in the long ago: to bring our world to desolation because of this unspeakable sin?

What is abortion? Perhaps it is a skillful surgeon inserting a curette into the mother's womb and cutting the baby into pieces that are then scraped out.

What is abortion? Perhaps it is "suction". The abortionist inserts a hollow tube into the uterus. The tip of the tube is sharp enough to cut tissue. The other end of the tube is connected to a suction force powerful enough to suck out the parts of the baby as it is cut and torn, limb from limb. The head, being too large to pass into the tube, is crushed and then sucked out.

What is abortion? Perhaps it is saline injection, in which a strong salt solution is pumped into the amniotic sac. The baby is literally burned by the salt, to the point that it dies a horrible and painful death. This method of aborting babies was developed originally in Nazi concentration camps. (We humane and civilized people wouldn't do anything as vile as the Nazis, would we?)

What is abortion? Perhaps it is "partial birth abortion", which takes place just before the full-term baby would be born by natural means. In this method, forceps are used to pull the baby's body out through the uterus, leaving

only the head unborn. A sharp object is plunged into the base of the skull, and then the brain of the child is sucked out, collapsing the head.

Every day, throughout the world, almost **115,000 babies** are murdered because of the decision of one or both parents. Since abortion became a legal procedure in the United States, with 50 million deaths to our credit, we have wiped out as many people as the combined total population of our 64 largest cities!

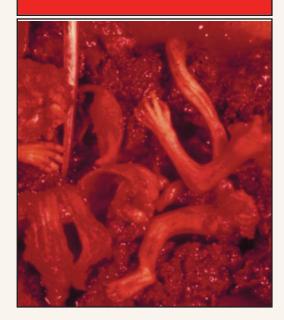
God formed the first human from the dust of the ground and then He breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul. Life! That immortal part of man that was God's greatest gift! The fact that humans — made in God's image — can so rationalize that they can justify in their own minds the heartless murder of millions of other humans, shows to what extent they have sold themselves to evil.

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What Is Abortion?

Betty Burton Choate



What Is Abortion?

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The act of abortion has been legal since 1973, and in the US alone almost 50,000,000 babies have been aborted in that time. Throughout the world, the number would be more than 1.5 billion.

We hear language like "family planning", "pro-choice", and "right to choose". The words sound non-threatening. Acceptance of the evil has become a way of life, as with the toleration of so many other evils.

What does God's Word say about the entity within the womb? "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).

This is a beautiful description of the weaving together of the human body, as it is being formed in the mother's womb. David said that God knew all of him, even before any of his cells and organs had begun to develop. God rec-

ognized him as a human, from conception, and He had purpose for David's life. What would the difference have been in the history of the world if David's mother had decided to abort him? What difference has been made in our world history by the loss of the millions of babies that have been slaughtered?

The law of Moses dealt with the question of a pregnant woman being injured in a fight between her husband and another man: "If men strive, and hurt a woman with child, so that her fruit depart from her, and yet no mischief follow: [she has an early delivery, but the baby lives] he shall be surely punished, according as the woman's husband will lay upon him; and he shall pay as the judges determine. And if any mischief follow, then thou shalt give life for life ..." (Exodus 21:20-23).

In such a case, if the baby died, the man who caused its premature birth would be put to death — "life for life". In no uncertain terms, God stated that the life of the unborn infant is truly human life, and that it is as important as the life of an adult.

"Thus saith the LORD; Execute ye judgment and righteousness ... and do no wrong, do no violence to the stranger, the fatherless, nor the widow, neither shed innocent blood in this



place. ... if ye will not hear these words, I swear by myself, saith the LORD, that this house shall become a desolation" (Jeremiah 22:3-5).

"... your hands are defiled with blood..." (Isaiah 53:9).

What is abortion? It is murder. It is the shedding of the most innocent blood of all, multiplied one- and one-half billion times, the world over. Far more lives have been taken through abortion since the turn of the twentieth century than through all of the combined wars. Far more lives are sacrificed day after day on the altar of "convenience" than have died in all of the purgings, holocausts, and genocides in the world. Is God not still remembering what He swore to do