

## Sanctity of Human Life - Psalm 139

January 21, 2007

**Today is Sanctity of Human Life Sunday.**

What does Sanctity of Human Life actually mean? It means that God declared that human life is special because humans were created in the “image of God” and that humans are not the product of evolution with no more value than a slimy garden slug!

Tomorrow, January 22<sup>nd</sup> will be the 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court’s Roe vs. Wade abortion decision of January 22, 1973 in which America declared war on the unborn.

First, I need to say that even in as small a group as we have here that some of us may have had a personal experience with an abortion. A daughter, a niece, a girlfriend, a boyfriend, a husband, and perhaps, even you.

So I need to assure you that God forgives sin. If you have participated in an abortion please know that abortion is not the unforgivable sin. It is surely sin but God forgives all who can repent and trust in the righteousness of Jesus Christ. There is healing in Christ.

But it is also necessary for me to say, do not commit premeditated murder by participating in an abortion with the attitude of the antinomian and with the knowledge with which you will leave here today and think that you can willfully sin and then expect God to listen to you. Please don’t tempt God. God is not fooled by hypocrisy.

Based on Census data from the year 2000 about one-half of the population of the U.S. was born after abortion on demand was made legal in all fifty states in 1973 and they have grown up with a **culture of death**. Half of the population grew up in a society where abortion on demand is “normal.”

Many of us “gray hairs” are old enough to remember a time, perhaps only 40 or 50 years ago, when even the idea of legal **abortion on demand** would have been abhorrent to us. Back then we thought that America would never legalize the wanton killing of an unborn child.

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Well our courts found something in our Constitution that had been hidden for over 200 years – the so-called “right to privacy” and they did make abortion on demand legal.

What is legal is not necessarily moral. In Nazi Germany in the 1930s it was legal to murder Jews and mentally incompetent human beings.

How far have we slid down what Frances Schaeffer calls the “slippery slope”? [See bulletin insert]

### Causes of Death in America

Heart disease in 2003	685,000
Cancer in 2003	556,900
All other health related in 2003	1,206,300
Murders in 2003	15,500
Airline crashes in 2003	120
Killed by lightning in 2003	90
Died in all wars [1775-1991]	1,190,300
Abortion [1973-2006] [1.4 million per year]	47,600,000

**In America we kill more babies every year through abortions than all who died in all the wars from 1775 to 1991.**

**In America is the most dangerous place for a person to be is in the womb!**

Now with the **culture of death** spreading rapidly across America, I predict that it won't be too long before our courts will find some rationalization for an excuse to kill old people who basically present the same problems, as does an unwanted child.

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Brother Barnes and Brother Walter and Sister Robyn Swain have the gift of mercies to minister to the old folks at Self Nursing Home. There are some really sad cases in every nursing home in America. Most are loved but many are abandoned by family and friends. That's where the love of Bob, Walter and Robyn make such a difference in the lives of these old folks.

What do an unwanted baby and an old person have in common? Too often it is that they both are **embarrassing** and **expensive** and **inconvenient**.

Our society has adopted a **culture of death** to solve its problems.

And so our **culture of death** society will soon find a way to eliminate old people along with the unwanted babies. Isn't that the answer to the skyrocketing cost of medical care and nursing home care? Why spend three or four thousand dollars a month to keep some old woman alive when it would be more convenient and "cost-effective" to kill her?

The point is that if you don't think that killing inconvenient old people can happen, just go back 50 years and ask the "abortion on demand" question. Killing old people is now legal in Holland.

My prayer is that America will repent in the time that God has so far spared this country. God is long-suffering but God will not be mocked!

September 11, 2001 was a call for repentance and America has only hardened her heart.

We pray for the freedoms that we so cherish in America. But will God answer our prayers to be free to kill the unborn? How long, O God, will you give America to repent of this national sin?

We are studying Ezekiel in Sunday School and the parallels are striking. The people in Jerusalem would not believe the prophets' warning that judgment was soon to be unleashed on the city.

Let me read a portion of an article by Charles D. Alexander on the "Sufferings of Christ".

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“How then could men be working out a historical drama as it were? And doing these things to the Saviour? Like Judas who betrayed Him and Caiaphas in condemning Him, and the men arresting and binding Him? They were only carrying out the will of God, why should they be blamed? This is the question which often arises, you see the answer is plain but it’s not too simple, and in that God is the ruler of all. He is the great Governor of the nations and of all men, and in God’s government it is proper with God to use evil to punish evil, and to take the evil of men’s heart and make it an instrument for their own chastisement, and at the same time a means of carrying out His own blessed design of bringing out of evil a greater good than ever otherwise could be. This is the wisdom of God; this is the power and the sovereignty of God. Let us remember that when we talk of that strange and mysterious word predestination, that some people are terribly afraid of, and others not afraid but ought to be afraid of it. They make much of it and talk about it from platforms, and who focus and make very poor work of describing a glorious mystery of God. Let us remember that predestination works this way, it works through flesh and blood, that works through the evil of men’s hearts, and through all the goodness and wisdom of God at all times and all stages.

