

#6 Life is Precious

"You shall not murder" Exodus 20:13

Murder: forcibly taking an innocent human life

NOT JUST OUTWARD BEHAVIOR...

<u>Matt. 5:21</u> You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment.

The 6th Commandment

Outlawed the ACT of murder, restraining destructive Behavior Forbade the INTENT to murder, revealing destructive Desires

IT STARTS IN THE **HEART**...

<u>Mark 7:21-23</u> For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, **murder**, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man 'unclean.'"

IT'S ABOUT LOVING OTHER PEOPLE...

<u>Romans 13:9-10</u> The commandments, "Do not commit adultery," "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: "Love your neighbor as yourself." **Love does no harm to its neighbor**. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

THE PROHIBITION AGAINST MURDER

A. It forbids the deliberate, pre-meditated killing of another human being (Ex 21:12,14), including killing someone out of revenge/ "vigilante-style" justice (Lev 19:17-18)

B. It recognizes a distinction when someone is killed unintentionally (Ex.21:13) or through deliberate carelessness (Deut. 22:8)

C. It recognizes situations of justifiable homicide (Ex.22:2)

D. It includes taking the life of an unborn child (Ex 21:22-23)

The primary question: What IS the unborn?

1. The **<u>Bible</u>** tells us clearly what it is

<u>Psalm 139:13-16</u>: For it was you who created my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I will praise you because I have been remarkably and wondrously made. Your works are wondrous, and I know this very well. My bones were not hidden from you when I was made in secret, when I was formed in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw me when I was formless; all my days were written in your book and planned before a single one of them began.

<u>Psalm 127:3:</u> Children are indeed a heritage from the Lord, offspring, a reward.

<u>Isaiah 44:24:</u> This is what the Lord, your Redeemer who formed you from the womb, says: "I am the Lord, who made everything..."

<u>Jeremiah 1:5:</u> "I chose you before I formed you in the womb; I set you apart before you were born. I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

2. Biology and the science of embryology tell us what it is

3. Innovations in technology have increasingly **<u>revealed</u>** what it is

4. We **<u>innately</u>** know what it is (until we are deceptively told otherwise)

If the unborn is not human, no justification for abortion is needed. But if the unborn IS human, no justification for abortion is adequate.

1. God is the Ultimate <u>Judge</u> of sin (Gen.18:25; Rom.2:6-8)

2. <u>Jesus</u> is the Only Savior of sinners – Titus 3:3-7 -He forgives entirely (Psa.103:11-12; Isa.43:25; I John 1:9) -He heals deeply (Luke 7:47-50) -He restores completely (Rom 8:1) -He redeems fully (Rom.8:28)

OUR RESPONSE AS A REDEEMED PEOPLE... 1. Educate yourself

- 2. Share with other believers
- 3. Speak Up
- 4. Reach Out