

## **Prolife Passages in the Bible**

*From Appendix 1 of Personhood by Daniel Becker*

### **God Is the Creator of Life**

**Genesis 1:27, 2:7** So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. . . . the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

**1 Samuel 2:6** The LORD brings death and makes alive; he brings down to the grave and raises up.

**Nehemiah 9:6** You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you

**Job 10:8-12** “Your hands shaped me and made me. Will you now turn and destroy me?<sup>9</sup> Remember that you molded me like clay. Will you now turn me to dust again?<sup>10</sup> Did you not pour me out like milk and curdle me like cheese,<sup>11</sup> clothe me with skin and flesh and knit me together with bones and sinews?<sup>12</sup> You gave me life and showed me kindness, and in your providence watched over my spirit.

**Job 12:10** In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind.

**Job 31:15** Did not he who made me in the womb make them? Did not the same one form us both within our mothers?

**Job 33:4** The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

**Psalms 100:3** Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

**Psalms 139:13-16** For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.<sup>14</sup> I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.<sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth,<sup>16</sup> your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

**Isaiah 64:8** Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

**Acts 17:24-25** “The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands.<sup>25</sup> And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else.

**Colossians 1:16** For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

### **Children Are A Gift From God**

**Genesis 18:10-14**<sup>10</sup> Then the LORD said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son.” Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him.<sup>11</sup> Abraham and Sarah were already old and well advanced in years, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing.<sup>12</sup> So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, “After I am worn out and my master is old, will I now have this pleasure?”<sup>13</sup> Then the LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Will I really have a child, now that I am old?’<sup>14</sup> Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return to you at the appointed time next year and Sarah will have a son.”

**Genesis 25:21** Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was barren. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant.

**Genesis 29:31-35**<sup>31</sup> When the LORD saw that Leah was not loved, he opened her womb, but Rachel was barren.<sup>32</sup> Leah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Reuben, for she said, “It is because the LORD has seen my misery. Surely my husband will love me now.”<sup>33</sup> She conceived again, and when she gave birth to a son she said, “Because the LORD heard that I am not loved, he gave me this one too.” So she named him Simeon.<sup>34</sup> Again she conceived, and when she gave birth to a son she said, “Now at last my husband will become attached to me, because I have borne him three sons.” So he was named Levi.<sup>35</sup> She conceived again, and when she gave birth to a son she said, “This time I will praise the LORD.” So she named him Judah. Then she stopped having children.

**Genesis 30:1-2, 22-23** <sup>1</sup> When Rachel saw that she was not bearing Jacob any children, she became jealous of her sister. So she said to Jacob, “Give me children, or I’ll die!” <sup>2</sup> Jacob became angry with her and said, “Am I in the place of God, who has kept you from having children?” .... <sup>22</sup> Then God remembered Rachel; he listened to her and opened her womb. <sup>23</sup> She became pregnant and gave birth to a son and said, “God has taken away my disgrace.”

**Genesis 33:5** Then Esau looked up and saw the women and children. “Who are these with you?” he asked. Jacob answered, “They are the children God has graciously given your servant.”

**Genesis 48:9** “They are the sons God has given me here,” Joseph said to his father. Then Israel said, “Bring them to me so I may bless them.”

**1 Samuel 1:19-20** Early the next morning they arose and worshiped before the LORD and then went back to their home at Ramah. Elkanah lay with Hannah his wife, and the LORD remembered her. <sup>20</sup> So in the course of time Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, saying, “Because I asked the LORD for him.”

**Psalms 113:9** He settles the barren woman in her home as a happy mother of children. Praise the LORD.

**Psalms 127:3-5** <sup>3</sup> Sons are a heritage from the LORD, children a reward from him. <sup>4</sup> Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are sons born in one’s youth. <sup>5</sup> Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they contend with their enemies in the gate.

**Psalms 128:3** Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons will be like olive shoots around your table.

**Proverbs 17:6** Children’s children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children.

**Isaiah 8:18** Here am I, and the children the LORD has given me. We are signs and symbols in Israel from the LORD Almighty, who dwells on Mount Zion.

