

Article of the Month

February, 2020

Will Aborted Babies Come Back?

Abortion has long been an issue of contentious debate. The question about the fate of aborted babies becomes even larger if we inquire regarding ANY still-births — not just those which have been purposely aborted. As usual, the Scriptures provide our answers — strong indications that babies which were not born will, indeed, come back in the general awakening and resurrection of the dead.

When Does Life Begin?

Scripturally, it is implied that life begins near conception. Thus all of the the genealogies of Genesis date the life of someone from begettal. (See Genesis 5:3 KJV just as one example.) Perhaps, to be even more specific, we could take texts such as Leviticus 17:11, Genesis 9:4, and Deuteronomy 12:23 which all tell us that the “life of the flesh is in the blood.” In human embryos, there is a functioning circulatory system (i.e., the pumping of blood) on about the 18th day after conception. Thus, when blood is pumping, life has begun, and any death of that life should, indeed, be rectified by the ransom sacrifice of Jesus which is to restore life to the entire race.

The “Breath of Life”

This expression, “The breath of life,” can easily be shown NOT to refer to literal breathing. The Scriptural “breath of life” means the SPARK of life — the imputation of the life principle which God arranged for all of the beings in His creation. Doctors will commonly tell an anxious mother that “It’s okay. Your fetus is alive.” The presence of life (not breathing) is something humanity has little or no difficulty in discerning. When life (the SPARK of life — the PRESENCE of a functioning organism) is there, WE KNOW IT! And it is present in the womb as well as out of it! Thus the “breath of the Almighty” which imparts life (Job 33:4) is clearly NOT literal breathing, but rather God’s acknowledgement of that which we call LIFE.

In Judges 13:3-5, we have the account of the birth of Samson. Samson was to be a “Nazarite” — a member of a group of Jews with very strict behavioral and dietary restrictions. The importance of this narrative is that Samson’s mother was forbidden BEFORE HE WAS BORN to drink wine or to eat foods forbidden for Nazarites. In other words, Samson was considered to be LIVING UNDER NAZARITE restrictions BEFORE HE WAS BORN — “to the day of his death” (Judges 13:7).

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Hints in the Book of Job

In Job 3:3, Job is expressing his misery. At first he not only wishes he had never been born, but that he had never been conceived. Then, in verse 11, he expresses that dying in childbirth would have been a blessing — that in that case, his fate would have been just like men who have lived full lives. This, of course shows that he would have expected, just like kings and others, that he would receive an awakening and resurrection even though he had died at childbirth. But it is the next verses that focus on our particular question. In verse 16 he says he would have been satisfied with being a miscarriage or an infant WHO NEVER SAW LIGHT — in other words, an infant who had never been born. He STILL connects this event with eventual awakening. (The KJV “untimely birth” reference is from the Hebrew word “*nephel*” which means something “fallen.” Dr. Strong’s concordance defines it is an ABORTION.)

The point, of course, is that Job is putting people who have lived full lives, infants who died when born, and fetuses which died before birth ALL IN THE SAME CONDITION. He does not suggest that they fall into differing categories. All will experience the same fate — death followed by awakening and the resurrection process.

Life in the Womb

In Jeremiah 1:4, 5, we see that God dealt with Jeremiah (like Samson) before he was born. In other words, God, Himself, considered Jeremiah a viable entity before his birth.

JESUS, himself, is an interesting testimony in this matter. We all know that he was nine months in Mary’s womb until he was born. And yet Jesus tells that there was NO CESSATION of his existence during that time. He says, “Before Abraham was born, I am.” (John 8:58) Jesus is VERY CAREFUL to tell us that his existence HAD BEEN CONTINUAL (uninterrupted) since before Abraham, throughout Jesus’ gestation, and into Jesus’ life as a man. Thus his life AND IDENTITY existed in the womb.

Reasonings

We cannot as Christians reason beyond the limits of Scriptural limitations. But within those holy guidelines, God, Himself, has invited us to reason with Him. (Isaiah 1:18) Because of that, we can look at texts like I Corinthians 15:22 and apply the lessons to our questions regarding the awakening and resurrection of the unborn.

“*For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all shall be made alive.*” This one verse gives us the very basic philosophy of the entire Divine plan for mankind’s redemption and deliverance. For our question, what we need from these words is to see that the entire

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human race comes FROM ADAM. Everyone dies BECAUSE of the death sentence given to Adam as the father of the human race. In other words,

NO MATTER HOW WE DIE, WE DIE BECAUSE OF THE DEATH SENTENCE IMPOSED UPON ADAM. NO MATTER HOW EARLY OUR LIVES TERMINATE (including in the womb), WE WILL BE GIVEN THE RELEASE FROM THAT DEATH BECAUSE **“IN CHRIST SHALL ALL BE MADE ALIVE.”**

It is a one-for-one exchange. The life Jesus gave, he gave in order to pay for the original death sentence. Therefore, every human being who has ever received the “breath of life” (the “spark of life” — life from Father Adam) WILL AWAKEN to receive the opportunity for resurrection.

The ONLY KILLER of the human race is the original death sentence. We might call it “Adamosis” — the condition of death inherited from our original progenitor. Therefore, if an expectant mother contracts a disease which kills the infant in her, the child is stillborn. WHY did it die? It died because of “Adamosis.” If a mother dies before her child can be delivered, BOTH die. Are they not BOTH children of Adam? If an accident causes the death of a fetus, is that fetus any the less a part of Adam’s race? If a doctor performs an abortion, does that IN ANY WAY change the fact that the aborted fetus had life from Father Adam? We should all be able to reason on this matter with full confidence from Scripture. ALL HUMANS (in ANY stage of development once life has begun) are direct descendants of Adam and die because of the original death sentence. “As ALL in Adam die...” But it doesn’t end there! “Even so, in Christ shall all be made alive.” There are NO RESTRICTIONS on the opportunity for gaining the life we each lost due to Father Adam.

The aborted children will all return. They will be awakened in the Peaceable Kingdom, and they will, with the rest of Adam’s progeny, be given the opportunity for life in the resurrection process under the Mediator of the New Covenant.
