

# LIFE

## *in the womb*

**18 DAYS**  
heart begins  
to beat

**20 DAYS**  
nervous system  
is developed

**42 DAYS**  
reflexes are  
present

**43 DAYS**  
brain waves may  
be recorded

**8 WEEKS**  
all body systems  
are present

**10 WEEKS**  
able to squint  
and swallow

**11 WEEKS**  
fingernails are  
present

**12 WEEKS**  
able to suck  
thumb



Prepared By  
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# Introduction

We will look at “Life In The Womb.” We will consider the Embryo and Fetus to determine if it is actually alive or just a blob. We will consider both life and death. It all takes place in the WOMB. Our examination will be through the eyes of Science, Biology and the Bible.

I will try to answer these questions:

1. When does life begin?
2. What is, “Conception”, and when does it occur?
3. Why is abortion so wrong and why do so many support it?
4. Is an embryo a living person?
5. How do scientists define human life?
6. What does the Bible have to say about the unborn?
7. How do living things differ from non-living things?

## When Does Human Life Begin?

BY WEB · MARCH 31, 2009

There is a tremendous consensus in the scientific community about when life begins. This is hardly controversial. If the claim were made that life was discovered on another planet, for example, there are well-defined criteria to which we could refer to conclusively determine whether the claim was accurate.

A scientific textbook called “Basics of Biology” gives five characteristics of living things; these five criteria are found in all modern elementary scientific textbooks:

1. Living things are highly organized.
2. All living things have an ability to acquire materials and energy.
3. All living things have an ability to respond to their environment.
4. All living things have an ability to reproduce.
5. All living things have an ability to adapt.

According to this elementary definition of life, life begins at fertilization, when a sperm unites with an oocyte. From this moment, the being is highly organized, has the ability to acquire materials and energy, has the ability to respond to his or her environment, has the ability to adapt, and has the ability to reproduce (the cells divide, then divide again, etc., and barring pathology and pending reproductive maturity has the potential to reproduce other members of the species).

Non-living things do not do these things. Even before the mother is aware that she is pregnant, a distinct, unique life has begun his or her existence inside the mother's womb.

Furthermore, that life is unquestionably human. A human being is a member of the species *homo sapiens*. Human beings are products of conception, which is when a human male sperm unites with a human female oocyte (egg). When humans procreate, they don't make non-humans like slugs, monkeys, cactuses, bacteria, or any such thing.

Verifiable proof is as close as your nearest abortion clinic: send a sample of an aborted fetus to a laboratory and have them test the DNA to see if its human or not. Genetically, a new human being comes into existence from the earliest moment of conception.

Conception occurs when the egg is released from the ovary at ovulation and meets (is fertilized by) the sperm waiting in the fallopian tube. One sperm burrows into the wall of the egg, which signals cells to grow and develop. This is the **moment of conception**, occurring *within* about 24 hours of ovulation.

***“I will neither give a deadly drug to anybody if asked for it, nor will I make a suggestion to this effect. Similarly, I will not give to a woman an abortive remedy.” Hippocrates, 400 B.C., Greece***

Biologically, from the moment of conception, this new human being is not a part of the mother's body. Since when does a mother's body have male genitals, two brains, four kidneys? The preborn human being may be

dependent upon the mother for nutrition, however, this does not diminish his or her humanity, but proves it. Moreover, dependence upon a parent for survival is not a capital crime.

***“To accept the fact that after fertilization has taken place a new human has come into being is no longer a matter of taste or opinion ... it is plain experimental evidence.”*** The “Father of Modern Genetics”  
**Dr. Jerome Lejeune, Univ. of Descarte, Paris**

At the average time when a woman is aware that she is pregnant (the fifth to sixth week after conception), the preborn human being living inside her is metabolizing nutrition, excreting waste, moving, sucking his or her thumb, growing, and doing many other things that non-living things just do not do.

As early as 21 days after conception, the baby’s heart has begun to beat his or her own unique blood type, often different than the mother’s. (Moore & Persaud, *The Developing Human*, p.310; Nilsson & Hamberger, *A Child is Born*, p.86; Rugh & Shettles, *From Conception to Birth*, p.217.)

At 40 days after conception, brain waves can be read on an EEG, or an electroencephalogram. (Dr. H. Hamlin, Life or Death by EEG, *JAMA*, Oct.12, 1964, p.113.)

