

## “What Does the Bible Say About Life?”

The Bible is clear that God places a high value on all human life. Our worth is not determined by our mental or physical capacity, but instead by the fact that God's image resides in us. This has significant implications for current issues such as abortion and euthanasia.

### I. **God values all!**

"Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.' God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female..."

—Genesis 1:26-27

#### A. Reason/Morality?

"The fact that a being is a human being, in the sense of a member of the species *Homo sapiens*, is not relevant to the wrongness of killing it; it is, rather, characteristics like rationality, autonomy, and self-consciousness that make a difference. Infants lack these characteristics. Killing them, therefore, cannot be equated with killing normal human beings, or any other self-conscious beings."

—Peter Singer

#### B. Relationship Ability?

#### C. Ruling Ability?

#### D. Bearers of glory

"And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb."

—Revelation 21:23

"God made the two great lights to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also."

—Genesis 1:16

"When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained; What is man that You take thought of him, And the son of man that You care for him? Yet You have made him a

little lower than God, And You crown him with glory and majesty! You make him to rule over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet."

—Psalm 8:3-8

"Many of those who sleep in the dust ... will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace ... Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

—Daniel 12:2-3

"But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit."

—2 Corinthians 3:18

## **II. But especially poor**

"For he will deliver the needy ... the afflicted also, and him who has no helper. He will have compassion on the poor and needy ... He will rescue their life from oppression and violence, And their blood will be precious in his sight."

— Psalm 72:12-14

"For I know your transgressions are many and your sins are great, You who distress the righteous and accept bribes And turn aside the poor in the gate. Therefore at such a time the prudent person keeps silent, for it is an evil time."

—Amos 5:12-13

"He who oppresses the poor taunts his Maker, But he who is gracious to the needy honors Him."

—Proverbs 14:31

"Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world."

—James 1:27

"How long will you judge unjustly And show partiality to the wicked? Vindicate the weak and fatherless; Do justice to the afflicted and destitute. Rescue the weak and needy; Deliver them out of the hand of the wicked."

—Psalm 82:2-4

## **III. We value wrongly**

A. By coin

B. By countenance

C. By circumstance

"Our modern, secular, God-dethroning culture has endowed the will (the 'want') of a mother not just with sovereignty over her child, but with something vastly greater. We have endowed her will with the right and the power to create human personhood. When God is no longer the Creator of human personhood, endowing it with dignity and rights in His own image, we must take that role for Him, and we have vested it in the will of the mother. She now creates personhood."

—John Piper

"For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb ... for I am fearfully and wonderfully made ... My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; 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."

—Psalm 139:13-16

D. By capacity

#### **IV. How to respond?**

A. Glory is in all!

B. Respect all in love!

C. You are solution!

D. See beyond today!