

## Summary of Scripture References Concerning Abortion

### **Human Life Begins in the Womb.**

Genesis 16:11 & 25:21-26  
(with Hosea 12:2-3 & Romans 9:10-13)  
Exodus 21:22-15 (See also Numbers 35)  
Jeremiah 1:5  
Isaiah 7:14; 44:2,24; 46:3, 49:1,2; 53:6  
Job 3:11-16; 10:8-12; 31:15  
Psalm 22:9-10; 139:13-16  
Ecclesiastes 5:15 & 11:5  
Luke 1:13-15 & 1:39-44

### **Human Life Begins At Fertilization**

Psalms 51:5  
Luke 1:35-36 (Also Matthew 1:18-20)

### **God Know Us Even before We Are Conceived.**

Judges 13:3-7                      Jeremiah 1:4-5  
Ephesians 1:4 (also Matthew 25:34  
& Revelation 13:8 & 17:8)

### **Punishment for Causing a Spontaneous Abortion**

Exodus 21:22-25  
Numbers 35:22-34

### **The Slaying of the Innocent Is a Heinous Crime.**

Deuteronomy 27:25  
Luke 17:2  
Jeremiah 7:6 & 22:17  
Psalms 106:37-38  
Proverbs 6:16-19  
Matthew 18:10-14

### **We Will be Judged on Our Response**

Genesis 9:5-6  
Jeremiah 7:5-6  
Matthew 25:34-40  
Galatians 6:9-10

### **We Must Not Follow the Master of This World**

Numbers 35:33  
Romans 12:1-2  
Leviticus 18:21, 24 & 29-30

### **Abortion for Rape & Incest Is Never Allowed**

Genesis 19:36-38 & 50:20  
Romans 8:28  
Genesis 38 (see also Ruth 4:18-22,  
Matthew 1:3 & Luke 3:33)

### **Abortion for Birth Defects Is Never Allowed**

John 9:1-3                      Acts 17:25-29  
Psalms 94:9                      Romans 8:28  
Leviticus 19:14                      Isaiah 45:9-12

### **Abortion for the Mother's Mental Health Is Never Allowed**

Genesis 50:20; Romans 8:28

### **Abortion to Conceal Fornication or Adultery Is Never Allowed**

Genesis 16:2-4 & 21:1-18  
Genesis 38 (see also Ruth 4:12)

### **Children Must Not Be Sacrificed for Any Reason**

Ezekiel 16:20-21                      Jeremiah 32:35  
Exodus 1:15-17                      Psalms 106:37-42  
II Kings 16:3, 17:17, & 21-6  
Deuteronomy 12:31 & 18:10-13  
Leviticus 18:21, 24, & 30

### **Children Are a Gift from God**

Genesis 10:1-2; Psalms 127:3-5

### **We Must Protect the Fatherless**

James 1:27                      Zachariah 7:9-10  
Isaiah 1:23 & 10:1-2

### **We Must Care for Pregnant Women in Need**

James 2:14-26  
Matthew 23:3-4, 11, 12, & 25:31-46

### **Rescue Those Being Dragged to the Slaughter!**

Proverbs 24:11-12  
Isaiah 1:10-17 & 29:13



# Early Teachings of the Catholic Church against Abortion

“The Facts of Life” by Brian Clowes, PhD, Human Life International, 1997

## *The Early Teachings ...*

“For us [Christians], murder is once and for all forbidden; so even the child in the womb, while yet the mother’s blood is still being drawn on to form the human being, it is not lawful for us to destroy. To forbid birth is only quicker murder....He is a man, who is to be a man; the fruit is always present in the seed.”

*Tertullian, 197, Apologeticus, p.9*

“Those who use drugs to bring about an abortion commit murder and will have to give an account to God for their abortion.”

*Athenagoras of Athens, letter Marcus Aurelius in 177, Legatio pro Christianis (Supplication for the Christians”), p. 35*

“...there are women who, by the use of medicinal potions, destroy the unborn life in their wombs, and murder the child before they bring it forth. These practices undoubtedly are derived from a custom established by your gods; Saturn, though he did not expose his sons, certainly devoured them.”

*Minucius Felix, theologian (c.200-225), Octavius, p. 30*

“...If we would not kill off the human race born and developing according to God’s plan, then our whole lives would be lived according to nature. Women who make use of some sort of deadly abortion drug kill not only the embryo but, together with it, all human kindness.”

*Clement of Alexandria, priest and the “Father of theologians” (c. 150-220), Christ the Educator, Volume II, p.10*

“Sometimes this lustful cruelty or cruel lust goes so far as to seek to procure a baneful sterility, and if this fails the fetus conceived in the womb is in one way or another smothered or evacuated, in the desire to destroy the offspring before it has life, or if it already lives in the womb, to kill it before it is born.”

*St. Augustine, Bishop of Hippo (354-430), De Nuptius et Concupiscus (“On Marriage and Concupiscence”), 1.17*

“Some virgins [unmarried women], when they learn they are with child through sin, practice abortion by the use of drugs, Frequently they die themselves and are brought before the ruler of the lower world guilty of three crimes; suicide, adultery against Christ, and murder of an unborn child.”

*St. Jerome (c.340-420), Letter to Eustochium, 22.13*

“The hairsplitting difference between formed and unformed makes no difference to us. Whoever deliberately commits abortion is subject to the penalty for homicide.”

*St. Basil the Great (c. 329-379), “First Canonical Letters” Loeb Classical Library, Volume III, pp. 20-23*

“Those who give drugs for procuring abortion, and those who receive poisons to kill the foetus, are subjected to the penalty for murder.”

*Trullian (Quinisext) Council (692), Canons, 91*

“You shall not kill and unborn child or murder a newborn infant.”

*The Didach, II, 2.*

“You shall love your neighbor more than your own life. You shall not slay the child by abortion.”

*Barnabas (c.70-138), Epistles, Volume II, p.19*