

# "Sanctity of Life"

Sun School  
9-4-2022  
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## 1. Introduction

### a. Sanctity means sacred/holy

- humans created in God's image (Gen 1:26-27; 5:1; 9:6)
- God gave life also to animals & plants - they all come to life from mother/seed, grow, mature, & die (Gen 1:11-25; 2:15-17; 3:6-7)
- other parts of creation are not alive - sun, moon, stars, rocks, water, air
  - \* but necessary for living things

### b. When does life begin?

- big social controversy
  - \* genetically: individual of species begins at fertilization with new genetic DNA
  - \* every living thing (human & non human) has DNA
- Bible teaches human life sacred
  - \* all created in God's image
  - \* before birth? after birth?

### c. Study the animals

- what do females of species of animals, birds, insects do when pregnant & after birth?
  - \* even some birds who don't raise young lay their egg in another bird nest to be raised - example Cowbird
  - \* some species of animals, male raises young - seahorse

### d. Intentional verses intentional harm

- \* almost all animals do everything in their power to protect young
  - x birds protect eggs & hatchlings from predators

2. God made us humans in His own image

a. Gen 1:26

- humans made in God's image
- humans made after (copy) God's likeness
- God does not have physical body - God is spirit (Jn 4:24)

b. God has logic & intellect

- "let us reason together" (Is 1:18)

c. God has emotions

- "God is love" (1 Jn 4:8)

d. God has a will

- "I make a decision" (Is 46:9-11)

e. Humans made different than every other form of life

- Humans have soul (similar to animals)
  - \* physical body (cold/hot, hungry)
  - \* personality
  - \* reproduction - babies
- different with human spirit
  - \* past, present, future
  - \* where did I come from?

Where will I go when I die?

Communication of philosophy, society, sense of history

3. First human birth & other pregnancies

a. Gen 4:1 Cain born to Adam & Eve

b. Lk 1:36 Mary finds out her cousin Elizabeth has 6 month old pregnancy - called Elizabeth's son

- life in the womb

c. Jeremiah God knew Jeremiah's physical form in womb (Jer 1:5)

d. Ps 139:13-16 all unformed parts written in God's book

e. Exod 21:22-25 if unborn child miscarried from pregnant woman, criminal will be punished

4. Did Adam's sin change value of human life?
- US statistic - abortion of fetus every 3 min
  - Gen 9:5-6 Murder not acceptable
    - reason? God created man in His own image
    - God gave this command to Noah & his 3 sons
    - all societies & civilizations (ancient/modern) hold murder as worst crime of all
5. How should Christian respond?
- Conclusion - life begins at conception
  - What about abortion?
    - medical difference between "spontaneous" or "induced" abortion
    - spontaneous abortion same as miscarriage
      - \* no humans caused miscarriage
    - induced abortion caused by some action of human (criminal, medical people, etc)
  - What about if life of mother in danger of dying?
    - save life of mother? save life of baby? either or both could die?
    - \* Personal conclusion = should be joint decision of husband & wife - PRAY, PRAY, PRAY
      - \* most difficult decision to make
      - \* doing nothing is one decision - but both mother & baby could die
      - \* gray area - always somewhere life/death decisions

- 5c. \* life/death decisions often (4)  
happen at end of life times
- \* these are not times of "playing God"
  - x if you must make some life/death decision for someone else, understand that these are the most emotion wrenching decision to make in your life
  - x these are not easy decision to make
  - x someone else will second guess you
  - x someone else may accuse you
  - x you cannot retreat, throw up your hands, & say "It's God's fault someone dies. It's not my fault."
  - x medical technology advances can lead to difficult decision time of who lives & who dies

- d. Social concerns of rape & incest
- Rape can happen to adult females & female children
    - \* trauma of crime & rape
    - \* what about child in elementary school? how young?
    - \* what about female with Down's syndrome?
  - Incest
    - \* family member or father raping daughter
    - \* adopted children mating & later finding out they are siblings

- e. Many difficult questions to consider
- No one cookie cutter answer
  - time to PRAY, PRAY, PRAY, & look for God's guidance