, happiness, and health for the family unit.
- Sadly, many today see children as nothing more than expendable burdens. This country has many wonderful characteristics that make it great, but unfortunately many of those good characteristics are overshadowed by a great black evil cloud that hangs over this country. There is not greater example of the depravity of many within this country than that of the killing of thousands and thousands of innocent children within the wombs of their mothers.
- The subject of abortion has been hotly and passionately debated for years and that has especially been true since the ruling of Roe vs. Wade of 1973. In recent weeks, this subject has been brought to the forefront of the public eye because of the videos that have been released that show evidence for the selling of body parts that have been obtained through the means of abortion. It is most unfortunate that this level of depravity and disgust is necessary for this discussion to take place. We as Christians need to know how to respond to those who would wickedly argue in favor of such a thing. We need to know what to say when the woman who is considering killing her baby. We need to be able to teach our children about the different aspects of the subject of abortion and its wickedness. We must recognize that the killing of innocent and the support of it has absolutely no place within the heart of a disciple of Christ. This is much more than just a political matter. It is a matter that concerns souls that will be lost. Because of these things, this evening I would like for us to consider the subject of abortion and the Christian's response to it.

### **I. The sexual relationship must not be taken lightly.**

- A. God has blessed the man and his wife with a physical relationship that is reserved for between the two and them alone.
  1. It is the marriage bed, alone, that is sacred and undefiled in the sight of God. **(Heb. 13:4)**
  2. It is within that bed that the sexual desires of the married may be fulfilled.
  3. It is also within that bed that procreation is to take place. We understand that it was within that relationship that God commanded Adam and Even to be fruitful and multiply. **(Gen. 1:28)**
- B. A man and woman need to be very mindful of the possible results of their sexual actions.
  1. God designed the marriage bed not just for pleasure and enjoyment, but also for the reproduction of mankind.
  2. Statistics tell us that 49% of pregnancies are unintended. That means that those people intended for the actions to only produce enjoyment, but they also produced a little person with a soul.
  3. Paul speaks to those who are unmarried but desire the blessings of marriage. **(I Cor. 7:8,9)** He makes it very clear that the marriage bed is reserved only for those who are lawfully married. He goes on to say that if two cannot contain their passions then they ought to get married, but with the marriage bed comes the possibility of a new little person.
  4. For centuries, mankind has tried to lessen the chances of reproduction through preventative measures. Nothing wrong with that per say, but that does not lessen the fact that sexual relationships come with the chance of new life being formed. To commit to that relationship with your spouse is to say that you are accepting of the possibility that new life will be created and that this new life will need to be cared for.
  5. We need to teaching our young people and others that sex is not something that doesn't come with any responsibility. In fact, it comes with much responsibility because a new life can be formed.

### **II. God values all human life, especially life in the womb.**

- A. We as humans are made in the image of God, and He values each of our lives and souls.
  1. In the beginning God created man and put within him a soul. This characteristic would be true of each and every single one of the humans that would come after him. **(Gen. 1:26,27)**
  2. This characteristic is not true of any other living organism besides us. God values us above all other creatures.
  3. He also gave them the command to be fruitful and bring forth many more humans in His likeness. **(Gen. 1:28)**
  4. He desires for each of us to live according to His will and to glorify Him in all that we do. Our lives are to be a living sacrifice to Him until the day that we die. **(Rom. 12:1)**
- B. Those in the womb are no less human and no less important than those without.
  1. In fact, Scripture teaches us that God has a very special relationship with those innocent children within the wombs of their mothers.
  2. God knows them, however tiny they might be. He knows them, and He knows their detailed development within the womb. **(Psalm 139:13-18)**
  3. Mary and Elizabeth certainly recognized the humanity of the babies within their wombs. They recognized their excitement and joy. **(Luke 1:39-44)**
  4. There is no doubt that the child in the womb is a person and a soul that the God of heaven cherishes in His sight.