***“By all the criteria of modern molecular biology, life is present from the moment of conception.”*** Dr. Hymie Gordon,  
**Chairman, Department of Genetics at the Mayo Clinic**

## **Medical Definition of Human Life**

Medical science already refers to a spontaneous heart rhythm and the presence of brain waves to determine whether someone is alive at the other spectrum of human existence. In simplistic terms, if an organ donor is in an automobile accident and is on life support in a hospital, the physician cannot “pull the plug” and donate the patient’s organs to others unless the patient is “brain dead” and his heart is not beating on its own.

If the medical community maintained consistency with this generally accepted medical definition of human life, then we would condemn every abortion after the time when the average woman discovers she is pregnant. Every abortion, by the generally accepted standards of medical science, aborts an innocent human life.

## **A Picture Paints A Thousand Words**

One of the most amazing photographs I have ever seen is of a surgery being performed on a 21 week-old *fetus* named Samuel Armas. The boy is having surgery performed *in utero* for his spina bifida. In the photograph, the unconscious boy's hand is poking through the surgical incision in the uterus and is resting on the finger of the surgeon.

You can see the photo at <http://www.michaelclancy.com>. The picture paints a thousand words that my mere words cannot match, but allow me to draw attention to the obvious fact that the surgeon is performing surgery on one living human being who is residing in the womb of another living human being.

### **“Yeah,” the pro-choice attorney rebuts, “But is it a *person*?”**

In *Roe vs. Wade*, Justice Harry Blackmun noted, “The appellee and certain *amici* argue that the fetus is a ‘person’ within the language and meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment. In support of this, they outline at length and in detail the well-known facts of fetal development. If this suggestion of personhood is established, the appellant’s case, of course, collapses, for the *fetus*’ right to life would then be guaranteed specifically by the (Fourteenth) Amendment.”

According to Webster’s Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary, a person is “a human being.” Attempts to render an entire class of human beings as “non-persons” based upon arbitrary qualities such as age and place of residence in order to discriminate against them is immoral and unjust.

History is full of infamous examples of governments legalizing the discrimination of an entire class of human beings by rendering them “non-persons.”

Jews were rendered “sub-humans” in Germany in the 1940’s and colonial slaveowners bought and sold Africans as “property.” As a matter of fact, the Supreme Court in 1857 ruled that Dred Scott, a black slave, was not a “person” with rights but the “property” of his master. Was the Court wrong then? Of course!

The Supreme Court of 1973 that legalized abortion nationwide with its *Roe v. Wade* decision was just as immoral and unjust. They dehumanized an entire class of human beings in order to legitimize wholesale discrimination against them. Abortion may go down in history as the greatest human rights abuse of all time.

As our nation’s founding documents make clear, the right to life is God-given and inalienable. The right to live cannot be legitimately usurped by men. No man, no government has the right to deprive one of life or liberty without a trial by jury, regardless of skin color, age, stage of development, level of dependence upon others for survival, or place of residence.

Abortion results in the death of an innocent human being. It is immoral and unjust when evaluated in the light of the law of the land (our founding documents) and the divine commandment that forbids taking the life of an innocent human being (Exodus 20:13).

## **A Flash of Light**

By James Barrett  
April 27, 2016

Scientists have discovered that a "breathtaking" flash of light occurs at the moment of conception.

For the first time, researchers from Northwestern University have now demonstrated that when a human sperm first meets an egg a bright zinc spark can be seen, not only a "remarkable" phenomenon but also one that might be a game-changer for in vitro fertilization.

"It was remarkable," said the study's co-author Professor Teresa Woodruff. "We discovered the zinc spark just five years ago in the mouse, and to see the zinc radiate out in a burst from each human egg was breathtaking. All of biology starts at the time of fertilization, yet we know next to nothing about the events that occur in the human."

## **Fetal Viability**

*Viability*, as the word has been used in United States constitutional law since *Roe v. Wade*, is the potential of the fetus to survive outside the uterus after birth, natural or induced, when supported by up-to-date medicine. Fetal viability depends largely on the fetal organ maturity, and environmental conditions.

Another definition for *viability*, as used in the medical phrase *limit of viability*, is the expectation that a fetus has an equal chance of surviving and not surviving outside his or her mother's womb.

According to Websters Encyclopedic Unabridged Dictionary of the English Language, viability of a fetus means having reached such a stage of development as to be capable of living, under normal conditions, outside the uterus. Viability exists as a function of biomedical and technological capacities, which are different in different parts of the world.