**Hosea 9:11** Ephraim’s glory will fly away like a bird— no birth, no pregnancy, no conception.

### **Personhood Begins at Conception**

**Job 10:8-12** <sup>8</sup> “Your hands shaped me and made me. Will you now turn and destroy me? <sup>9</sup> Remember that you molded me like clay. Will you now turn me to dust again? <sup>10</sup> Did you not pour me out like milk and curdle me like cheese, <sup>11</sup> clothe me with skin and flesh and knit me together with bones and sinews? <sup>12</sup> You gave me life and showed me kindness, and in your providence watched over my spirit.

**Psalms 51:5** Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

**Jeremiah 20:17a** For he did not kill me in the womb, with my mother as my grave, her womb enlarged forever.

**Matthew 1:18-20** <sup>18</sup> This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

**Luke 1:35-38** <sup>35</sup> The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. <sup>37</sup> For nothing is impossible with God.” <sup>38</sup> “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May it be to me as you have said.” Then the angel left her.

### **Personhood Exists in the Womb**

**Genesis 16:11a** The angel of the LORD also said to her: “You are now with child and you will have a son. You shall name him Ishmael, for the LORD has heard of your misery.

**Genesis 25:22-24** <sup>22</sup> The babies jostled each other within her, and she said, “Why is this happening to me?” So she went to inquire of the LORD. <sup>23</sup> The LORD said to her, “Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger.” <sup>24</sup> When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb.

**Job 3:11, 16** <sup>11</sup> “Why did I not perish at birth, and die as I came from the womb? <sup>12</sup> Why were there knees to receive me and breasts that I might be nursed? <sup>13</sup> For now I would be lying down in peace; I would be asleep and at rest <sup>14</sup> with kings and counselors of the earth, who built for themselves places now lying in ruins, <sup>15</sup> with rulers who had gold, who filled their houses with silver. <sup>16</sup> Or why was I not hidden in the ground like a stillborn child, like an infant who never saw the light of day?”

**Job 31:15** Did not he who made me in the womb make them? Did not the same one form us both within our mothers?

**Psalms 22:9-10** <sup>9</sup> Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you even at my mother’s breast. <sup>10</sup> From birth I was cast upon you; from my mother’s womb you have been my God.

**Psalms 58:3, 8b** Even from birth the wicked go astray; from the womb they are wayward and speak lies.

**Psalms 71:5-6** <sup>5</sup> For you have been my hope, O Sovereign LORD, my confidence since my youth. <sup>6</sup> From birth I have relied on you; you brought me forth from my mother’s womb. I will ever praise you.

**Psalms 139:13-16** <sup>13</sup> For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. <sup>14</sup> I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. <sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, <sup>16</sup> your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

**Ecclesiastes 5:15a** Naked a man comes from his mother’s womb, and as he comes, so he departs. He takes nothing from his labor that he can carry in his hand.

**Isaiah 7:14** Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

**Isaiah 44:2, 24** This is what the LORD says—he who made you, who formed you in the womb, and who will help you: Do not be afraid, O Jacob, my servant, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen... <sup>24</sup> “This is what the LORD says— your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb: I am the LORD, who has made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth by myself,

**Isaiah 46:3** “Listen to me, O house of Jacob, all you who remain of the house of Israel, you whom I have upheld since you were conceived, and have carried since your birth.

**Isaiah 49:1, 5a** <sup>1</sup> Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the LORD called me; from my birth he has made mention of my name... <sup>5</sup> And now the LORD says—he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD and my God has been my strength—

**Jeremiah 1:5** “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

**Hosea 12:3a** In the womb he grasped his brother’s heel; as a man he struggled with God.

**Luke 1:13-15** <sup>13</sup> But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John. <sup>14</sup> He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, <sup>15</sup> for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth.

**Luke 1:39-44** <sup>39</sup> At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, <sup>40</sup> where she entered Zechariah’s home and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>42</sup> In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! <sup>43</sup> But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup> As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.

**Galatians 1:15a** But when God, who set me apart from birth and called me by his grace, was pleased

### **God Determines the Length of Life**

**1 Samuel 2:6a** “The LORD brings death and makes alive; he brings down to the grave and raises up

**Job 14:5** Man’s days are determined; you have decreed the number of his months and have set limits he cannot exceed.

**Psalm 139:16** your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

### **God's View of Abortion**

**Exodus 20:13** "You shall not murder."

**Exodus 23:7** Have nothing to do with a false charge and do not put an innocent or honest person to death, for I will not acquit the guilty.

