

**BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES** - God warns that if a nation turns from serving and worshipping Him that there will be a parallel sacrificing of their children (Jer. 32:35 2Kgs.16:3 Dt. 12:31). "Children are an heritage from the Lord; and the fruit of the womb is his reward" (Ps. 127:3). Those who damage the lives of little ones are given one of Jesus' sharpest rebukes: "But whosoever shall offend one of these little ones who believe on me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea" (Matt. 18:6). Murder is a serious offense that results in God's strictest judgment (Ex. 20:13 Gen. 9:5-7). Those who endanger the life of an unborn child are warned of judgment (Ex. 21:21-24). Every woman considering abortion needs to ask herself the following question: "Can a woman forget her nursing child, and not have compassion on the son of her womb" (Is. 49:15)? A degenerate society is characterized by people "without natural affection" (Romans 1:31).

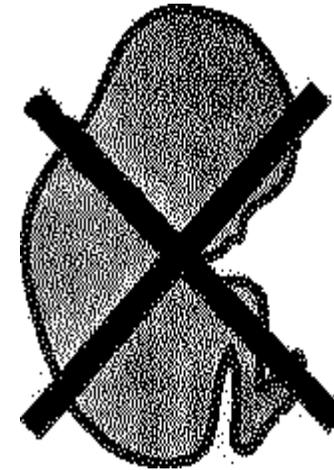
**CONCLUSION** -- Why Is Life Sacred and valuable? "Know ye not that the Lord He is God: It is He that has MADE US, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture" (Psalm 100:3). All life is created by the Lord God, "and by Him all things consist" (Colossians 1:17b). The design of each human being in this world was carefully prescribed by God's sovereign working in the womb of the mother. "Marvelous are your works, and that my soul knows right well! My substance was not hidden from You when I was made in secret and intricately wrought...Your eyes did see my substance, yet being unformed; and in Your book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them" (Psalm 139:14-16). God declares, "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; and before you came forth from the womb, I sanctified you, and I ordained you" (Jeremiah 1:5).

**GOD'S WAY OF SALVATION** - The question of being right with God is not "Am I living a good enough life?" Nor is it the statement "I'm doing the best I can." Salvation is not gained by what WE do for God, rather it is a free gift based on the FINISHED WORK of Jesus Christ (Eph. 2:8,9)! Religion is MAN'S effort to please God. Becoming a Christian is believing that GOD has already done all that needs to be done for me to be saved. Many religious people on judgment day will discover to their utter despair that "religion" will not allow them into the presence of God in heaven (Matt. 7:21-23). The vital question is "Are your sins forgiven?" All men are sinners by NATURE and by action (Rom. 3:23 5:12; Eph. 2:1-3). We don't become sinners when we sin; we sin because we ARE sinners. Our very NATURE towards God is corrupt (Is. 53:6; Rom. 3:10-13). Because we are sinners, we experience death (Rom. 6:23). Death is not only physical (separation of the soul from the body), but also spiritual (separation of the soul eternally from God) (2Cor. 5; Gen. 3). Man's only hope of being reconciled to God is through His Son the Lord Jesus Christ (2Cor. 5:17-19). Through Christ's death, burial, and resurrection He paid the penalty for man's sin and made it possible for believers to be freed from the bondage and condemnation of sin (1Cor. 15:1-7; 1Pet. 2:24). Forgiveness is possible through His shed blood (I Peter 1:18,19) by TOTALLY trusting Jesus as your ONLY hope of being made right with God; you can be saved from the condemnation you justly deserved (Jn. 1:12; 3:16; Acts 4:12; 16:31).

# The CORNERSTONE

BIBLICAL ANSWERS TO CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

## ABORTION



Cornerstone Booklets

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Since the Supreme Court made abortion on demand legal in its landmark Roe v. Wade decision back in 1973, over 18 million legal abortions have been performed here in the United States, (over 1.5 million a year, 4,100 a day, 171 an hour, about 3 abortions every minute). Approximately 5 people are directly involved in every abortion decision, which means 90 million people may have already participated in a legal decision to end the life of a developing child in the womb. In the United States it is statistically confirmed that the most dangerous place for anyone to be, with regard to the preservation of one's life, is in the womb of one's mother. Many people are horrified to read of the holocaust of World War II and the millions of lives that were exterminated because of one man's twisted thinking of developing a super race here on earth. But the abortion holocaust in America is a far worse problem than even that of Germany!

