

Now Concerning Spiritual Things
an historical account of one man's walk with God

4305 Bretton Bay Lane
Dallas, Texas 75287-6712

Copyright February 14, 2003
Jim Ash letter No. 54

972-267-7187 Fax 972-276-7399
e-mail: jimash.min@worldnet.att.net

THE ABORTION ISSUE

The Legal President

The case of Roe v. Wade was first argued before the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., on December 13, 1971 and reargued on October 11, 1972. The decision was handed down on January 22, 1973. Justice Blackmon delivered the opinion of the court in which Justices Burger, Douglas, Brennan, Stewart, Marshall and Powell joined. Justice White filed a dissenting opinion in which Rehnquist joined. Rehnquist also filed a dissenting opinion. Here is a quotation from a Syllabus of the case outlining the Plaintiff's plea:

“A pregnant single woman (Roe) brought a class action challenging the constitutionality of the Texas criminal abortion laws, which proscribe procuring or attempting an abortion except on medical advice for the purpose of saving the mother's life. A licensed physician (Hallford), who had two state abortion prosecutions pending against him, was permitted to intervene. A childless married couple (the Does), the wife not being pregnant, separately attacked the laws, basing the alleged injury on the future possibilities of contraceptive failure, pregnancy, unpreparedness for parenthood, and impairment of the wife's health.”

Of the seven concurring Justices, two concurred in both Roe and Doe. Justice White dissented in both Roe and Doe. Here is a quotation from Justice White's dissenting opinion: “The Court apparently values the convenience of the pregnant mother more than the continued existence and development of the life or potential life that she carries. Whether or not I might agree with that marshaling of values, I can in no event join the Court's judgment because I find no constitutional warrant for imposing such an order of priorities on the people and legislatures of the States. In a sensitive area such as this, involving as it does issues over which reasonable men may easily and heatedly differ, I cannot accept the Court's exercise of its clear power of choice by interposing a constitutional barrier to state efforts to protect *human life* and by investing mothers and doctors with the constitutionally protected right to exterminate it.”

Should a future Supreme Court overturn the decision in Roe v. Wade, I believe what Justice White wrote may be significant, although I have quoted only small excerpts from his dissenting opinion. If you did not fully grasp the excerpted dissenting opinion, it is worth reading again. Note that Justice White refers to the ***protection of human life***, not the protection of a blob of tissue, blood and bones, or an embryo or a fetus. As I have read scripture and considered the abortion issue in preparation to write this letter, I have

become impressed that God *forms in the womb a child from substances he previously created*. Scripture reveals that God also *formed man* (note the same terminology) *from a substance He previously created*. Since God formed life, and is therefore its author, whether initially in Adam or subsequently in the womb, it appears to me that God's rights over life supercede the rights of His creation over himself. The issue then resolves itself into one of free will given by God to man. Whom will you obey? There can be no true obedience from the heart unless there is freedom to disobey. Please realize that our choices determine where and with whom (or with Whom) we will spend eternity and that life is as a vapor that remains a little while and then vanishes away¹ when we consider the broad expanse of eternity.

Selected Developmental Characteristics From Conception

The following information was obtained from an internet source which quoted twelve separate references including medical text books, interviews, evidence from other court cases, physicians, etc., a copy of which will be furnished upon request.

6 to 9 days. The embryo implants in his or her mother's uterus.

2 weeks The embryo grows his or her first brain cells.

3 weeks. The embryo's heart is beating, although it has only one chamber. Arms and legs begin to form. Circulation of blood to and from the *placenta* begins to form. Blood supply of the mother is completely separate from the baby and the two separate supplies never mix. Reproductive organs are beginning to form.

5 weeks At 40 days, five days after he or she turns 5 weeks old, brain waves can be detected by an electroencephalogram. Embryo begins to move to develop healthy muscles.

6 weeks. The embryo has distinct fingers. Face and lips are sensitive to touch.

7 weeks. All organs and organ systems have been developed although immature and embryo has distinct toes.

8 weeks. Fetus status attained because he or she has finished with organogenesis (creation of new organs). Fetus means “young one” in Latin. Eyelids begin to form.