**Deuteronomy 30:19** This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live

**Proverbs 6:16-19** <sup>16</sup> There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him: <sup>17</sup> haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, <sup>18</sup> a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, <sup>19</sup> a false witness who pours out lies and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers.

**Matthew 19:18b** "Which ones?" the man inquired. Jesus replied, "Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony,

**Romans 13:9a, 10a** <sup>9</sup> The commandments, "Do not commit adultery," "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: "Love your neighbor as yourself.".... <sup>10</sup> Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

### **Christ's Esteem of Children**

**Isaiah 40:11** He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young

**Matthew 10:42** And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward."

**Matthew 18:2-4, 10, 14** <sup>2</sup> He called a little child and had him stand among them. <sup>3</sup> And he said: "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven..." <sup>10</sup> "See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven..." <sup>14</sup> In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should be lost

**Mark 9:37** "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

**Mark 10:13-14** <sup>13</sup> People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. <sup>14</sup> When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

### **Parents' Love for Children**

**Genesis 21:16** Then she went off and sat down nearby, about a bowshot away, for she thought, "I cannot watch the boy die." And as she sat there nearby, she began to sob.

**Genesis 31:28** You didn't even let me kiss my grandchildren and my daughters good-by. You have done a foolish thing.

**Genesis 37:35** All his sons and daughters came to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. "No," he said, "in mourning will I go down to the grave to my son." So his father wept for him.

**Exodus 2:3** But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile.

**1 Samuel 2:19** Each year his mother made him a little robe and took it to him when she went up with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice.

**2 Samuel 12:16** David pleaded with God for the child. He fasted and went into his house and spent the nights lying on the ground.

**2 Samuel 21:8-10** <sup>8</sup> But the king took Armoni and Mephibosheth, the two sons of Aiah's daughter Rizpah, whom she had borne to Saul, together with the five sons of Saul's daughter Merab, whom she had borne to Adriel son of Barzillai the Meholathite. <sup>9</sup> He handed them over to the Gibeonites, who killed and exposed them on a hill before the LORD. All seven of them fell together; they were put to death during the first days of the harvest, just as the barley harvest was beginning. <sup>10</sup> Rizpah daughter of Aiah took sackcloth and spread it out for herself on a rock. From the beginning of the harvest till the rain poured down from the heavens on the bodies, she did not let the birds of the air touch them by day or the wild animals by night.

**1 Kings 3:26** The woman whose son was alive was filled with compassion for her son and said to the king, "Please, my lord, give her the living baby! Don't kill him!" But the other said, "Neither I nor you shall have him. Cut him in two!"

**2 Kings 4:20** After the servant had lifted him up and carried him to his mother, the boy sat on her lap until noon, and then he died.

**Matthew 15:22** A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is suffering terribly from demon-possession."

**Mark 5:23** and pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live."

**Luke 15:20** So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

**John 16:21-22** <sup>21</sup> A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. <sup>22</sup> So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy.

**John 19:25** Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

### **Sacrifice of Children Forbidden**

**Exodus 1:15-17** <sup>15</sup> The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, <sup>16</sup> "When you help the Hebrew women in childbirth and observe them on the delivery stool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live." <sup>17</sup> The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live

**Leviticus 18:21, 24, 30** <sup>21</sup> "Do not give any of your children to be sacrificed to Molech, for you must not profane the name of your God. I am the LORD... <sup>24</sup> "Do not defile yourselves in any of these ways, because this is how the nations that I am going to drive out before you became defiled... <sup>30</sup> Keep my requirements and do not follow any of the detestable customs that were practiced before you came and do not defile yourselves with them. I am the LORD your God."

**Leviticus 20:1-5** <sup>1</sup> The LORD said to Moses, <sup>2</sup> "Say to the Israelites: 'Any Israelite or any alien living in Israel who gives any of his children to Molech must be put to death. The people of the community are to stone him. <sup>3</sup> I will set my face against that man and I will cut him off from his people; for by giving his children to Molech, he has defiled my sanctuary and profaned my holy name. <sup>4</sup> If the people of the community close their eyes when that man gives one of his children to Molech and they fail to put him to death, <sup>5</sup> I will set my face against that man and his family and will cut off from their people both him and all who follow him in prostituting themselves to Molech.