### III. Abortion is the taking of innocent life.

- A. There is no acceptable reason for the taking of innocent life.
1. Some would argue that rape, babies health, or mother's health qualify as acceptable reasons to get an abortion.
  2. While these may be the "Trump" cards that many use to justify abortions, they are not the reason why many have their babies killed.
  3. The vast majority of the time it isn't about rape or the health of baby or mom. (although those are not acceptable reasons anyways) The truth of the matter is that most abortions are performed simple as a matter of convenience.
  4. The woman just doesn't want the child, she feels as if it "ruin" her life, or whatever reasons she might give, do not negate the fact that an innocent life is being taken.
- B. Many would argue that a developing baby isn't even a baby. This is nothing more than a ploy to fool others and sooth their own consciences.
1. They don't recognize or refuse to recognize that at...
    - 18 days a little tiny heartbeat begins.
    - 21 days/3 weeks the tiny person pumps his/her own unique blood through his/her tiny body.
    - 4 weeks the eyes, ears, and respiratory system begin to form.
    - 42 days/6 weeks brain waves are detectable and the skeleton is completed.
    - 7-8 weeks baby can suck its thumb, hear sounds, dream, recoil from pain.
    - 11 weeks all body systems are functioning.
    - 16 weeks the gender is able to be determined.
    - 18 weeks the baby has the ability to cry.
    - 20 weeks hair is growing on the babies head.
  2. All of these things are taking place during the time that many argue that abortions should be permissible. There is no doubt at all that a little person is being developed in the womb from the moment of conception.
  3. However, some are depraved enough to stop the act of "it's not a baby" and readily admit that there is a life within the womb of a woman. These are the disgusting words of one Mary Elizabeth Williams from an article entitled "So what if abortion ends a life" *"yet I know that throughout my own pregnancies, I never wavered for a moment in the belief that I was carrying a human life inside of me. I believe that's what a fetus is: a human life. And that doesn't make me one iota less solidly pro-choice. Here's the complicated reality in which we live: All life is not equal. That's a difficult things for liberals like me to talk about, lest we wind up looking like death-panel loving, kill-you-grandma-and-your-precious-baby storm troopers. Yet a fetus can be a human life without having the same rights as the woman in who body it resides. She's the boss. Her life and what is right for her circumstances and her health should automatically trump the rights of the non-autonomous entity inside of her always."*
- C. While some think there are not serious consequences, that just is not the case. There are serious consequences for the taking of innocent life within the wombs.
1. Sadly, many women suffer from immediate regret for their actions. This guilt follows them for years and they are never able to rightly deal with it.
  2. Others suffer harm to their bodies and are not able to conceive later on in life.
  3. But worst of all, those who have a hand in the taking of this innocent life are guilty of murder. **(Gen. 9:6; Rom. 1:29-32)**
  4. Under the Law of Moses, one who **accidentally** caused the death of a child was punished by death. **(Exod. 21:22-25)**
  5. If the punishment for accidental manslaughter of a child was punishable by death, how much worse is it of the one who takes the life of the innocent on purpose.

### IV. God offers forgiveness for the taking of innocent life.

- A. As mentioned, some suffer from serious physical and mental health following abortions.
1. One study shows that women who have had abortions are 81% more likely to suffering mental health problems.
  2. From another study done in 2014, women who have abortions and suffer from PPSD are 6 times more likely to commit suicide as opposed to women who delivered their babies and suffered from PPSD.
  3. Many women are not able to live with themselves and come to believe that God cannot forgive them either.
- B. The truth is that God can forgive any and every sin, even the sin of taking innocent life.
1. The Apostle Paul was just as responsible for the killing of Christians as the actual executioner because he cast his vote for it to be done. **(Acts 26:10)** Yet, he was converted and made an Apostle, and he did much good for the cause of Christ.
  2. God is not willing for any to perish. **(II Peter 3:9)** He wants all to come to repentance, even those who have killed their unborn children. There is hope for all people.
  3. The Corinthians were mixed up in some pretty bad stuff before they came to know Jesus. Yet, by His grace they were forgiven and put on a new path. That same new path can be had for all people. **(I Cor. 6:9-11)**

This is certainly a difficult to discuss, but we cannot be a people who bury our heads in the sand and ignore the atrocities going on around us. We can make our voice heard at the polling booth, but we can do even more good by simply sharing God's word with those around us who have an ear to listen. May God help us all to be strong and courageous when evil rears its ugly head against us. God is with us and no one will be able to stand against us. May God help us in all that we do to glorify His high and holy Name.