**Topic: The Doctrine of Life**

**Worldview Brief: #240**

**Objective**: Understand the reason life has intrinsic value and purpose from God.

# Primary Scripture(s):

* **Genesis 1:27**: “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them.
* **Psalm 139:13-14**: “For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.
* **Job 12:10**: “In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind.
* **Job 1:21**: “And he said, “Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.”
* **Revelation 7:9** “After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands”

# Additional References to Consider:

# Genesis 9:6 (Judgement will come for murder because it violates the image of God)

# Job 33:4 (The Spirit of God is the one that gives life to mankind from the beginning)

# Jeremiah 1:5 (God knew us even before we existed in the womb, He created us)

# Acts 17:26 (All people in the world come from the same ancestors and are one family)

# 1 Corinthians 10:31 (The purpose of mankind is to glorify God in everything we do)

# Psalms 86:12 (Glorifying God is the eternal purpose of mankind and all things)

# 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (We do not own our bodies; Jesus has purchased us and owns us)

# Ecclesiastes 8:8 (The time of our death is ordained and controlled by God)

# Psalms 139:16 (God has created, ordained, and determined our number of days)

**Summary Statement**: Mankind was created in the image of God and has intrinsic value from God and violating a life (murder) is against the law of God. God ordained life from the womb until natural death, and we should glorify God and follow Him before all else.

**Primary Points to Keep in Mind:**

1. Mankind is created in the image of God and has instinct worth and value.
2. Life begins at the point of conception, babies in the womb are fully human.
3. Life is a sacred gift created by God and violating the sanctity of life is evil.
4. God has created people differently and racial/ethnic different are valued by God.
5. Life should not be ended (unless to uphold justice/safety) outside natural causes.
6. Mankind exists to glorify God and find out joy and pleasure in His glory.

The Six Key Points Regarding: The Doctrine of Life

1. **Mankind is created in the image of God and has instinct worth and value.**

**Brief Explanation**: Mankind is very unique in the created order, being the only created being identified as being made in the image of God (Genesis 1:27). Being created in God’s image gives us an intrinsic value, and is the reason murder is wrong (Genesis 9:6). Being made in God’s image in part entails our eternal, spiritual nature, which is why life has such great value. The value of life is not based on the quality as our culture says but is given value by God.

1. **Life begins at the point of conception, babies in the womb are fully human.**

**Brief Explanation:** Life and the image of God are on humans from the point of conception. God is the one who ordained, created, and design us in the womb (Psalms 139:13-14) and His Spirit gave us life (Job 33:4). Actually, God knew us before we were in the womb, the idea of our being existed in His mind eternally past (Jeremiah 1:5) showing no one is an accident.

1. **Life is a sacred gift created by God and violating the sanctity of life is evil.**

**Brief Explanation:** Violating the image of God, murdering, and destroying life, is evil. From the first moment in the womb until we take our last breath, life is sacred. There are times when taking life is necessary to preserve life or bring justice, but the unjust violation of the image of God is always wrong. God is the sovereign giver and taker of life (Job 1:21 and Job 12:10).

1. **God has created people differently and racial/ethnic different are valued by God.**

**Brief Explanation:** Racism has existed throughout history, and still exists today. Science has now confirmed what scripture told us all along, all mankind came from Adam and Eve and are actually the same family (Acts 17:26, Genesis 3:20) and therefore racism makes no sense. Furthermore, ethnicity and race (people group subdivisions) bring joy to God and can glorify God in many ways. In heaven (Rev. 7:9) people appear to maintain some ethnic uniqueness.

1. **Life should not be ended (unless to uphold justice/safety) outside natural causes.**

**Brief Explanation:** There are a few cases when life can be ended for the sake of safety or justice. Self-defense is allowed and not called murder, and authorities such as governments are told they can execute people to uphold justice. Outside those examples, life should not be ended outside natural causes. It does not matter how painful or low the quality of life is, life is sacred from conception until natural death, which is in God’s hands (Psalms 139:16).

1. **Mankind exists to glorify God and find out joy and pleasure in His glory.**

**Brief Explanation:** Our purpose, and the purpose of all things, is to glorify God (1 Cor. 10:31) and find our pleasure in Him. Glorifying God remains our purpose in eternity too (Ps.86:12).