There is no sharp limit of development, gestational age, or weight at which a human fetus automatically becomes viable. According to studies between 2003 and 2005, 20 to 35 percent of babies born at 23 weeks of gestation survive, while 50 to 70 percent of babies born at 24 to 25 weeks, and more than 90 percent born at 26 to 27 weeks, survive. It is rare for a baby weighing less than 500 g (17.6 ounces) to survive. A baby's chances for survival increases 3-4% per day between 23 and 24 weeks of gestation and about 2-3% per day between 24 and 26 weeks of gestation. After 26 weeks the rate of survival increases at a much slower rate because survival is high already

The **limit of viability** is the gestational age at which a prematurely born fetus/infant has a 50% chance of long-term survival outside its mother's womb. With the support of neonatal intensive care units, the limit of viability in the developed world has declined since 50 years ago, but has remained unchanged since the late 90s.

Currently, the limit of viability is considered to be around 24 weeks, although the incidence of major disabilities remains high at this point. Neonatologists generally would not provide intensive care at 23 weeks, but would from 26 weeks

Some people take the view that life begins at the stage when the fetus could survive outside the womb. This is the most common criterion used in drafting laws regulating abortion. Whether a fetus can survive outside the womb depends on:

- The state of medical science.
- The medical facilities available at a particular location.
- The competence or willingness of the mother (or some other care-giver).
- The gender of the fetus.
- The race of the fetus.

There is, at the present time, no worldwide, uniform gestational age that defines viability. Countries with a lesser medical proficiency will have a different viability age than the good old USA. However, life at viability is still pre-mature and in most all cases requires medical assistance to survive.

Who in their right mind would leave a pre-mature baby alone in a room to see if it can breath on its own? And if it doesn't survive, are we suppose to say, "No it didnt survive so it was never alive in the 1<sup>st</sup> place"? Of course not. We would render assistance and seek to save its life.

But if it does not experience a birth and stays in the womb, it is open season to terminate its gestational progress. How crazy is that?

The pro-choice folks overlook or ignore the fact that the fetus has both a heartbeat and brain waves way before the US viability age of 24 weeks. They also disregard the fact that by 11 weeks, the fetus has fingernails, is

able to swallow, all body systems are present, has reflexes and a complete nervous system.

How can they say that a fetus that is in progressively maturing in the womb is not alive? Just because it cannot survive on its own outside the womb doesn't mean it is not alive. It, like all other living things, has to go through stages of gestation until it has reaches full term.

## **Biblical Evidence — Old Testament**

Science cannot speak to the issue of the spirit, because the spirit is a non-material entity. On the other hand, for those who respect the testimony of the Scriptures, if there is light to be shed on the spirit, surely it will be within the pages of sacred literature.

Is there biblical information that provides help in this regard? Yes. The Bible writers take for granted that personhood begins at conception.

The Hebrew Old Testament uses the word *zera'* (seed) both literally and figuratively. In a literal sense, it may be used of seed planted in a field.

The most frequent metaphorical use of . . . *@zera@'* (seed) is employment to designate human seed, i.e., offspring and descendant(s) (VanGemeren, 1152).

The word can signify an individual person, as in the case of the coming Messiah (Gen. 3:15), the people of the nation of Israel (Gen. 15:5; 22:18), or, prophetically, Christians (Psa. 22:30; Isa. 53:10; cf. "children" — Heb. 2:13).

## **An Embryo Is Not A Blob**

Now here is an important point. In Numbers 5:28, a woman was said to "conceive seed," or as the English Standard Version reads, "conceive children." That which is "conceived" is not a blob that later becomes a child. It **is a child!**

David declared: "In sin did my mother conceive me" (Psa. 51:5). Calvinists pervert this text in an attempt to prove original sin. They misunderstand the hyperbolic nature of the language (cf. Job 31:18; Psa. 22:10). That aside, the

text assuredly indicates that David considered himself a person (“me”) from the moment of his conception.

In Psalm 139, David described God’s care of him even at the earliest stages of his development. He said that Jehovah saw “my unformed substance” (Psa. 139:16). The Hebrew expression appears to denote the “undeveloped **embryo**” (Kirkpatrick, 789; cf. Kidner, 466; emphasis added). The embryo exists before implantation.

