

Abortion: Here I Stand

Select Verses

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted his Ninety-Five Theses, which many historians credit as the birth of the Protestant Reformation. As important as this is, perhaps the bigger event that fueled the Reformation is what happened at Diet of Worms, which took place April 16–18, 1521.

Here, Luther was asked to recant his writings and teachings which challenged the Roman Catholic Church's teachings on Christian theology and practice. After Luther requested a 24-hour delay before he would answer.

The following day, he answered. "My conscience is captive to the Word of God. To go against conscience is neither safe for us nor open to us. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me. Amen."

When it comes to issues like abortion, we in the church have nowhere else to turn, nor do we have any other place to stand except on the Scriptures, the Word of God.

Today, we will focus on seven facts from scripture on why abortion is wrong, and just wrong, but evil.

Fact #1. God Is Involved in The Creation of a Baby

Psalm 139:13-16a. In this passage, David praises God and speaks about the very important truth that God formed him while he was in his mother's womb.

Genesis 1:1 speaks of God being the Creator. So, Psalm 139 explains that it was God that was responsible for David coming into being, because he was fearfully and wonderfully made. So, as we look at abortion, the Bible says that all developing babies in their mothers' wombs are creations of God.

Fact #2. God Knows People Before They Are Born

Jeremiah 1:4-5. In this passage, God came to Jeremiah and told him that before Jeremiah was in his mother's womb and, therefore, before he was born, God knew him and gave him the task of being a prophet.

God is omniscient, which means, God knows everything that there is to know. This implies that God cannot learn anything new, nor does he forget anything. Regarding knowledge, God is completely perfect. Even before you were conceived and developing in your mother's womb, God looked at you and knew the person you would grow up to be.

If a woman were to have an abortion, that act of ending a baby's life did not erase God's knowledge of that person. So, when an abortion happens, those things that were meant to be given are forcefully taken. Abortion is, therefore, murder. Murder is where life is taken because of the premeditation of another individual.

Fact #3. People Belong to God, Not to Other People

Ezekiel 16:20-21. Ezekiel reminds the Israelites of how God has taken care of them and blessed them beyond measure. Israel left God and started worshiping false gods or idols, sacrificing their children to this false god. God called the children that were killed "His" sons and daughters.

"My body, my choice." This slogan is saying, it is a woman's right to do whatever she wants with her baby, because it's in her body. It's her right to decide whether that baby lives or dies.

People belong to God. God still looked at these innocent children and called them His. God says this, because children are God's creation.

Women who have an abortion are sacrificing their children to the god of self. *At the heart of the decision to get an abortion is the preservation of self through the sacrificing of another life.* A baby is God's creation who is given a unique soul and specific calling in life. So, the life that is taken through an abortion isn't someone's to take.

Fact #4. God Is the God of Life

John 14:6. Jesus says that He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

In John 10, Jesus says that He's the Good Shepherd and the protector of life, and that there's a thief, Satan, whose goal is to steal, kill, and destroy. This contrast between Jesus and Satan shows us a major theme of the Bible, life and death. God created life, Jesus gives eternal life, and God will restore life at the last day. God is the God of life.

When it comes to abortion, it's all about death. When women have abortions, they are taking part in an act of death, which is the opposite of where God stands.

Fact #5. God Hates When Children Are Sacrificed

Deuteronomy 12:31. The children of Israel are commanded not to worship God in the same way that surrounding nations worship their gods--through child sacrifice. God hates what these people have done--they burned and killed their sons and daughters. God is not indifferent, nor does he stand in the middle when it comes to the topic of abortion. His stance on the murder of children is absolute hatred.

God hasn't acted yet, despite the millions of abortions. He's not okay with it, rather he is being patient.

He is giving people a chance to repent and turn to Christ for their salvation.

Don't confuse God's lack of judgment with tolerance.

Fact #6. God Is The Judge Of All Life

Romans 2:5 and 6. Paul is writing to religious people who judge others on how they live. Paul tells them that as they stand judging or condemning other people, they're storing up for themselves greater wrath from the one true judge, God Himself. God is the Judge. He alone decides the eternal destination of a man or woman. He is the only one that can decide what happens to an individual, for He alone possesses perfect knowledge and flawless wisdom. With these attributes and his omnipotence (eternal power) and sovereignty, He can do whatever He wants. God alone can be the perfect judge of people.

When a woman has an abortion, she is acting as a judge, deciding that this baby is not worthy of life. No person (or government) can make that decision because only God is worthy to be the judge.

Fact #7. Children Should Not Be Punished for the Crimes of Their Fathers

Deuteronomy 24:16. Fathers should not be put to death for the sinful acts of their children, nor should children be put to death for the sins of their fathers. Why? Simply, if a man kills someone, the victim's family may want revenge and kill the murderer. Often, however, the murderer's death wasn't enough; the victim's family wanted more—like the death of the murderer's family. God makes it clear that every person is responsible for their own sin.

So, when it comes to the rare occurrence of pregnancy via rape, the Bible would say not to murder the child for the sins of the father. Rape, however, is not the main reason why abortions happen. Abortions happen because it's a means of birth control or it's a means to maintain a certain lifestyle. The parties involved don't want to take responsibility for their actions.

Should rape happen and someone gets pregnant, the Bible would call for people to separate the baby from the father. We should not see the baby as the child of a rapist, but to see and treat this baby as the completely different individual that is separate from the father—a baby God created.

If you are considering getting an abortion, look at Deuteronomy 30:19-20. Moses tells the people of Israel to make a choice to either follow God that leads to life or to disobey God, which will ultimately lead to death. And he closes by encouraging them to choose life. If you have this choice to make, I hope you choose life.

Bethel, may we say with Martin Luther: *“My conscience is captive to the Word of God. To go against conscience is neither safe for us nor open to us. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me. Amen.”*