“Divine predestination never does violence to the sacredness and integrity of the human soul, that the integrity of the human individual is preserved intact and inviolate of the mysterious sovereign foreordination of God, so that men do freely what they do, for good or ill, and yet back of it all a directing, and all embracing providence of God. Who perceiving the end from the beginning, because He Himself has foreordained the end, from the beginning and all the means leading up to the end, and yet He sets majestic wisdom doing violence to nobody, and preserving the integrity at all times of each individual human personality. Further than that we can’t go, but thus far we can go, or as necessary, we should go. We assure everybody that there is nothing in divine predestination, which does violence to them or the dispositions of their own heart.

“The highest level of predestination was the Son of God in the garden, under the burden of that immense sorrow, and the Son of God upon the cross bearing the sins of the whole world, that is divine predestination, although He who was upon the cross, was party to the foreordination in the council of the Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, before the world began.”

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**What can be said on Sanctity of Human Life Sunday that will make a difference?**

**You have all heard the pro-abortion claims: They are all lies!**

Notice that I said, “Pro-abortion” and did not use the euphemism “Pro-choice.” The liberal media are on the side of the abortion industry when they use “Anti-Choice” instead of “Pro-Life” and use “Pro-choice” instead of “Pro-abortion”.

The **chief lie** of the Pro-abortion gang is the non-existent “**right to privacy**” that the Supreme Court discovered in the Constitution. That is pure fiction.

Then there is the euphemistic lie of “**Pro-Choice**”. Pro-Choice means the freedom of choice of one human being to kill another human being whose only crime is that he or she is inconvenient.

Rape and incest are not reasons for killing the baby.

God is the Author of conception. The circumstance of conception does not alter the fact that the baby is a human being.

You rarely hear the abortion gang talk about adoption. That would deprive the abortionists of about \$300 per dead baby.

That most abortions are necessary to **protect the life of the mother** is another lie. This is almost never the case. The only valid reason to kill a baby in the womb is if the mother’s life is truly threatened. Then a choice must be made between the life of the mother and the life of the child and that unless one of them dies they will **both** die.

That the **fetus is part of the woman’s body** is not only a lie, it is absurd.

The absolute best answer to this absurd pro-abortion lie is to answer this question: “Is it possible for this baby in the womb to be a boy?” Since in about 50 percent of the cases the baby **will be a boy** the correct answer is, “Yes.” If the answer **can ever** be “Yes” then the unborn baby cannot be part of the mother’s body. **The baby is a boy and the mother is a girl!**

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These and other pro-abortion lies are designed to trick the willingly ignorant into having an abortion to solve the “problem” presented by the unborn baby. These “problems” almost always come down to **embarrassment, expense, or convenience.**

Those are the most often used lies of the Pro-abortion gang.

**The Pro-Life arguments are very simple. If you can prove that the Pro-Life arguments are false then I will personally support abortion on demand.**

**The Pro-Life arguments are simple because everyone knows they are true. The Pro-abortion people simply reject the truth.**

The best pro-life slogan that I have come across is:

**“Abortion stops a beating heart.” Is that true or false?**

**The unborn fetus is human?** Well, it will never be anything else. A woman is not going to give birth to a chicken or a hamster.

### **Listen to “One Question”:**

Imagine that your child walks up when your back is turned and asks, "Daddy, can I kill this?" What is the first thing you must find out before you can answer him? You can never answer the question "Can I kill this?" unless you've answered a prior question: **What is it?**

Abortion involves killing and discarding something that's alive. Whether it's right or not to take the life of any living thing depends entirely upon what kind of being it is. The answer one gives is pivotal, the deciding element that trumps all other considerations.

Let me put the issue plainly. **If the unborn is not a human being, no justification for abortion is necessary. However, if the unborn is a human being, no justification for abortion is adequate.**

Thanks to Gregory Koukl, Stand to Reason.

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**When does human life begin?** The woman's egg is alive and the man's sperm is alive. When is there **ever** a time when the result of those two living organisms meeting in the womb not alive? Life does not **begin** it **continues** unless someone kills the baby.

**Viability outside the womb** is being pushed back with the advance of science. If you leave the child in the womb the question of viability is moot.

For years I have believed that the answer to limiting abortion on demand is for women and girls and men and boys, who refuse to accept responsibility for their sexual activity, is for them to have the knowledge of what it is that they are willing to kill. The fetus is not a "blob" of tissue it is a human baby!

What kind of monster is a person who if they could see the unborn baby as a child in his or her arms decide to crush it to death for mere convenience?

What grandfather would take pride in destroying his grandchild?

Rather than continuing to labor with all of the fallacious arguments for abortion and exhausting the pro-life arguments, I want to meditate out loud with you on **Psalm 139**.