**Deuteronomy 12:31** You must not worship the LORD your God in their way, because in worshiping their gods, they do all kinds of detestable things the LORD hates. They even burn their sons and daughters in the fire as sacrifices to their gods.

**Deuteronomy 18:10a, 12** <sup>10</sup> Let no one be found among you who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, <sup>12</sup> Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD, and because of these detestable practices the LORD your God will drive out those nations before you.

**2 Kings 16:3** He walked in the ways of the kings of Israel and even sacrificed his son in the fire, following the detestable ways of the nations the LORD had driven out before the Israelites.

**2 Kings 17:17** They sacrificed their sons and daughters in the fire. They practiced divination and sorcery and sold themselves to do evil in the eyes of the LORD, provoking him to anger.

**2 Kings 21:6** He sacrificed his own son in the fire, practiced sorcery and divination, and consulted mediums and spiritists. He did much evil in the eyes of the LORD, provoking him to anger.

**Psalms 106:31-38** <sup>31</sup> This was credited to him as righteousness for endless generations to come. <sup>32</sup> By the waters of Meribah they angered the LORD, and trouble came to Moses because of them; <sup>33</sup> for they rebelled against the Spirit of God, and rash words came from Moses' lips. <sup>34</sup> They did not destroy the peoples as the LORD had commanded them, <sup>35</sup> but they mingled with the nations and adopted their customs. <sup>36</sup> They worshiped their idols, which became a snare to them. <sup>37</sup> They sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons. <sup>38</sup> They shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land was desecrated by their blood

**Jeremiah 32:35** They built high places for Baal in the Valley of Ben Hinnom to sacrifice their sons and daughters to Molech, though I never commanded, nor did it enter my mind, that they should do such a detestable thing and so make Judah sin.

**Ezekiel 16:20-21** <sup>20</sup> “And you took your sons and daughters whom you bore to me and sacrificed them as food to the idols. Was your prostitution not enough? <sup>21</sup> You slaughtered my children and sacrificed them to the idols.

### **Punishment for Causing an Abortion**

**Exodus 21:22-25** <sup>22</sup> “If men who are fighting hit a pregnant woman and she gives birth prematurely but there is no serious injury, the offender must be fined whatever the woman's husband demands and the court allows. <sup>23</sup> But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life, <sup>24</sup> eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, <sup>25</sup> burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise.

**Deuteronomy 27:25a** “Cursed is the man who accepts a bribe to kill an innocent person.” Then all the people shall say, “Amen!”

**Proverbs 28:17a** A man tormented by the guilt of murder will be a fugitive till death; let no one support him.

**Amos 1:13** This is what the LORD says: “For three sins of Ammon, even for four, I will not turn back my wrath. Because he ripped open the pregnant women of Gilead in order to extend his borders,

### **Protecting the Fatherless Is Our Responsibility**

**Isaiah 1:23** <sup>23</sup> Your rulers are rebels, companions of thieves; they all love bribes and chase after gifts. They do not defend the cause of the fatherless; the widow's case does not come before them.

**Isaiah 10:1-2** <sup>1</sup> Woe to those who make unjust laws, to those who issue oppressive decrees, <sup>2</sup> to deprive the poor of their rights and withhold justice from the oppressed of my people, making widows their prey and robbing the fatherless.

**Zechariah 7:9-10** <sup>9</sup> “This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another. <sup>10</sup> Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the alien or the poor. In your hearts do not think evil of each other.’”

**Matthew 19:14** Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

**James 1:27** Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

### **Fetal Abnormalities of Birth Defects and Abortion**

**Exodus 4:11** The LORD said to him, “Who gave man his mouth? Who makes him deaf or mute? Who gives him sight or makes him blind? Is it not I, the LORD?”

**Exodus 20:13** “You shall not murder.

**Leviticus 19:14** “Do not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block in front of the blind, but fear your God. I am the LORD.

