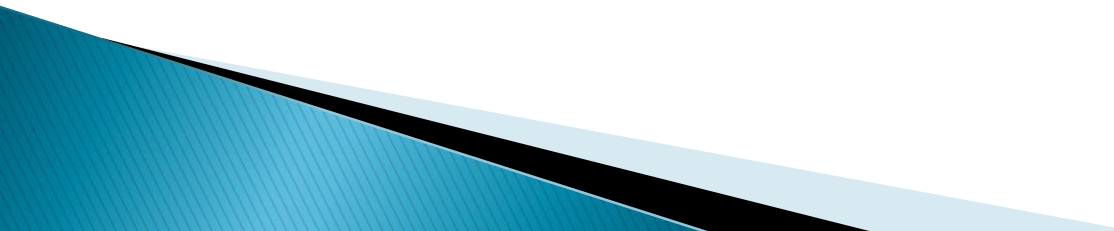


What Does it Mean to be  
*Thoroughly* Pro-Life?

# What does it mean to be *thoroughly* pro-life?

- ▶ All the life that God created is the “life” that we Christians should be “for.” – totally pro-life from a biblical, not a worldly (or a political) standpoint – go to scriptures for answers

# In the NT, 3 Greek words translated as “life”

- ▶ **Zoe**—the uncreated, divine power/energy/force contained in God Himself
  - ▶ **Bios**—life on earth—the “creation,” the “biosphere—the regions of the surface, the atmosphere, and the hydrosphere of the earth occupied by living organisms (organic life)
  - ▶ **Psuche**—focus of our thoroughly pro-life theme today
- 

# Psuche (the *life* of humans)

“soul” or “soul-life”

the “life” (span and dimensions) of the human being

**Matt. 16:25**—“Whoever desires to save his *psuche* shall lose it; but whoever loses his *psuche* for My sake shall find it.”

- ▶ ***Psuche***--the psychological life of the human being—i.e., our minds, emotions, wills, and imaginations by extension, ***psuche*** encompasses the human being’s human life in its entirety, from womb to tomb, including the physical, psychological, spiritual, relational, and material/financial aspects of life

**Ezekiel 18:4**—“The soul that sins will die.”

# Scriptures on Life's Beginning:

## *When Do the Pre-Born Become Human?*

- ▶ **at conception?** – Catholic and other religions
- ▶ **at “ensoulment”**—“the moment at which a human being gains a soul” – opinions vary from conception up to the 7<sup>th</sup> month; early church understanding—for males—from conception--40<sup>th</sup> day (6<sup>th</sup> month); for females—80<sup>th</sup> day (11<sup>th</sup> month—after birth!)
- ▶ **at viability** (when the “fetus” can live outside the womb)—24 weeks
- ▶ **at “first breath”** – when born—Jewish Talmudic law

most religions do not endorse abortion and consider abortion a very serious sin. Hindu religion: “The destruction of an embryo is tantamount to the killing of a holy or a learned person.”

**Ps. 139: 13-16**—“For You created my *inmost being* (lit. ‘kidneys’, so physical self; also, “urges, desires”—so psuche—one’s soul-life of thoughts, feelings, decisions); you *knit me* (physical and psychological self) together in my mother’s womb...I am fearfully (awe-inspiringly) and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful...Your eyes saw my unformed body...”

**Jeremiah 1:4-5**—“Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you...”



## God's a Pro-Lifer: His View of the Value of Human Beings

**Ge. 1:27,31**—"So God created mankind in His own image; in the image of God He created them. Male and female He created them..."

God saw all that He had made, and it was very good."

**Ps. 8:4-5**—"What is man(kind)?...You have made humanity a little lower than the angels and crowned humanity with glory and honor." God has made the redeemed "kings" and "priests."

# God Wants Us to Treat Other Humans As He—Not the Devil—Does

**John 10:10**—“The thief comes only to steal, to kill, and to destroy; I have come that they may have life (zoe) abundantly (to the full) ---the fullness of zoe life would be psuche and bios life (presently fallen forms of life) made whole!

- ▶ Ask yourself this simple question—am I releasing life or death to others?



# Be Like Dad!

- ▶ **Matthew 5:43-45**—“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. (How? By showing love to all persons.) He causes His sun to rise on (both) the evil and the good and sends rain on (both) the righteous and the unrighteous. Be perfect (complete in love) therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”
- ▶ **James 1:27**—“What God the Father considers to be pure and genuine religion is this: to take care of orphans and widows in their suffering and to keep oneself uncorrupted by the world.”
- ▶ **Ps. 83:3-4**—“Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the oppressed. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.”

# How to Treat Others Endowed with Human “Life”

## “Love your neighbor as you love yourself.” Lev.19.18

**How to Treat Others Endowed with Human “Life”**  
– “Love your neighbor as you love yourself.” Lev.  
**19:18**

**Eph. 5:25-29—Your wife is your “neighbor!”**  
“Husbands, love your wives just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her...In the same way, husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they *feed and care for* their own body, just as Christ does the church...”

**Luke 10: 25-37—The Good Samaritan**

# How to Treat Others Endowed with Human “Life”

## “Love your neighbor as you love yourself.” Lev.19.18

- ▶ *How we treat humans at all life stages and in all conditions should reflect the truths of how God treats humanity and what His salvation through Jesus brought to humanity--humans are God’s image-bearers (no matter how distorted that image is), our unfallen (and then redeemed) humanity is seen by Him as very good, and He has given us glory and honor as His “crown of creation.”*
- ▶ *from womb to tomb, for all people, at all times*

# How to Treat Others Endowed with Human “Life”

## “Love your neighbor as you love yourself.” Lev.19.18

- ▶ *How we treat humans at all life stages and in all conditions should reflect the truths of how God treats humanity and what His salvation through Jesus brought to humanity--humans are God's image-bearers (no matter how distorted that image is), our unfallen (and then redeemed) humanity is seen by Him as very good, and He has given us glory and honor as His “crown of creation.”*
- ▶ *from womb to tomb, for all people, at all times*