

Where We Stand on Abortion

Matt Chandler, the pastor of Village Church in Flower Mount Texas and founder of Act 29 Network, recently shared this illustration. *“If you’re a young woman... and you were pregnant in your first or second trimester, and you were driving toward the abortion clinic to have an abortion, and on the way to the abortion clinic you were hit by a drunk driver [and lost your child], that person is charged with involuntary manslaughter of your baby. But if you make it to the clinic, the doctor in the clinic is legally allowed to take a vacuum pump and rip that baby to shreds in your womb.”*

The “Keep Abortion Legal” Movement Speaks

- *“It is uncertain when life begins; that is a religious question that cannot be answered by science.”* We will see that the overwhelming evidence confirms that life begins at conception and the fetus is a person. Even if the first statement were true, shouldn’t life always get the benefit of the doubt?
- *“Every woman has a right to choose to abort or carry the baby to full term.”* What is the basis of that “right”? It is certainly not given in the constitution or more importantly in the Bible. What if someone believes they have the right to rob, the right to rape, or the right to lie in court? From the government’s point of view, our rights are limited when our actions hurt others.
- *“Every woman should have control over her own body.”* The unborn child is not the mother’s body. The child is in the mother’s body and receives nourishment from the mother’s body, but the baby is not a part of the mother’s body. So a woman does not have the right to destroy the life of the baby.
- *“I am personally against abortion, but I don’t believe that the government has the right to take the choice away from women.”* What is the purpose of government? **Romans 13:1-7** tells us that the task of government is to protect its people. Surely that protection should include the most helpless among us – a child in the womb.
- *“Abortion frees women from a stressful unwanted pregnancy and thus contributes to their psychological well-being.”* That is a very damaging lie! The stress of an unwanted pregnancy is nothing compared to the agony of realizing that you made a decision to take the life of a person.

Pro-choice says the government should not legislate morality; that’s bogus. Laws against stealing, murder, child abuse, and rape are morality. Another pro-choice argument is the government should not take away the right to choose. Interesting we don’t have people protesting about being pro-choice about robbery, rape, lying under oath, kidnapping or molesting children. No one should be pro-choice about murdering them through abortion either. **Rm. 13:1-7** says the government is to protect all citizens.

The Bible Speaks About the Beginning of Life

Genesis 1:27, *“God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”* Every human being is a bearer of the image of God. That means that every life is valuable and should not be destroyed in the womb.

One of the arguments of the pro-choice group is, *“Abortion is such a complex issue, and there are no easy answers.”* But if the preborn child is a person, then it is not complex and the answer is easy. If the preborn child is a person, then abortion is murder. It is not complicated to decide whether to commit murder or not.

Jeremiah 1:5, *“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”* **Psalms 139:13-16**, *“For You formed my inward parts; You knitted me together in my mother’s womb. I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are Your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from You, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in Your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.”* **Isaiah 49:1b**, *“The Lord called me before I was born. He named me while I was in my mother’s womb.”* **Galatians 1:15**, *“But when He who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by His grace.”*

Even when a person rejects the clear evidence of Scripture, science tells us that the fetus in the womb is a person. Dr. Alfred Bongioanni, a professor of obstetrics at the University of Pennsylvania said: *“I have learned from my earliest medical education that human life begins at the time of conception... Human life is present throughout this entire sequence from conception to adulthood... any interruption at any point throughout this time constitutes a termination of human life.”*

Where We Stand on Abortion

The God who creates life in the womb is the only one who has the right to take life. *Deuteronomy 32:39a*, “*See now that I, even I, am He, and there is no god beside Me; I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal...*” Only God gives life and only God has the right to take life away.

Christian ethicist Dr. John Davis says: “*In the New Testament, the incarnation of Jesus Christ is a profound testimony to God’s affirmation of the sanctity of prenatal life. In theory it might have been possible in the eternal plan of God for the Savior to come to the earth as a grown man, but in the wisdom of God, Jesus Christ recapitulated the full span of human existence – from conception through death – in order to fulfill the purposes of God. The personal history of the Son of God on earth begins not when He was ‘born of the Virgin Mary,’ but when He was ‘conceived by the Holy Spirit.’ His human history like ours began at conception.*”

Here is the bottom line, if the baby in the womb is a person, no human being has the right to take its life. Biblically and scientifically the evidence is that the baby in the womb is a person.

The Bible Speaks About the Hard Cases

What About Rape and Incest? Is abortion acceptable in those two cases?

Is the child conceived from rape or incest a person? The answer is yes because all of the verses we read about life beginning at conception apply to conception in these situations. Would it be acceptable to kill a two year old who was conceived through either of these horrible sins? Of course it would not. It is not the child’s fault they were conceived under these conditions.

What About Disabilities and Birth Defects?

The same logic must be applied here that is applied in the previous point. Would it be acceptable to take a two year old child’s life who has special needs? No! Medicine has made great strides in prenatal surgery that can eradicate some birth defects.

What About When the Mother’s Life Is in Danger from the Pregnancy?

Dr. C. Everett Koop was the U. S. Surgeon General, he stated that in thirty-six years as a pediatric surgeon, he was never aware of a single situation in which a preborn child’s life had to be taken in order to save the mother’s life.

Exceptions:

Fast spreading uterine cancer: the surgery to remove the cancer may result in the child’s loss of life. A tubal pregnancy involves a child developing outside the uterus. In such a pregnancy, scientifically the child has no chance of survival and may have to be removed to save the mother’s life. Surgery in such cases wasn’t to kill the child but to save the mother. Pro-life also means being pro-life about women.

The Gospel Speaks

1 John 1:9, “*If we confess [agree with God] our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*” *1 John 1:7b*, “*...the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.*” This includes the sin of abortion. *Isaiah 43:25*, “*I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.*” He not only forgives, He heals. Yes, there will be scars, but the peace of God can flood into their life and the grace of God can lift them up.

Our Actions Speak

Pray

Pray for the end of legalized abortion, and that God would move the leaders of our nation, state, and local area to stand for the sanctity of life. When someone does stand, encourage them. Pray for them to never compromise. Pray for a great revival in our land that would touch the hearts of our leaders and all Americans.

Help

Our church can become partners with Choices Resource Center in Oak Ridge. We can volunteer, contribute, and pray for these vital ministries.

Vote for Life

Sometimes I must choose who not to vote for based on this one issue. I will not knowingly vote for someone who supports the killing of little human beings in their mother’s womb.