**Psalms 94:9** Does he who implanted the ear not hear? Does he who formed the eye not see?

**Isaiah 45:9-12a** <sup>9</sup> “Woe to him who quarrels with his Maker, to him who is but a potsherd among the potsherds on the ground. Does the clay say to the potter, ‘What are you making?’ Does your work say, ‘He has no hands?’ <sup>10</sup> Woe to him who says to his father, ‘What have you begotten?’ or to his mother, ‘What have you brought to birth?’ <sup>11</sup> “This is what the LORD says— the Holy One of Israel, and its Maker: Concerning things to come, do you question me about my children, or give me orders about the work of my hands? <sup>12</sup> It is I who made the earth and created mankind upon it. My own hands stretched out the heavens; I marshaled their starry hosts.

**John 9:1-3** <sup>1</sup> As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup> “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life.

**Romans 8:28** And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

**Romans 9:20-21** <sup>20</sup> But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? “Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, ‘Why did you make me like this?’” <sup>21</sup> Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?

**1 Corinthians 1:27** But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

### **Mother’s Mental Health and Abortion**

**Exodus 20:13** “You shall not murder.

**1 Kings 3:26-27** <sup>26</sup> The woman whose son was alive was filled with compassion for her son and said to the king, “Please, my lord, give her the living baby! Don’t kill him!” But the other said, “Neither I nor you shall have him. Cut him in two!” <sup>27</sup> Then the king gave his ruling: “Give the living baby to the first woman. Do not kill him; she is his mother.”

**Matthew 15:19** For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.

**Romans 1:26-28** <sup>26</sup> Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. <sup>27</sup> In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion. <sup>28</sup> Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done.

**Ephesians 4:18** They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.

### **Rape or Incest and Abortion**

**Genesis 19:36-38** <sup>36</sup> So both of Lot’s daughters became pregnant by their father. <sup>37</sup> The older daughter had a son, and she named him Moab; he is the father of the Moabites of today. <sup>38</sup> The younger daughter also had a son, and she named him Ben-Ammi; he is the father of the Ammonites of today.

**Genesis 38:13-26** <sup>13</sup> When Tamar was told, “Your father-in-law is on his way to Timnah to shear his sheep,” <sup>14</sup> she took off her widow’s clothes, covered herself with a veil to disguise herself, and then sat down at the entrance to Enaim, which is on the road to Timnah. For she saw that, though Shelah had now grown up, she had not been given to him as his wife. <sup>15</sup> When Judah saw her, he thought she was a prostitute, for she had covered her face. <sup>16</sup> Not realizing that she was his daughter-in-law, he went over to her by the roadside and said, “Come now, let me sleep with you.” “And what will you give me to sleep with you?” she asked. <sup>17</sup> “I’ll send you a young goat from my flock,” he said. “Will you give me something as a pledge until you send it?” she asked. <sup>18</sup> He said, “What pledge should I give you?” “Your seal and its cord, and the staff in your hand,” she answered. So he gave them to her and slept with her, and she became pregnant by him. <sup>19</sup> After she left, she took off her veil and put on her widow’s clothes again. <sup>20</sup> Meanwhile Judah sent the young goat by his friend the Adullamite in order to get his pledge back from the woman, but he did not find her. <sup>21</sup> He asked the men who lived there, “Where is the shrine prostitute

who was beside the road at Enaim?” “There hasn’t been any shrine prostitute here,” they said. <sup>22</sup> So he went back to Judah and said, “I didn’t find her. Besides, the men who lived there said, ‘There hasn’t been any shrine prostitute here.’” <sup>23</sup> Then Judah said, “Let her keep what she has, or we will become a laughingstock. After all, I did send her this young goat, but you didn’t find her.” <sup>24</sup> About three months later Judah was told, “Your daughter-in-law Tamar is guilty of prostitution, and as a result she is now pregnant.” Judah said, “Bring her out and have her burned to death!” <sup>25</sup> As she was being brought out, she sent a message to her father-in-law. “I am pregnant by the man who owns these,” she said. And she added, “See if you recognize whose seal and cord and staff these are.” <sup>26</sup> Judah recognized them and said, “She is more righteous than I, since I wouldn’t give her to my son Shelah.” And he did not sleep with her again.