## **Biblical Evidence — New Testament**

A Greek word corresponding to the Old Testament *zera'* is *sperma* (seed). It is found 217 times in the Greek Old Testament (Septuagint; LXX), and 44 times in the Greek New Testament. Likewise, it is employed metaphorically for a person, and this “seed” (person) commences at “conception” (see Heb. 11:11).

Both Elizabeth and Mary are said to have “conceived” a “son” — not mere tissue (Lk. 1:36). It will scarcely be denied that “son” in this context indicates a person.

James wrote: “The body apart from the spirit is dead” (Jas. 2:26). The text suggests (by implication) that the spirit is **present** as soon as there is a living body. That tiny body commences at conception.

## **Defining A Living Thing**

But is it proper to designate the embryo as a “body”? How is a living human to be defined?

By the time the embryo reaches the uterus, it already has developed into a conglomerate of some 50 to 150 cells. This tiny organism exhibits **all** the characteristics of a living body.

- It has independent movement.
- It experiences true growth, the multiplication of cells.
- It responds to external stimuli.
- It is capable of metabolism, i.e., it breaks down products outside of itself for the production of energy.

The fact that it is so small in no way nullifies the reality that this is a living body.

This information, combined with James' affirmation, argues for the presence of the "spirit" or "soul" of that person.

The divine equation is this: body – spirit = corpse; body + spirit = living person. To classify this process of logical reasoning as mere assumption, as some have done, is incredible! It is **logical inference**, not assumption.

## Defensive Quibbles

As suggested earlier, after analyzing the statements of some of those who justify the destruction of the embryo prior to implantation, I am convinced that the prime motive behind this position either is:

- Guilt for having sanctioned birth control methods that are known to abort the embryo;
- A desire to defend a practice that is perceived to be a convenient method of birth control.

Some argue in this fashion. (1) If all embryos have a spirit, and; (2) oral contraceptives abort embryos; then, (3) oral contraceptives kill embryos with spirits, thus people.

The syllogism is constructed incorrectly. If the conclusion is to follow, the minor premise (2) must read: "**All** oral contraceptives kill embryos." That was not proved.

A contraceptive designed to **destroy** an embryo is immoral. One aimed at simply **suppressing ovulation** is not. A wife should be informed as to the nature of the pill she uses.

Another argument being employed relates to what is called the "Luteal phase defect" (LPD), which is believed to occasionally interfere with the implantation of embryos during the postpartum breast-feeding span. Unbelievably, some contend that God "designed women in such a way as to cause" LPD, and therefore this destruction of an embryo is evidence that the spirit is not present.

What about the many causes of miscarriage **after** uterine implantation? Do these tragic occurrences likewise suggest that the fetus is not a human person. Thus, abortion is permissible anywhere en route to birth?

The fact is, LPD is recognized as a “disorder,” a “defect” — not something divinely purposed. One might as well argue that heart attacks and cancer have been divinely designed. The human body is fraught with many weaknesses as a consequence of the long-term effects of sin. Disorders and death are attributed to Satan (Lk. 13:16; Jn. 8:44b), not God. Does the fact that disease takes life argue that one may kill his neighbor with impunity?

It is unconscionable that men who profess to represent Jesus Christ should advocate that the deliberate destruction of an embryo is a moral act that carries the approval of the Creator. Yet even good men can be caught up in societal trends. Such is a tragic reality. May those who seek to be advocates of Christianity study carefully and reason logically.

## **Bible References That Support Life In The Womb**

***Psalm 139:13-16*** ...”For You formed my inward parts; you wove me in my mother's womb. I will give thanks to you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are your works, and my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; read more.”

***Ecclesiastes 11:5*** ...”Just as you do not know the path of the wind and how bones are formed in the womb of the pregnant woman, so you do not know the activity of God who makes all things.”

***Psalm 51:5***...”Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me.”

***Isaiah 49:1***...”The LORD called me from the womb; from the body of my mother He named me.”

***Jeremiah 1:5***...”Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, and before you were born, I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

**Isaiah 44:2** ...”Thus says the LORD who made you and formed you from the womb, who will help you. Do not fear, O Jacob, My servant; and you Jeshurun whom I have chosen.”

**Jeremiah 20:17** ...“Because he did not kill me before birth, So that my mother would have been my grave, and her womb ever pregnant.”

**Luke 1:41**...”When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.”

## **Consider These Comon Sense Questions**

The Christian Perspective is revealed in these, Comon Sense” questions:

1. If God’s Word (The Bible) says that the human embryo is a living person, how can we say it is not? To disagree is to call God a liar.

