

TWO THINGS

Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people,
Proverbs 14:34

“...you should set in order the things that are lacking...”
Titus 1:5

From the beginning God forbid taking the life of an innocent person

- Ge 9:6 "Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man."
- Ex. 20:13 and Dt. 5:17 "You shall not murder."
- De 12:31 "...for even their sons and their daughters they have burnt in the fire to their gods."
- 2Ki 16:3 "Tells us of the evil of King Ahaz, ...and made his son to pass through the fire..."

From the beginning God forbid taking the life of an innocent person

- 2Kings 23; King Josiah purging the evil....Togeth....Molech
- Eze 16:21 That thou hast slain my children, and delivered them to cause them to pass through the fire for them?
- Jer.32:35 And they built the high places of Baal, which are in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire unto Molech; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my mind, that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin.

Abortion Defined

- **Merriam-Webster**

The termination of a pregnancy after, accompanied by, resulting in, or closely followed by the death of the [embryo](#) or [fetus](#).

Embryo: The developing human individual from the time of implantation to the end of the eighth week after conception

Fetus: an unborn or unhatched vertebrate, especially after attaining the basic structure plan of its kind

- **Britannica**

The expulsion of a [fetus](#) from the [uterus](#) before it has reached the stage of viability (in human beings, usually about the 20th week of gestation).

Abortion Timeline in the U.S.

- Prior to 1973 Abortion is illegal in most states
- 1973; Roe v. Wade; Supreme Court ruled abortion ok in 1st trimester without state interference
- 1992; Planned Parenthood v. Casey; Supreme Court changes standard for legal abortion from trimester system to a viability standard
- 2022; Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Org.; Supreme Court rules for the state of Mississippi upholding ban after 15th week.

Alabama's Status on Abortion

- In 2018 Alabama passed a state constitutional amendment that prohibits legislation weakening the soon to come Human Life Protection Act
- In 2019 Alabama passed the Human Life Protection Act signed by Governor Ivey

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Passages critical to Shepherding The Lord's Church

- Acts 6:1-7, 11:29-30, 13:1-3, 14:21-23, 14:26-27, 15:1-22, 20:17-38, 21:15-25
- I Corinthians chapter 5 & 14
- Ephesians 4:11-16
- Titus 1 & I Timothy 3
- I Timothy chapter 5
- Hebrews 13:7, 17
- James 2:1-4
- I Peter 5:1-6

Summary of what we see leaders/elders needing to do in NT

- Distributed benevolence
- Considered doctrinal questions
- Chose and sent men to preach to the lost
- Wrote letters to another church
- Met with others to consider instruction
- Worked to avoid problems in Acts 15
- Appointed men to specific tasks
- Protected the flock from wolves
- Determined how to handle visitors