**Genesis 50:20** You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

**Exodus 20:13** “You shall not murder.

**Deuteronomy 24:16** Fathers shall not be put to death for their children, nor children put to death for their fathers; each is to die for his own sin.

**Ruth 4:18-22** <sup>18</sup> This, then, is the family line of Perez: Perez was the father of Hezron, <sup>19</sup> Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Amminadab, <sup>20</sup> Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, <sup>21</sup> Salmon the father of Boaz, Boaz the father of Obed, <sup>22</sup> Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David.

**Matthew 1:3** Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar, Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram,

**Luke 3:33** the son of Amminadab, the son of Ram, the son of Hezron, the son of Perez, the son of Judah,

**Romans 8:28** And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

**Ephesians 5:20** always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Sexual Immorality and Abortion**

**Genesis 16:2, 4a, 15** <sup>2</sup> so she said to Abram, “The LORD has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my maidservant; perhaps I can build a family through her.” Abram agreed to what Sarai said... <sup>4</sup> He slept with Hagar, and she conceived. When she knew she was pregnant, she began to despise her mistress... <sup>15</sup> So Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram gave the name Ishmael to the son she had borne.

**Genesis 21:10-13** <sup>10</sup> and she said to Abraham, “Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that slave woman’s son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac.” <sup>11</sup> The matter distressed Abraham greatly because it concerned his son. <sup>12</sup> But God said to him, “Do not be so distressed about the boy and your maidservant. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned. <sup>13</sup> I will make the son of the maidservant into a nation also, because he is your offspring.”

**Genesis 38** At that time, Judah left his brothers and went down to stay with a man of Adullam named Hirah. <sup>2</sup> There Judah met the daughter of a Canaanite man named Shua. He married her and lay with her; <sup>3</sup> she became pregnant and gave birth to a son, who was named Er. <sup>4</sup> She conceived again and gave birth to a son and named him Onan. <sup>5</sup> She gave birth to still another son and named him Shelah. It was at Kezib that she gave birth to him. <sup>6</sup> Judah got a wife for Er, his firstborn, and her name was Tamar. <sup>7</sup> But Er, Judah’s firstborn, was wicked in the LORD’s sight; so the LORD put him to death. <sup>8</sup> Then Judah said to Onan, “Lie with your brother’s wife and fulfill your duty to her as a brother-in-law to produce offspring for your brother.” <sup>9</sup> But Onan knew that the offspring would not be his; so whenever he lay with his brother’s wife, he spilled his semen on the ground to keep from producing offspring for his brother. <sup>10</sup> What he did was wicked in the LORD’s sight; so he put him to death also. <sup>11</sup> Judah then said to his daughter-in-law Tamar, “Live as a widow in your father’s house until my son Shelah grows up.” For he thought, “He may die too, just like his brothers.” So Tamar went to live in her father’s house. <sup>12</sup> After a long time Judah’s wife, the daughter of Shua, died. When Judah had recovered from his grief, he went up to Timnah, to the men who were shearing his sheep, and his friend Hirah the Adullamite went with him.