9 to 10 weeks. Fetus touches his or her own face, sucks the thumb, makes breathing and swallowing motions, hand palms are sensitive to touch, sense of smell begins to develop, urinates and experiences hiccups, moving almost constantly, can step, kick, somersault, stretch and move

¹See James 4:14.

arms.

14 weeks. Reproductive organs visible, may be able to hear, develops sense of taste. May be startled and heart rate increases by loud unpleasant noises.

15 to 16 weeks. The entire torso is sensitive to touch. Fetus has fingerprints.

19 weeks. The youngest any baby has been born and survived.

24 weeks. Age at which the law considers the baby “viable” or able to survive outside the womb – a legal distinction – not a medical one. Babies born younger than 24 weeks may survive.

38 weeks. Age at which a baby should ideally be born.

Notice from this information how early *life – human life according to Justice White – is detected.*

Abortion Statistics

OhioLife.org reports that 40 million abortions occurred in the U.S. from 1973 through 1996, that’s about 4000 per day, or 1,460,000 per year. Central Illinois Right To Life reports that the overwhelming majority of all abortions in the US (95%) are done as a means of birth control; only 1% because of rape or incest, 1% because of fetal abnormalities and 3% due to the mother’s health problems.

As reported by the Alan Guttmacher Institute Online, sourced from twenty-seven countries by International Family Planning Perspectives, *93.9% of all US abortions are done as a means of birth control.* These two surveys, each done independently of the other, are within **1.1%.** We may therefore conclude that the large majority of abortions (approximately 95%) are done as means of birth control ***and that is the issue about which I write.***

Here are the U.S. figures when you project them for the thirty years since Roe v. Wade: 43,800,000 abortions, 95% of which were done for the purpose of birth control. That’s 41,610,000 human lives snuffed out in what is called a medical procedure but what I believe God calls **murder.**

Here is a 1996 tabulation of (1) total abortions by state and (2) abortions per 1000 women in the same state, which I randomly picked from a 50-state list compiled by Centers For Disease Control and Prevention:

<u>State</u>	<u>ABORTIONS</u>	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Per 1000 Women</u>
California	280,180	39
New York	152,991	37
Texas	091,470	21
Wyoming	000,280	02

Note that the abortion rate per 1000 women living in the state of California, for example, was 19-1/2 times greater than the abortion rate in the state of Wyoming.

Percentages of Abortions by Age and Race

<u>Age</u>	<u>'72</u>	<u>'76</u>	<u>'80</u>	<u>'85</u>	<u>'90</u>	<u>'94</u>
<19	32.6	32.1	29.2	26.3	22.4	20.2
20-24	32.5	33.3	35.5	34.7	33.2	33.5
>25	34.9	34.6	35.3	39.0	44.4	46.3
<u>Race²</u>						
white	77.0	66.6	69.9	66.6	64.8	60.5
black	23.0	33.4	30.1	29.8	31.8	34.7
Other				03.5	03.4	04.8

(Source: Center For Disease Control, Atlanta)

Abortion Methods

I now believe there are very few people, if any, including biologists, who have considered the abortion issue seriously, who would disagree that life begins at conception, whether you are considering a lion, a gorilla or a human. As you read this realize that you were once a single cell ovum³ and if you were born after 1973, you could have been legally aborted, that is, killed in your mother’s womb by a licensed Medical Doctor who would undertake the procedure for a fee.

The following information was obtained from a 17-minute tape, presented in two parts, featuring C. Everett Koop, M.D., former U.S. Surgeon General, John C. Willke, M.D., former President of the Right To Life Committee and Barnard Nathanson, M.D., Former director of America’s largest abortion clinic and founder of National Abortion Rights Action League Here are the abortion techniques in brief described on the tape:

- (1) Earliest abortions are a menstrual extraction.
- (2) 2 weeks late for the period until 3 months. Suction device rips the baby apart. Abortionist then cuts and slices afterbirth from womb.
- (3) Up to about 3 months. D & C (Dilatation and Curettage), using a loop shaped steel knife to slice the baby in parts.
- (4) 12 weeks to 4 months. D & E (Dilatation & Evacuation). Stretches cervix very wide open, reaches into womb and twists and tears baby apart, bleeding is extreme, snaps spine with pliers-like instrument. Baby feels intense pain – with no anesthetic. Skull is crushed to be removed.
- (5) 4 months and above. Salt poisoning. Physician injects poison solution into abdomen. Baby breathes poison and convulses until death (which mother feels). Takes 2 to 3 hours to kill the baby, who is delivered vaginally 24 hours

²From the “Race” data shown above one may conclude that “whites” have about twice as many abortions as “blacks.” However when the data is corrected based on population by race, black women have in excess of two and one-half times more abortions per 1000 women than white women.

