

Message: The Value Of Life

Scripture: Selected Texts

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1. What Is Truth?

1.1 Without a central authority (an absolute), there is no standard of truth and thus morality is irrelevant.

1.2 God alone can be that central authority because god alone is absolute.

1.3 God has communicated to mankind through divinely inspired Scripture.

2 Peter 1:20-21

²⁰ *But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation,*

²¹ *for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.*

2. What is the truth about human life?

2.1 The unique value of human life was established at creation.

Genesis 1:1

¹ *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

Genesis 1:26a

²⁶ *Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; ...*

Genesis 1:27

²⁷ *God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*

2.2 The unique value of human life begins at conception.

Job 31:15

¹⁵ *"Did not He who made me in the womb make him, And the same one fashion us in the womb?"*

Isaiah 49:1

¹ *Listen to Me, O islands, And pay attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called Me from the womb; From the body of My mother He named Me.*

Isaiah 49:5a

⁵ *And now says the LORD, who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant...*

Psalms 139:13-16

¹³ *For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb.*

¹⁴ *I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well.*

¹⁵ *My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth;*

¹⁶ *Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; And in Your book were all written The days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was not one of them.*

2.3 The unique value of human life is protected by commandment.

Genesis 9:6

⁶ *"Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed, For in the image of God He made man.*

Josephus quote:

"The Law orders all the offspring to be brought up, and forbids women either to cause abortion or to make away with the fetus."

Didache

Love your neighbor as yourself... You shall not murder a child by abortion nor shall you kill a newborn.

3. Therefore, we must fight for human life.

Luke 9:51-56

⁵¹ *When the days were approaching for His ascension, He was determined to go to Jerusalem;*

⁵² *and He sent messengers on ahead of Him, and they went and entered a village of the Samaritans to make arrangements for Him.*

⁵³ *But they did not receive Him, because He was traveling toward Jerusalem.*

⁵⁴ *When His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?"*

⁵⁵ *But He turned and rebuked them, [and said, "You do not know what kind of spirit you are of;*

⁵⁶ *for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them.]" And they went on to another village.*

3.1 Fight to win.

Chuck Colson

Our purpose is to persuade people to our views. As one person says, "We must ask, 'Is there any evidence that anyone is listening.'"

3.2 Fight without force.

John Calvin

If the civil magistrate were to o.k. the use of force to defend life, we would be wrong not to use force.

R.C. Sproul

“ God requires that we fight in peace, dependent upon His sovereignty, and obedient to His law.”

3.3 Fight With Love.

Chuck Colson

We cannot woo unless we LOVE. It is more than the battle that suffers when Christians conduct themselves with anger and hate. We wound our witness of the truth of the gospel and the love of Jesus Christ.

Blanche Taylor

Christians should work tirelessly to do what unbelievers can never do: *speak the absolute truth with compelling love. That's an admittedly hard task – but it's the way the gospel has always made its most telling advances.*

3.4 Fight For Hearts.

- 1) Graciously Protect Life
- 2) Genuinely Proclaim God's Forgiveness.
- 3) Fully Accept God's Forgiveness.

Psalms 103:2-3a

² *Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget none of His benefits;*

³ *Who pardons all your iniquities...*

Jeremiah 31:34b

³⁴ *...and their sin I will remember no more."*