

Christians Are Held to a Higher Standard

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. — Romans 12:2

Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good... Repay no one evil for evil... Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. — Romans 12:9b, 17a, 21

And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness which *are* by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. — Philippians 1:9-11

God Calls His People to Action

Deliver *those who* are drawn toward death, And hold back *those* stumbling to the slaughter. If you say, "Surely we did not know this," Does not He who weighs the hearts consider *it*? He who keeps your soul, does He *not* know *it*? And will He *not* render to *each* man according to his deeds? — Proverbs 24:11-12

"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all *who are* in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

— Matthew 5:14-16

"Teacher, which *is* the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is *the* first and great commandment. And *the* second *is* like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." — Matthew 22:36-40

"Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed *You*, or thirsty and give *You* drink? When did we see You a stranger and take *You* in, or naked and clothe *You*? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to *You*?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to Me.' — Matthew 25:37-40

He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked. — 1 John 2:4-6

MEDITATIONS ON THE *Sanctity of Life*

Scripture passages taken from the NKJV.



God is the Source of Life

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them... Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed *it was* very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day. — Genesis 1:26-27, 31

Now Isaac pleaded with the Lord for his wife, because she *was* barren; and the Lord granted his plea, and Rebekah his wife conceived. — Genesis 25:21

You have granted me life and favor, And Your care has preserved my spirit.
— Job 10:12

Behold, children *are* a heritage from the Lord, The fruit of the womb *is* a reward. — Psalm 127:3

Life Begins at Conception

And the woman conceived; so she sent and told David, and said, "I *am* with child." — 2 Samuel 11:5

Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. — Luke 1:36



The Unborn are Persons with Souls

For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And *that* my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, *And* skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When *as yet there were* none of them. — Psalm 139:13-16

Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; — Jeremiah 1:4-5a

For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. — Luke 1:15

And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed *are* you among women, and blessed *is* the fruit of your womb! But why *is* this *granted* to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy.

— Luke 1:41-44

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. — John 1:1, 14

Harming Others is an Abomination to the Lord

"Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man. And as for you, be fruitful and multiply; Bring forth abundantly in the earth And multiply in it." — Genesis 9:6-7

You shall not murder. — Exodus 20:13

Keep yourself far from a false matter; do not kill the innocent and righteous. For I will not justify the wicked. — Exodus 23:7

These six *things* the Lord hates, Yes, seven *are* an abomination to Him: A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, — Proverbs 6:16-17

Thus says the Lord: "For three transgressions of the people of Ammon, and for four, I will not turn away its *punishment*, Because they ripped open the women with child in Gilead, That they might enlarge their territory. — Amos 1:13

Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches *them*, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

— Matthew 5:19

He said to Him, "Which ones?" Jesus said, "'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,'

— Matthew 19:18

Our Bodies are a Gift from the Lord

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. — Matthew 6:19-20

Deformities and Congenital Conditions Do Not Justify Abortion

"Woe to him who strives with his Maker! *Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth!* Shall the clay say to him who forms it, 'What are you making?' Or shall your handiwork *say*, 'He has no hands'? Woe to him who says to *his* father, 'What are you begetting?' Or to the woman, 'What have you brought forth?'" — Isaiah 45:9-10

For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body... But now indeed *there are* many members, yet one body. And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary.

— 1 Corinthians 12:12-13a, 20-22

And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong. — 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. — Ephesians 2:10