### **Jeremiah 1:5**

**“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”**

### **Isaiah 44:24**

**Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, who formed you from the womb:  
“I am the LORD, who made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth by myself,**

### **Ephesians 1:4**

**“Even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love”**

**We were in the mind of God before we actually existed.  
He chose us. This proves His will is not abortion  
but for us to live and move and have our being in Him.**

## **Romans 8:29 King James Version (KJV)**

*“For whom he did foreknow, (Knew before they actually existed) he also did predestinate (Determine their destination) to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he (His Son, Jesus) might be the firstborn among many brethren.”*

The sovereignty of God and His ability to know things beforehand supports the right of the preborn to life. The eyes of the Lord are upon all life in the womb and so are His eyes upon those who cause its demise.

2. If science has discovered that a flash of light emanates from the human egg at the point of conception, isn't it obvious that this is the beginning of life?
3. If simple biology tells us that the human fetus meets all the criteria of a living thing...i.e. a person, how can we reject the evidence to claim otherwise?
4. If a fertilized non human egg can develop from an embryo to a living thing such as a bird or animal, why can't we acknowledge that this developmental process is also applicable to the human embryo and protect it from being destroyed?
5. If we cannot believe what the Bible says about the right to life for the unborn, then how can we believe anything else that the Bible says? Let God be true and every man a liar. Man does not live by bread alone but every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.

The Bible testifies to life in the womb. It also tells us that we can be forgiven, saved, set free, healed and accepted by God. It is the power of God unto our salvation.

## **Abortion Kills Babies**

**Let's Stop This Madness**

## Conclusion

We have looked at life in the womb from a Scientific, Biological and Spiritual perspective and found that the evidence for life is overwhelming. Those who hold fast to the pro-choice position are either misled by political correctness, confused by peer pressure, uninformed as to the facts or deceived. Then there are those that are openly defiant against God. They care not about God's Will for mankind or His divine destiny. Their hearts are wrapped up in self gratification.

Pro-creation is God's divine will. Hear what Genesis says....

*"And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." Genesis 1:28*

It is obvious that God is the author of all life and has made it His ultimate will for mankind. This can only mean that our unborn are God's blessing and divine destiny to insure that the human race continues. Why then are we destroying that which God has lovingly provided?

This evil, "Pro-Choice", perspective has destroyed the lives of almost 60-million innocent human beings since Roe v Wade. How much longer will it persist and how many more babies will die in the womb because people believe the lie that the human embryo is not a person and the fetus is just a blob? It is the worst discrimination ever known to man and is the ultimate child abuse there could ever be.

The issue at hand is not women's health. It is Sin that calls evil good and good evil. We all know that God said, "Thou shall not kill" but we rationalize that command to read, except when it comes to the developing fetus. We deceive ourselves into thinking it's just a blob or some unformed tissue that has no life in it. How dumb can we be?

When a pregnant woman says that it's her body and she has a right to end her pregnancy, she is in reality placing a sentence of death upon a living

innocent human being. She is committing cold blooded murder. She may not realize it until it's too late but nevertheless she is guilty just the same.

This does not please God. Many will surely stand before God at the end of their lives and give an account. It will be a terrible thing to fall into the hands of an angry God.

Let us respect the rights of the unborn and celebrate "Life In The Womb". "children are an heritage of the **LORD**: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. " (Psalm 127:3 King James Version (KJV)

## **Some Statistics**

1. Approximately 926,200 abortions were performed in the USA in 2014.
2. The reasons patients gave for having an abortion underscored their understanding of the responsibilities of parenthood and family life. The three most common reasons—each cited by three-fourths of patients—were concern for or responsibility to other individuals; the inability to afford raising a child; and the belief that having a baby would interfere with work, school or the ability to care for dependents. Half said they did not want to be a single parent or were having problems with their husband or partner.
3. Fifty-one percent of abortion patients in 2014 were using a contraceptive method in the month they became pregnant.
4. In 2014, some 46% of abortion clinics offered very early abortions (at four weeks' gestation or earlier, before the first missed period), and 99% offered the procedure up to eight weeks from the last menstrual period. Seventy-two percent of clinics offered abortions up to 12 weeks, 25% up to 20 weeks and 10% up to 24 weeks.
5. Eighty-four percent of clinics reported at least one form of antiabortion harassment in 2011. Picketing was reported by 80%, and phone calls by 47%. Fifty-three percent of clinics were picketed 20 times or more in a year.