Every one of us were once the object of the psalmist as he considered God and the miracle of human life when we were yet unformed in the womb.

Find **Psalm 139** and meditate along with me. Make notes when you have a thought suggested by a verse that I don't talk about. Share these thoughts with me after the service.

Do you have **Psalm 139** open before you?

*For the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David.*

### **1-6 God's Perfect Knowledge of Man; Omniscience.**

1 O LORD, You have searched me and known me. 2 You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. 3 You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. 4 For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You

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know it altogether. 5 You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it.

### **7-12      The Omnipresence of God.**

7 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? 8 If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. 9 If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, 10 Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me," Even the night shall be light about me; 12 Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, But the night shines as the day; The darkness and the light are both alike to You.

### **13-18      God is the Author of Life.**

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. 17 How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! 18 If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still with You.

### **19-24      The Prayer of a Righteous Man.**

19 Oh, that You would slay the wicked, O God! Depart from me, therefore, you bloodthirsty men. 20 For they speak against You wickedly; Your enemies take Your name in vain. 21 Do I not hate them, O LORD, who hate You? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You? 22 I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them my enemies. 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; 24 And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.



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**AMEN!**

God knows and has a record of every abortion that has ever been or will be performed. In God's own time He will avenge all of the murders of all of the innocent and helpless children killed in the womb.

Their innocent blood cries out just as did Abel's.

Unless a person who has participated in an abortion has repented of this sin and has this sin under the blood of Jesus they will be held personally accountable. Sin is sin and all sin is against God.

Let me conclude this Sanctity of Human Life message with a few more Scriptures.

### **The Prayer of the Abortionist.**

Psalm 10:8-11

8 He sits in the lurking places of the villages;  
In the secret places he murders the innocent;  
His eyes are secretly fixed on the helpless.  
9 He lies in wait secretly, as a lion in his den;  
He lies in wait to catch the poor;  
He catches the poor when he draws him into his net.  
10 So he crouches, he lies low,  
**That the helpless may fall by his strength.**  
11 He has said in his heart,  
"God has forgotten;  
He hides His face;  
He will never see."

### **There are some things that God hates.**

Proverbs 6:16-19

16 These six things the LORD hates,  
Yes, seven are an abomination to Him:  
17 A proud look,

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A lying tongue,  
**Hands that shed innocent blood,**  
18 A heart that devises wicked plans,  
Feet that are swift in running to evil,  
19 A false witness who speaks lies,  
And one who sows discord among brethren.

### **The Bible has many references to the Sanctity of Human Life.**

Please listen as I read a few other Scriptures that teach the **Sanctity of Human Life:**

Genesis 1:26-28

26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." NKJV

Genesis 2:7 -- The LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. NIV

Genesis 9:6

6 "Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man. NKJV

Job 31:15 -- Did not he who made me in the womb make them? Did not the same one form us both within our mothers? NIV

[The answer to all racial bigotry.]

Job 33:4 -- The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life. NIV

Psalm 100:3 -- Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. NIV

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Psalm 127:3 -- Sons are a heritage from the LORD, children a reward from him. NIV

Jeremiah 1:4-5 -- The word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." NIV

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The knowledge of and the obedience to the truth does not come by human persuasion and the logic of arguments. If a person cannot be convinced of the value of human life from the Scriptures no amount of reason and logic will make any difference.

When David, who is the author of Psalm 139, faced a “crisis pregnancy” in the matter of his adultery with Bathsheba he made a “pro-choice” decision. Pro-choice decisions always result in someone being killed.

David thought he could solve his embarrassing dilemma by murdering Uriah, Bathsheba’s husband.

It was only the mercy of God that sent Nathan the prophet to David who told David parable about a man who had taken the only sheep of a poor man. David was incensed with righteous anger. That man will be killed!

But Nathan pointed his finger at King David and said: “You are the man!”

It was mercy that allowed David to own his guilt and repent and write

Psalm 32:1-2

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven,  
Whose sin is covered.

2 Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity,  
And in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Has God’s mercy found you?

Can you say with David, “**My sin is covered?**”

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Has the Holy Spirit has pricked your heart this morning? Have you quit your war with God? Do it now. Repent of your sin and trust Jesus only.

The Gospel is the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. God saves sinners!

What, you may ask, can I do to help in this life and death struggle for the soul of America?

Sister Debbie works as a volunteer at Sav-A-Life and would be glad to talk with you about your helping in some way. Ladies who have graduated from High School are needed as counselors and receptionists. You will be trained for the work so you simply need to be willing to give of your time.

Money is needed. Make a contribution to Sav-A-Life. You can designate a gift through our church although SAL is recognized by the IRS for charitable gifts.

The Walk-for-Life is coming up on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Either get some sponsors and walk or sponsor others who will walk for life.

Study the abortion issue so you can be knowledgeable when you discuss abortion with family and friends

**The message is the invitation.**