

Turning the Darkness into Light (Part 3)

Christians should Respect Life

(Psalms 139:13-18)

Introduction: I believe we are living in dangerous times of darkness today! One author stated: *“the most dangerous place today is not in some distant battle field dodging bombs and bullets. It is not in (some) low income or some inner city neighborhoods ruled by violent gangs. It’s not even in the overcrowded prisons...” No, life’s most dangerous place today is in the womb of a woman who doesn’t want her unborn child.* In this country, we are literally and legally seeing thousands of lives a day destroyed! Since its legalization in 1973 – The abortion industry has taken more lives than all than all the combat-related deaths in America since the revolutionary war. This makes the womb the most dangerous place to be in America today. Now, some argue – developing babies are not a living person, but just fetal tissue. But is that true? According to God, all human life is sacred and should be respected! (Gen. 1:27) This issue has certainly been politicized and debated. So, what does God say on this issue? Politics aside,... If we are going to turn this darkness into light, we must ask: “What does the Bible say about human life?” For that we turn to Psalms 139 where we get God’s perspective as expressed by David. (Here we see three things...

I. God alone is the giver of life: (vv. 13-15)

David takes us deep into the mother’s womb and we see...

A. Human life has value because we are created in the image of God – *The word “You”*

- 1. David reminds us of the miracle of conception.**
- 2. David reminds us of the miracle of creation – (Gen. 1:27)**

B. Human life has value because of the concept of being made in the image of God –

- 1. Rationally – .**
- 2. Relationally –**
- 3. Responsibly –**

Jesus teaching His disciples Said,...

- a. We ought to enhance human life – (Mt. 5:13-16)**
- b. We ought to reinforce the value of human life in the home (Mt. 5:27-28)**

- c. We ought to reaffirm the value of human life in the world (Mt. 5:43 -45a)**

II. God alone is the sustainer of Life: (vv.16, 17)

A. God is intricately and personally involved in the formation of every human life that has ever existed.

- 1. In Psalm 139 King David praises God as the Creator of his inmost being...**
- 2. David doesn’t speak of a God Who sets life in motion and then sits back and lets nature take its course,...**

B. God is so intricately and personally involved in the formation of every human life that he has a plan for every life!

III. God alone is the taker of life: (v. 16b)

A. The arrangement of life – We see here God...

- 1. God knows all things.**
- 2. God knows the shortness of life (Jb. 7:6, 7; Ps. 39:5; Ps. 90:5-7; Js. 1:10; 1 Pe. 1:24; Jb 14:1, 2; Js. 4:14; Eccl 3:1-2a)**

With this wisdom come three insights:

- **(first) Since life does not originate with us, we really have no right to end it.**
- **(second) Since God has a will for every life and we don’t know it, we need to allow His plans to unfold...**
- **(Third) Since we have no idea the thoughts and purpose God has for each unborn life, we have no right to interfere with God’s plans.**

Just a word to those for whom it may be too late: God can and will forgive you, and cleanse you of all unrighteousness! (1 Jn. 1:9)

So what do I do? (Rom. 10:13; 1 Jn. 1:5-7)

B. The Argument for life –

- 1. We don’t respond to others on the basis of our relationship to them.** But, rather on the basis of our relationship to God, (Mt. 5:43 – 46)
- 2. We don’t respond to others on the basis of the model of the world** but rather on the basis of the model of God and His Word (Mt. 5:45-46)

Conclusion: As believers, we are not out to change minds – we are out to change hearts. We do that by bringing people to Jesus!