<sup>13</sup> When Tamar was told, “Your father-in-law is on his way to Timnah to shear his sheep,” <sup>14</sup> she took off her widow’s clothes, covered herself with a veil to disguise herself, and then sat down at the entrance to Enaim, which is on the road to Timnah. For she saw that, though Shelah had now grown up, she had not been given to him as his wife. <sup>15</sup> When Judah saw her, he thought she was a prostitute, for she had covered her face. <sup>16</sup> Not realizing that she was his daughter-in-law, he went over to her by the roadside and said, “Come now, let me sleep with you.” “And what will you give me to sleep with you?” she asked. <sup>17</sup> “I’ll send you a young goat from my flock,” he said. “Will you give me something as a pledge until you send it?” she asked. <sup>18</sup> He said, “What pledge should I give you?” “Your seal and its cord, and the staff in your hand,” she answered. So he gave them to her and slept with her, and she became pregnant by him. <sup>19</sup> After she left, she took off her veil and put on her widow’s clothes again. <sup>20</sup> Meanwhile Judah sent the young goat by his friend the Adullamite in order to get his pledge back from the woman, but he did not find her. <sup>21</sup> He asked the men who lived there, “Where is the shrine prostitute who was beside the road at Enaim?” “There hasn’t been any shrine prostitute here,” they said. <sup>22</sup> So he went back to Judah and said, “I didn’t find her. Besides, the men who lived there said, ‘There hasn’t been any shrine prostitute here.’” <sup>23</sup> Then Judah said, “Let her keep what she has, or we will become a laughingstock. After all, I did send her this young goat, but you didn’t find her.” <sup>24</sup> About three months later Judah was told, “Your daughter-in-law Tamar is guilty of prostitution, and as a result she is now pregnant.” Judah said, “Bring her out and have her burned to death!” <sup>25</sup> As she was being brought out, she sent a message to her father-in-law. “I am pregnant by the man who owns these,” she said. And she added, “See if you recognize whose seal and cord and staff these are.” <sup>26</sup> Judah recognized them and said, “She is more righteous than I, since I wouldn’t give her to my son Shelah.” And he did not sleep with her again. <sup>27</sup> When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb. <sup>28</sup> As she was giving birth, one of them put out his hand; so the midwife took a scarlet thread and tied it on his wrist and said, “This one came out first.” <sup>29</sup> But when he drew back his hand, his brother came out, and she said, “So this is how you have broken out!” And he was named Perez. <sup>30</sup> Then his brother, who had the scarlet thread on his wrist, came out and he was given the name Zerah.

**Ruth 4:12** Through the offspring the LORD gives you by this young woman, may your family be like that of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah.”

**Micah 6:7b-8** <sup>7</sup> Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? <sup>8</sup> He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

### **Imitating the World Is Forbidden**

**Genesis 9:7** As for you, be fruitful and increase in number; multiply on the earth and increase upon it.”

**Leviticus 18:21, 24, 29-30** <sup>21</sup> “Do not give any of your children to be sacrificed to Molech, for you must not profane the name of your God. I am the LORD.. <sup>24</sup> “Do not defile yourselves in any of these ways, because this is how the nations that I am going to drive out before you became defiled. . . <sup>29</sup>

“Everyone who does any of these detestable things—such persons must be cut off from their people. <sup>30</sup>

Keep my requirements and do not follow any of the detestable customs that were practiced before you came and do not defile yourselves with them. I am the LORD your God.”

**Numbers 35:33** “Do not pollute the land where you are. Bloodshed pollutes the land, and atonement cannot be made for the land on which blood has been shed, except by the blood of the one who shed it.

**Psalms 10:5-11** <sup>5</sup> His ways are always prosperous; he is haughty and your laws are far from him; he sneers at all his enemies. <sup>6</sup> He says to himself, “Nothing will shake me; I’ll always be happy and never have trouble.” <sup>7</sup> His mouth is full of curses and lies and threats; trouble and evil are under his tongue. <sup>8</sup> He lies in wait near the villages; from ambush he murders the innocent, watching in secret for his victims. <sup>9</sup> He lies in wait like a lion in cover; he lies in wait to catch the helpless; he catches the helpless and drags them off in his net. <sup>10</sup> His victims are crushed, they collapse; they fall under his strength. <sup>11</sup> He says to himself, “God has forgotten; he covers his face and never sees.”

**Psalms 94:21** They band together against the righteous and condemn the innocent to death.

**Proverbs 1:10-19** <sup>10</sup> My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them. <sup>11</sup> If they say, “Come along with us; let’s lie in wait for someone’s blood, let’s waylay some harmless soul; <sup>12</sup> let’s swallow them alive, like the grave, and whole, like those who go down to the pit; <sup>13</sup> we will get all sorts of valuable things and fill our houses with plunder; <sup>14</sup> throw in your lot with us, and we will share a common purse”— <sup>15</sup> my son, do not go along with them, do not set foot on their paths; <sup>16</sup> for their feet rush into sin, they are swift to shed blood. <sup>17</sup> How useless to spread a net in full view of all the birds! <sup>18</sup> These men lie in wait for their own blood; they waylay only themselves! <sup>19</sup> Such is the end of all who go after ill-gotten gain; it takes away the lives of those who get it.

