

ABORTION DEFINED

Secular definitions of Abortion:

- The removal of the fetus or the products of conception from the uterus.
- The termination of a pregnancy by destroying the fetus.

The Biblical Definition of Abortion:

- It is the termination of a person's life in the womb.

BIBLICAL TERMS FOR THE UNBORN

1. Secular terms used to de-humanize the unborn:

- Fetus
- Product of Conception
- Mass of Tissue or Collection of Cells

2. Biblical terms for the unborn:

- A Child (Gen. 25:21, 22)
- Man-child (Job 3:3)
- Infants (Job 3:16)
- Baby (Lk. 2:12)
- Son (Lk. 1:36)

VIEWS ON WHEN LIFE BEGINS

1. Genetic View-life begins at conception.
2. Embryological View-life begins when the embryo grows into different organs.
3. Neurological View-life begins when the brain produces measurable waves.
4. Ecological View-life begins when the fetus can survive outside the uterus.
5. Birth View-life begins at birth.
6. Awareness View-life begins with human awareness (usually 18 months after birth).¹

THE BIBLICAL VIEW ON WHEN LIFE BEGINS

1. Life begins when it is conceived in God's Mind (Ps. 138:8; Jer. 1:5).
2. There is life in the womb:
 - At 24 weeks in the womb, John the Baptist got excited and leaped when Mary greeted Elizabeth (Lk. 1:36, 39-45).
 - God designs the days of a person's life from the time of conception until the time of death (Ps. 139:16).

¹ Taken from <http://whenlifebegins.com> [Accessed on September 18, 2009] Sources: *Developmental Biology* by Scott F. Gilbert; *MedTerms.com*; *NSN Encarta*:

- Job acknowledged the fact that a child has life in the womb (Job 3:3,11-16).
 - Moses recognized that the child in the mother's womb possesses life (Ex. 21:22-24).
 - God knows the person living in the womb (Isa. 49:1; Jer. 1:5).
 - People are in God's care even before birth, "I am your Creator. You were in my care even before you were born" (Isa. 44:2a CEV).
 - The person in the womb has a bloodstream at 4 weeks and the Bible says that life is in the blood (Lev. 17:11; Deut. 12:23).
3. There is a person in the womb:
- At conception God gave David a soul and he was a person "thou created my inward parts" (Ps. 139:13).
 - David was a person when he was conceived, only a person can have a sin nature (Ps. 51:5).
 - God has a relationship with the person in the womb and has established a purpose for that individual. For example: Samson (Judges 13:6-7; 16:17); The Psalmist (Ps. 22:9-10); Jeremiah (Jer. 1:5); John the Baptist (Lk. 1:15); Paul (Gal. 1:15).

THE BIBLE CONDEMNS THE TAKING OF INNOCENT LIVES

1. Babies in the womb have a soul and are created in the Image of God. Based on this it is wrong to take their lives (Gen. 9:6).
2. Babies in the womb have life, and we are commanded not to take another person's life (Ex. 20:13; 23:7).
3. Babies in the womb have blood flowing through their bodies, and God is displeased when innocent blood is shed (Prov. 6:16-19).

BIBLICAL RESPONSES TO ARGUMENTS FOR ABORTION

Argument: The Bible does not condemn abortion, so it must be alright.

Biblical Response: *The Bible does not specifically condemn the use of crack cocaine or smoking tobacco but it does contain principles that speak against them.*

Argument: God recognized the official beginning of human life as breathing the breath of life and that doesn't begin until birth (Gen. 2:7).

Biblical Response: *There are an overwhelming number of verses that support life in the womb (Ex. 21:22-24; Lev. 17:11; Deut. 12:23; Job 3:3,11-16; Ps. 139:16; Isa. 44:2; 49:1; Jer. 1:5; Lk. 1:36, 39-45). Also Genesis 2:7 is describing how God created the first human being, not how babies are conceived and developed in the womb.*

Argument: The command not to kill (Ex. 20:13) does not refer to abortion.

Biblical Response: *The sixth commandment can be translated "Thou shall not murder." Murder is the taking of another person's life, and abortion takes the life of another person (Ps. 51:5; 139:13; Jer. 1:5).*

Argument: In Hosea 9:14 God committed the act of abortion by punishing the idolatrous Israelites with "miscarrying wombs, i.e. by aborting babies in the womb."

Biblical Response: *This was God's judgment upon Israel not a stamp of approval for induced abortion.*

THE BIBLE AND ABORTION



"Each child is sent into this world by God with a "Unique Message" to deliver, a new personal act of love to bestow"... - John Powell, S.J., Professor of Theology

by

Dr. William R. Glaze

