

Some Thoughts On Abortion

We, as Christians, should never confuse our freedom to choose with the freedom to sin against God. Joshua gave Israel a choice, "choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve" (Joshua 24:15b). Obviously, there was only one right choice. Later on, Elijah asked Israel to make a choice. 1 Kings 18:21, "And Elijah came to all the people, and said, 'How long will you falter between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him.'" Did Israel have the right to choose Baal? Obviously, they could and many choose to serve Baal, but the right choice was to serve God. Jesus when faced with temptation choose to serve God and not Satan, Matthew 4:1-11. Just because we have choices, it does not mean those choices are morally right.

We hear a lot about "Pro-Choice". Some people have associated the ability to have an abortion with the right to have an abortion.

Some people argue that abortion is morally neutral. It is similar to have a tooth extracted, or an appendectomy. The argument is a baby is not a human being until it is born. Genesis 2:7 "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being." Therefore, until the child takes its first breath of air it does not possess a soul or spirit. Let us first consider the ramifications of this argument. A baby can be killed up to the very time of being born and it not be considered murder. In fact, a baby can be born and as long as it does not take its first breath it can be killed. I do not know of brethren who actually argue such, but that is the conclusive argument. To borrow Dick Blackford's argument from last week's bulletin: Is there something alive inside the mother's womb? A heartbeat can be detected, it has brain waves, it can move, and it does react to outside stimuli (sound and touching the woman's belly). Is it human? Ultra sound test will show a human body. Psalms 139 speaks of God forming David while David was in the womb. If a baby coming out of the womb is human then a baby inside the womb must also be human. It cannot be a dog or calf in the womb and then suddenly be human as it leaves the

mothers body. Such is absurd. If it is alive and if it is human, then it possesses a spirit. James 2:26 "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also." One cannot logically nor scripturally argue that a human body can be alive without there being a spirit inside that body. When we are talking about the taking of a human life it is either right or wrong, but it cannot be neutral.

Others say we really do not know if it is right or wrong. Who can say the baby possesses a soul or not? I do not intend to rehash the above paragraph but let me remind us of one thing. We are to act by the authority of God. God gave us the right to marry and we enter marriage because of His authority, Matthew 19:4-6. Our worship is by the authority of Jesus, Colossians 3:17. If we cannot show where we have the authority to do an act we had better not do it. To act without proper authority is sin, Matthew 7:23.

Was Jesus the Son of God while He was in Mary's womb? Did He possess a spirit while in the womb? Some would argue that Jesus was different. He existed before His physical birth. Yes, He did, but if the child inside the womb does not possess a soul then the child inside Mary would not have possessed a spirit. The conception of Jesus was miraculous but the nine months and actual birth of Jesus was not. Would it have been right for Mary to had aborted one of Jesus' brothers or sisters? If you answer yes, then Mary could have done the same with Jesus? Obviously, such was not the case. Jesus was the Son of God while in the womb.

Finally, if abortion is morally wrong, we had better not condone or practice it. "Pro-Choice" is nothing short of taking of innocent life. - - Dennis Tucker