**Proverbs 15:3** The eyes of the LORD are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good.

**Isaiah 5:20-21, 23** <sup>20</sup> Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. <sup>21</sup> Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight... <sup>23</sup> who acquit the guilty for a bribe, but deny justice to the innocent.

**Isaiah 59:7** Their feet rush into sin; they are swift to shed innocent blood. Their thoughts are evil thoughts; ruin and destruction mark their ways.

**Lamentations 4:3, 6, 10** <sup>3</sup> Even jackals offer their breasts to nurse their young, but my people have become heartless like ostriches in the desert... <sup>6</sup> The punishment of my people is greater than that of Sodom, which was overthrown in a moment without a hand turned to help her... <sup>10</sup> With their own hands compassionate women have cooked their own children, who became their food when my people were destroyed.

**Romans 8:5, 7** <sup>5</sup> Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires... <sup>7</sup> the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so.

**Romans 12:2** Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

**Colossians 2:8** See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.

**2 Peter 2:2-3** <sup>2</sup> Many will follow their shameful ways and will bring the way of truth into disrepute. <sup>3</sup> In their greed these teachers will exploit you with stories they have made up. Their condemnation has long been hanging over them, and their destruction has not been sleeping.

### **Our Accountability to God**

**Genesis 9:1, 5-6** Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth... <sup>5</sup> And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And from each man, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of his fellow man. <sup>6</sup> “Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man.

**Jeremiah 7:5-6** <sup>5</sup> If you really change your ways and your actions and deal with each other justly, <sup>6</sup> if you do not oppress the alien, the fatherless or the widow and do not shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not follow other gods to your own harm,

**Galatians 6:10** Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

### **Silence Is Inexcusable**

**Esther 4:14-16** <sup>14</sup> For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father’s family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this? <sup>15</sup> Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: <sup>16</sup> “Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.”

**Job 31:14-15** <sup>14</sup> what will I do when God confronts me? What will I answer when called to account? <sup>15</sup> Did not he who made me in the womb make them? Did not the same one form us both within our mothers?

**Proverbs 24:11-12** <sup>11</sup> Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter. <sup>12</sup> If you say, “But we knew nothing about this,” does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who guards your life know it? Will he not repay each person according to what he has done?

**Proverbs 29:10** Bloodthirsty men hate a man of integrity and seek to kill the upright.

**Isaiah 1:10-17** <sup>10</sup> Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom; listen to the law of our God, you people of Gomorrah! <sup>11</sup> “The multitude of your sacrifices— what are they to me?” says the LORD. “I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; I have no pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats. <sup>12</sup> When you come to appear before me, who has asked this of you, this trampling of my courts? <sup>13</sup> Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations— I cannot bear your evil assemblies. <sup>14</sup> Your New Moon festivals and your appointed feasts my soul hates. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. <sup>15</sup> When you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide my eyes from you; even if you offer many prayers, I will not listen. Your hands are full of blood; <sup>16</sup> wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight! Stop doing wrong, <sup>17</sup> learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.

**Ezekiel 3:16-19** <sup>16</sup> At the end of seven days the word of the LORD came to me: <sup>17</sup> “Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. <sup>18</sup> When I say to a wicked man, ‘You will surely die,’ and you do not warn him or speak out to dissuade him from his evil ways in order to save his life, that wicked man will die for his sin, and I will hold you accountable for his blood. <sup>19</sup> But if you do warn the wicked man and he does not turn from his wickedness or from his evil ways, he will die for his sin; but you will have saved yourself.

**Hosea 4:6a** my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. “Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children.

**Matthew 5:16** In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

**Matthew 9:36-38** <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. <sup>38</sup> Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

**Matthew 18:14** In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should be lost.

**Ephesians 2:10** For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

### **Our Responsibility**

**Deuteronomy 30:19** This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live

**Ezekiel 3:16-19** <sup>16</sup> At the end of seven days the word of the LORD came to me: <sup>17</sup> “Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. <sup>18</sup> When I say to a wicked man, ‘You will surely die,’ and you do not warn him or speak out to dissuade him from his evil ways in order to save his life, that wicked man will die for his sin, and I will hold you accountable for his blood. <sup>19</sup> But if you do warn the wicked man and he does not turn from his wickedness or from his evil ways, he will die for his sin; but you will have saved yourself.

**1 John 3:18** Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.