



Matthew 5:13 "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. 14 "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 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 10:16 "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves."

Acts 22:23 As they were shouting and throwing off their cloaks and flinging dust into the air, 24 the commander ordered Paul to be taken into the barracks. He directed that he be flogged and questioned in order to find out why the people were shouting at him like this. 25 As they stretched him out to flog him, Paul said to the centurion standing there, "Is it legal for you to flog a Roman citizen who hasn't even been found guilty?" 26 When the centurion heard this, he went to the commander and reported it. "What are you going to do?" he asked. "This man is a Roman citizen." 27 The commander went to Paul and asked, "Tell me, are you a Roman citizen?" "Yes, I am," he answered. 28 Then the commander said, "I had to pay a big price for my citizenship." "But I was born a citizen," Paul replied. 29 Those who were about to question him withdrew immediately. The commander himself was alarmed when he realized that he had put Paul, a Roman citizen, in chains.

## 1. Pray for our leaders

1 Timothy 2:1 I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone--2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 3 This is good, and pleases God our Savior, 4 who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

- ▲ **Pray that they will receive the gospel**
- ▲ **Pray that they will revere and rely on God**
- ▲ **Pray that they will rule with godliness**
- ▲ **Pray that they will be refreshed and guarded by grace**

## 2. Participate publicly as led by the Lord

### ▲ **We must participate with our virtues**

Mark 12:29 "The most important commandment," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' 31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

1 Thessalonians 4:11 Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you, 12 so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

1 Peter 2:12 Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

Romans 13:1 Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. — 7 Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

Acts 5:29 Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than men!"

### ▲ **We must participate with our voices**

Mark 16:15 He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation."

Colossians 4:5 Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. 6 Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

Ephesians 4:15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

1 Peter 3:15 But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, 16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

Mark 6:17 For Herod himself had given orders to have John arrested, and he had him bound and put in prison. He did this because of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, whom he had married. 18 For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."

### ▲ **We may participate with our voting**

Proverbs 29:2 When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice; when the wicked rule, the people groan.

1. *Our voting must reflect our commitment to biblical principles and morality*
2. *Our voting must be influenced, even dictated, by the leading of the Spirit*
3. *Our voting must not violate our scripturally informed Christian consciences*

## 3. Prioritize your loyalty

### ▲ **Our first loyalty is not to a political party**

Zechariah 4:6 So he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty."

### ▲ **Our first loyalty is not to a charismatic candidate**

Isaiah 2:22 Stop trusting in man, who has but a breath in his nostrils. Of what account is he?

### ▲ **Our first loyalty is not to a secular system**

Revelation 11:15 The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever."

### ▲ **Our first loyalty is not to a nationalistic nostalgia**

Isaiah 40:15 Surely the nations are like a drop in a bucket; they are regarded as dust on the scales; he weighs the islands as though they were fine dust.

- but to a faith family** 1 Peter 2:17 Love the brotherhood of believers.
- and to eternal endeavors** Philippians 3:19 Their mind is on earthly things. 20 But our citizenship is in heaven.
- and to our living Lord** Revelation 17:14 He is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers.

# A Biblical Valuation of Life in the Womb

## 1. The Bible acknowledges life in the womb as a provision from God

Deuteronomy 7:13 The LORD will love you and bless you and increase your numbers. He will bless the fruit of your womb, the crops of your land—your grain, new wine and oil—the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks in the land that he swore to your forefathers to give you.

1 Samuel 1:20 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."

## 2. The Bible acknowledges life in the womb as a process and procedure of God

Psalms 139:13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

Isaiah 44:2 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.

Isaiah 44:24 "This is what the LORD says—your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb: I am the LORD, who has made all things,

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?

Ecclesiastes 11:5 As you do not know the path of the wind, or how the body is formed in a mother's womb, so you cannot understand the work of God, the Maker of all things.

## 3. The Bible acknowledges life in the womb as perceived and peered upon by God

Psalms 139:15 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, your eyes saw my unformed body.

## 4. The Bible acknowledges life in the womb as packed with potential for God

Psalms 139:16 All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

Isaiah 49:1 Before I was born the LORD called me; from my birth he has made mention of my name.

Jeremiah 1:4 The word of the LORD came to me, saying, "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."

## 5. The Bible acknowledges life in the womb as precious to God

Psalms 139:14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

## 6. The Bible acknowledges life in the womb as a personality from God

Genesis 16:11 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. He will be a wild donkey of a man; his hand will be against everyone and everyone's hand against him, and he will live in hostility toward all his brothers."

Luke 1:30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus.

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

## 7. The Bible acknowledges life in and out of the womb as protected by the prohibitions of God

Exodus 20:13 You shall not murder.

Exodus 21:22 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. But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise.

Jeremiah 22:3 This is what the LORD says: Do what is just and right. Rescue from the hand of his oppressor the one who has been robbed. Do no wrong or violence to the alien, the fatherless or the widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place.

# A Defense for Calling Christians To Vote Pro-Life

## 1. Consider the biblical certainty that a life in the womb is a God-created human person with lively potential

Psalms 139:13 You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb.

## 2. Consider the grievousness to God of the shedding of innocent blood

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

## 3. Consider the command of God to defend the weakest and the oppressed

Psalms 82:3 Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

## 4. Consider the exhortation from Jesus to season our society with righteousness

Matthew 5:13 You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

## 5. Consider the responsibility of the Church to hinder the influence of evil

2 Thessalonians 2:5 Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things? And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time. For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way.

## 6. Consider the spiritual and moral responsibility placed upon those who have been entrusted with influence

Luke 12:48 From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.

## 7. Consider the elevation of the shedding of innocent blood as the greatest offense and last straw in removing Judah

2 Kings 24:3 Surely these things happened to Judah according to the LORD'S command, in order to remove them from his presence because of the sins of Manasseh and all he had done, including the shedding of innocent blood. For he had filled Jerusalem with innocent blood, and the LORD was not willing to forgive.