³An ovum is a female germ cell or egg cell or egg, in the biological sense of that word.

later – sometimes alive.

(6) Prostaglandin abortions. An injection of a strong hormone which causes intense labor and violent contractions of the womb. One complication – live birth.

(7) Hysterotomy – a mini-caesarian section. Womb is surgically opened. The physician cuts the cord, and lets the baby die in a basin, or chokes him/her to death.

Women are the ultimate victims with many long term effects. An abortionist stretches the womb opening in 30 to 60 seconds, instead of 12 or more hours of natural labor – tearing the muscles, complicating any future child bearing for several reasons not listed here.

Fetal Harvesting

Baby Parts For Sale

The following information on tape was obtained on the internet courtesy of Life Dynamics and reveals how abortion clinics make extra money.

Part #1. An informant (in disguise), describes how she (and others at the company she worked for) gathered fetal tissue at abortion clinics for later resale to pharmaceutical companies, universities and other researchers.

Part #2. Describes how she's been presented with many live fetuses including a set of twins gasping for air. The doctor exclaimed, "Got you some good specimens – twins!" The doctor then drowned them. Other times, doctors would break the neck or beat the fetus to death with a pair of tongs.

Part #3. Describes how some women undergoing "two-day" abortions would go into labor and deliver a live baby – and the abortionist would leave the babies without medical care to die slowly. Describes how abortionists consistently discourage women from trying to keep their babies (if they changed their minds) by forcing them into having an abortion after administering more sedation. Also tells how many abortionists make sexual advances to patients.

Majority Decisions

The leader of a nation dispatched twelve Secret Service agents to gather intelligence prior to an invasion. The agents accomplished their assignment, returned to home base, reported to the leader and those under his authority. Ten of the agents reported that the planned assault was premature because the opposition was too formidable. Two agents presented the minority report and said, "We can take 'em. Let's go. The time to strike is now!" The majority report prevailed and the assault was postponed indefinitely. Forty years later and forty years late, the minority report proved right and the assault went forward successfully. The *ten agents* died of a plague. Those who followed their advice lived wasted lives and died as failures. Both the *plague* and the *wasted lives* came as a curse from God. For the details of this true story read Numbers 13, 14:1-37.

The 1896 Supreme Court majority opinion in the case of *Blessing v. Ferguson* held that "separate but equal" public school facilities for blacks and whites was not in violation of the 14th Amendment. In 1954 the Court overturned that ruling in the case of *Brown v. The Board of Education*. 58 additional years of legal wrongs did not make them civil rights.

The majority opinion of the Secret Service agents was wrong. The majority report of the Supreme Court in 1896 was wrong. The majority opinion of the Court on January 22, 1973 was wrong. A correct majority or minority ruling may only be certified in the light of God's word.

What Does Scripture Reveal?

The prophet Isaiah wrote, "Yet hear now, O Jacob my servant, and Israel whom I have chosen. Thus says the Lord who made you *and formed you from the womb.*"⁴ On the same subject the Lord spoke to Jeremiah with these words, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you, I ordained you a prophet to the nations."⁵ In the Jeremiah reference, God is saying that He knew the prophet *before* He formed him in the womb. The Isaiah reference is more inclusive and includes foreknowing and forming in the womb *the whole nation of Israel*. It appears that the obvious conclusion from these two scriptures is that each of us *is foreknown by God, is formed by Him in the womb and is therefore God's creation from the moment of conception*. Since this is the case, hear what God has to say about His creation.

The Psalmist wrote, "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb is a reward."⁶ Is abortion a proper way to dispose of either 'a heritage from the Lord' or 'the reward of the womb'?

God's word to Moses was, "Cursed is the one who takes a bribe to slay an innocent person."⁷ Is there anything more innocent than a live baby in the womb? Is a live baby in the womb killed by an abortionist for a fee considered by scripture (God) to be the slaying of an innocent person for a bribe?

