

What Does the Bible Say About Abortion?

By Melanie Stone

I would like to start this article by reminding you that if you or someone you know has had an abortion, God is merciful, and He offers His forgiveness in exchange for authentic repentance. According to the World Health Organization, there are approximately 125,000 abortions per day worldwide, so it is probable that you or someone you know has had an abortion. We consider an abortion the deliberate termination of a human pregnancy from the moment of conception.

Now, when looking to the Bible for verses on abortion, we don't find a lot; however, the Bible has a lot to say about when life begins. Here are some things the Bible does tell us about the unborn:

1. The Bible puts great value on human life, a life beginning at conception.
2. An unborn child has his or her own life, a life dependent on a mother, but a life separate from the mother.
3. To take a life, or to end a life, is murder and a crime.
4. God has the most significant role in the creation and forming of a human being in spirit, soul, and body while in the womb. His involvement in that formation begins at conception.
5. God is not only involved in formation of the person, but also in the future destiny of that person, giving purpose to the child before he/she is born.
6. The Bible takes ownership of the unborn as His children. Unborn children belong to Him.

Here are some scriptures on life in the womb.¹ We will start in Psalm 139, a song I encourage you to take a moment and read as God's poetry over you. In these verses I've listed, please notice how intimately acquainted God is with you. Pay attention to how much He adores you as His masterpiece.

Psalm 139:13-16

13) For You formed my inward parts;

You covered me in my mother's womb.

14) I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

Marvelous are Your works,

And that my soul knows very well.

15) My frame was not hidden from You,

When I was made in secret,

And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

16) Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed.

And in Your book they all were written,

The days fashioned for me,

When as yet there were none of them.

¹ Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture is from the New Kings James Version.

What Does the Bible Say About Abortion

We see God highly values life, even as He is forming it. Every season of our lives, from beginning to the end, is cherished by our Heavenly Father. He promises to care for us in every season, and He invites us to receive redemption so we can share in eternal life together with Him.

Next we look at Isaiah 44. In this verse, we read that God is the source of life, all life. That life is more than skin and bones; it's life of a spirit being, made in the image and likeness of God. The child growing on the inside of a woman is more than tissue and cells – there is a spirit, a life, a separate life from the mother. I would not want to put myself in opposition to God to end or take away from life He chose to begin.

Isaiah 44:24 CEV

I am your Lord, the source of your life, and I have rescued you. I created everything from the sky above to the earth below.

In the GNT translation, we read about the great Creator, the originator, the author of life, who is more powerful than we can imagine. He includes us in His plan for reproducing, but He makes it clear that He is God and we are not.

Isaiah 44:24 GNT

"I am the Lord, your savior; I am the one who created you. I am the Lord, the Creator of all things. I alone stretched out the heavens; when I made the earth, no one helped me.

In the book of Jeremiah, we see that God gives value to a life at conception, before the body is fully formed. He has a life planned for us before we take our first breath of air. He's mapped it all out, giving us purpose, design, and abilities.

Jeremiah 1:5 AMP

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you [and approved of you as My chosen instrument], And before you were born I consecrated you [to Myself as My own]; I have appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

In Luke, we read where the unborn John was touched by the Holy Spirit and moved with JOY. As a person, a spirit-being, an unborn child feels physically and emotionally.

Luke 1:39-44

39) Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, 40) and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. 41) And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. 42) Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! 43) But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44) For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy.

What Does the Bible Say About Abortion

In Galatians, we see that God had a plan for the Apostle Paul before his birth. While in his mother's womb, Paul was called to plant churches, to train and appoint pastors, to represent Christ in Roman, and to be light to the Gentiles. Later in life, Christ revealed Himself to Paul on the road to Damascus, getting Paul back on track with his purpose.

Galatians 1:15 NLV

But God chose me before I was born. By His loving-favor He called me to work for Him.

A father and a mother reproduce cells, but it's God who creates the person inside. Therefore, it should not be up to the mother or father whether that life continues or not. God is the author of life, and He wants His children to live.

Job 33:4

The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

This last Scripture on unborn life I'm sharing in this article is from Exodus 21, and I share it to express God's standard of righteousness. We read about the Law given to Moses for the nation of Israel while under the old covenant. One purpose of the old testament law was to show Israel their need for a savior, revealing there was no possible way to keep the entire law in their fallen, sinful condition. Another purpose is to show what God considers right and wrong, a moral standard that has not changed. To God, it is morally wrong to take the life of an unborn child. It is murder, and God demanded the one who caused the death to lose his life for the crime.

Exodus 21:22-25

22) "If men fight, and hurt a woman with child, so that she gives birth prematurely, yet no harm follows, he shall surely be punished accordingly as the woman's husband imposes on him; and he shall pay as the judges determine. 23) But if any harm follows, then you shall give life for life, 24) eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, 25) burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.

According to John 3:16, because of His great love for you and for me, even in our sinful state, God sent Jesus to Earth to become one of us, born of a virgin, free from sin. The purpose of Christ entering this world was to be a sacrifice and die in our place. The Bible says He BECAME SIN, removing the penalty of it, making a way for us to be forgiven and reconciled to God. Then God raised Him to life again, our brother and king!

In addition, I believe the unborn aborted children, as well as miscarried children, continue to live on as eternal spiritual beings. I believe they are with God in the heavenlies, and we will see them again one day. This is a hope we have in Christ. If you have not received Christ as your Savior, please reach out to our ministry office, and we will lead you in salvation. May God bless your precious life!