America is under the judgment of God (Rom. 1:18)! The blood of the innocent cries out to God for vengeance (Gen. 4:10). "Hands that shed innocent blood..." are among the things God hates (Prov. 6:17). Furthermore, if Christians fail to sound the warning of God's judgment and neglect their civil responsibilities to bring about change; they also will suffer the judgment of God. "If thou forbear to deliver those who are drawn unto death, and those who are ready to be slain; If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that weigheth 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?" (Proverbs 24:11,12)

**THE UNDERLYING PHILOSOPHY OF ABORTION:** The tragedy of World War II and the present murder of innocent lives is based on the same philosophy of life. That philosophy is rooted in the acceptance of evolution as fact. Every year many animals are killed at man's discretion and for man's benefit! If man is nothing more than an advanced animal, the same criteria can be used and is being used to determine whether a baby in the womb will be allowed to survive. Survival of the fittest becomes the justification of man's choices and behavior. Furthermore, if the life of an infant is taken because of the burden he or she may be to mom's freedom, we are only a step away from encouraging the deaths of senior citizens who in the opinion of some have become a burden to society. There are those today who already advocate the right to legal suicide.

**CHILDREN CREATED BY GOD:** Children are not a biological product of time and chance! Children are made in the image of God. Genesis 1:27 states "...God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." Psalm 139 further reveals God's sovereign control and influence over the conception and development of a child in the mother's womb. Human life begins at the moment of conception (James 1:14,15). After only 21 days, the first irregular heartbeats occur in the developing child. By the 9th and 10th weeks the developing baby can squint, swallow, and move his tongue. By the 7th month the child is alert to the sounds of the outside world and is able to respond to them (Luke 1:41). In a letter to former President Reagan, twenty-six doctors emphasized that scientific methods make it clear that preborn babies feel pain during abortion. "Nerves are in place by six to eight weeks after conception...chemicals to transmit sensations from nerves through the spinal cord to the brain exist by twelve weeks...the fetus reacts the same way a full-grown individual would when exposed to something painful, by squirming,

thrashing...accelerated heartbeat and higher blood pressure. Dr. Nathanson's ultrasonic filming of abortion "THE SILENT SCREAM", reveals graphically the horrors of a little preborn infant thrashing about, trying to avoid the suction device used in some abortions. Dr. and Mrs. Nathanson have produced an award winning pro-life film and video cassette, "ECLIPSE OF REASON" featuring Charlton Heston. In it, they clearly reveal the foolishness of man's humanistic values of human life. In Maryland a \$5000 reward was offered for the arrest of the person responsible for the death of an American eagle. Isn't it ironic that such high value is placed on animals, and yet millions of babies are considered to be nothing more than fetal tissue, to be discarded at the mother's discretion.

As creation has been scoffed at, and evolution exalted, there has been a parallel devaluing of human life. "If man is not made in the image of God, nothing then stands in the way of in humanity. There is no good reason why mankind should be perceived as special. Human life is cheapened." Abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, and child abuse can all be linked to the sanctity of human life issue (Dr. Francis Schaeffer). In America, women now have the right to choose abortion. But, if we continue in our humanistic values of the low estimation of human life, how far are we from duplicating what's happening in China right now? In communist China, the government's birth policy permits one child per couple, with a maximum of two in rural areas. Women whose pregnancy would exceed the birth quota MUST ABORT. Our own New York Times magazine commended these policies as "most effective in implementing birth control and population planning."

**THE UNDERLYING MOTIVATION** - Abortion is at least a half a billion dollars a year industry! This is not counting revenue from the sale of aborted babies. The Federal Government funded Planned Parenthood \$29.2 million in 1983. They performed 83,000 abortions that same year. Abortion is big business and is in part being supported by our tax dollars. The "...love of money is the root of all evil..." (1 Tim. 6:10). Less than three percent of Dr. Nathanson's medical colleges, or 8,700 of over 300,00 physicians in the United States, will provide abortions. But what about the three percent? According to Nathanson, "The overriding factor here is money. The abortion industry is a half-billion-dollar-a-year industry (in this county). One is always reluctant to assassinate Santa Claus." Many have justified abortion as a viable financial alternative to the expenses that occur when an unwanted baby is born. In 1984, vice presidential nominee, Geraldine Ferraro (Zacarro), agreed: "The cost of putting an unwanted child through the [welfare] system far outweighs the cost [the federal funding] of these [abortion] procedures."

**THE UNDERLYING VALUE SYSTEM** - Just because something is legal doesn't make it moral (Lk. 16:15)! Man's laws are always superseded by God's laws (Acts 5:29) Man's laws are always relative to the times and situations (Jud. 21:25). God's law is absolute and unchanging (Matt. 5:18). A 1965 Planned Parenthood World Population brochure contained the following: "An abortion kills the life of a baby after it has begun. It is dangerous to your life and health. "By 1983 man's law had changed and 83,000 abortions were performed by Planned Parenthood.