In the sixth chapter of Proverbs seven things are listed as an abomination to the Lord. One of the seven is "Hands that shed innocent blood."⁸ The hands of an abortionist sheds innocent blood which is an abomination to God. Abominations to God are not without extreme

⁴See Isaiah 44:1, 2 (a), italics added.

⁵Jeremiah 1:5.

⁶Psalm 127:3.

⁷Deuteronomy 27:25.

⁸Proverbs 6:17 (b).

consequences. Is there any thing more innocent than a baby in the womb with his/her separate blood supply? Life is in the blood⁹ and he who spills it spills life and falls under God's condemnation. Under certain circumstances God's law permits the taking of a life but not the life of the innocent.

Hear again words given by God to Moses: "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. But if any harm follows, then you shall give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot."¹⁰ Harm (death) to the unborn child of a pregnant woman carries the death penalty according to this scripture. Life for life is the pronouncement.

As I review these scripture verses that may be applied to abortion, I have grave concern for the pregnant women and physicians who do things described in this letter, including those who support such activity. I see no way whatsoever to justify abortion as a means of birth control using God's measure for such activity. Whereas civil law, as I understand it, according to the US Supreme Court, allows abortion during the nine months of pregnancy *for any reason, there is a law higher than the state*. If you think that abortion is the easy way out of a pregnancy because of inconvenience, family planning, economics, dislike of children, the embarrassment of illegitimacy, etc., please think again. Try finding a born-again believer who has had an abortion who will be totally honest with you and tell you exactly how her life has been affected in the aftermath of an abortion – the "flash-backs," the secret sorrow and grief, the depression. The picture is not pretty. There is difference between a child conceived in lust and one conceived in love. The innocent one conceived in lust should not have to pay for someone else's sin with his/her life. As I have previously written, a child born out of wedlock is not illegitimate since he/she is formed by God in the womb. It is the sexual act that is illegitimate in God's sight.

Consequences

The Law of Moses imposed absolute justice awaiting the time of Christ. Once a year on the Day of Atonement the High Priest went into the Holy of Holies to offer blood to atone first for His sins and then for the sins of the people.¹¹ But when Christ came He kept the Law, thereby fulfilling it, taking it out of the way, or setting it aside, nailing it to the

cross.¹² The ceremonial part of the Law was no longer necessary because the blood of Christ atoned once and for all, for the sin nature of man, handed down to mankind through Adam. The High Priest no longer must go into the Holy of Holies annually to atone for or to roll forward, his sins and sins of Israel because Jesus gave His blood, His life, on the cross. After His death on the cross and before His resurrection, He ascended to heaven and took His own blood and offered it upon the Mercy Seat before His Father as payment for and to atone forever for the sin of Adam.¹³ Therefore the good news now is that an abortionist who has spilled the blood of the innocents and women who have instigated that act and all those who in concert have supported such action may accept Jesus as Lord of their life, confess the sin, renounce it, repent¹⁴ and receive forgiveness. In that moment the blood of Jesus, containing His Life, still on the mercy seat of God in heaven, will cleanse them of all unrighteousness. If one is a born-again believer in Jesus as Lord and has participated in any way in the killing of the innocents, either as a pregnant woman, an abortionist or those in support of the sin, God's prescription is to confess the sin, renounce it, repent (which means I will not do it again), receive God's forgiveness and be restored once again to favor with Him. To Him and the Lord Jesus Christ be praise, glory and honor for ever throughout all eternity. Neither of these two restorative procedures will eliminate the memories. But once restored to God's favor, as peace within returns, God will begin to heal the wound, remove the scar and the pain. And the additional good news is that every stillborn, miscarried or aborted baby lives! Angels escorted *every one to heaven to await the arrival of their mother!* Each one is perfectly whole, restored, supernaturally normal, growing and awaiting the arrival of their mother! Mothers, hear these words. Live your life now totally dedicated to God, Who provided His only Son to take upon Himself the penalties of your sins and mine, to be reunited with the best and most wonderful gift of your Life. Amen.

⁹See Leviticus 17:11, 14.

¹⁰Exodus 21:22, 23.

¹¹Leviticus 16.

¹²Colossians 2:14.

¹³Hebrews 9:11, 12.

¹⁴Repentance must originate from a contrite heart.