

# The Gospel Unashamed

"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half-truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

*A Controversial Newsletter "The Printed Voice of Summit Theological Seminary"*

~ All articles are written by George L. Faull, Rel. D. unless otherwise stated ~

Vol. 34 No. 1

January 2021

George L. Faull, Editor

## What About God Killing Children?

By Terry Carter

### Dear Brother Carter,

What is the difference between a human killing a baby and God killing a baby? Why is it right for Him, but wrong for man or woman?

### Answer:

This is a good question. However, it attempts to put two entirely different things on an equal moral plane.

Decisions by human beings to kill unborn children are very different from God's decision to wipeout or punish a corrupt culture such as God did in the Old Testament.

The first, and most important, thing is that God is God, and we are not. God knows all and we do not. God is the giver of life and He can decide with all justice who should live and who should die. It is His prerogative, but not ours. He is the Potter; we are the clay.

The basic premise of the question is that if something is acceptable for God, it is acceptable for man. This is obviously absurd on the very face of it. God does all kinds of things that we either cannot or should not. God can strike a man down dead without a trial. He can be the judge, jury, and executioner and still be just, we cannot. Jesus can claim to be the Son of God without blaspheming, we cannot. God can determine what is

and is not acceptable sexual behavior, man cannot.

In fact, God can see it from an eternal perspective which we simply cannot. What I mean is, He knows where each individual will spend all of eternity. We do not have such knowledge.

How can humans decide which children have reached an age of accountability and which have not? Of course, they can't with certainty. Physical death is far from the worst thing that can happen to you.

It needs to be pointed out at first that in all these cases, the adults (parents) had the ability to protect their children if they desired to do so. Rahab is one example in the Conquest of Joshua. The whole household was saved because of her faith. Those who failed to do as she did have the blood of their children on their hands.

In the case of the firstborn in Egypt, many of those who died were surely adults. But again, anyone who had faith in God could have joined with Israel and followed the instructions for the Passover to protect themselves and their children. There was a mixed multitude that left Egypt.

**Exodus 12:38, "And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, even very much cattle."**

**Numbers 11:4, "And the mixt multitude that was among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel**

also wept again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat?"

Some of the Egyptians had decided to join Israel. By the time the death of the firstborn came, the Egyptians had every reason to believe in the God of the Israelites. Even Pharaoh's magicians knew that this was God's doing.

**Exodus 8:19, "Then the magicians said unto Pharaoh, This is the finger of God: and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said."**

Egypt had already endured nine plagues. Beginning with the plague on the cattle, God made a distinction between Egypt and Israel.

**Exodus 9:4, "And the LORD shall sever between the cattle of Israel and the cattle of Egypt: and there shall nothing die of all that is the children's of Israel."**

The death of the children was a direct result of the hardness of the hearts of their parents.

The same is true in the flood. Noah was not just an ark builder. He was a preacher of righteousness.

**2 Peter 2:5, "And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;"**

God waited patiently while the ark was being prepared.

**1 Peter 3:20**, “Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of **God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing**, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.”

However, nobody was convinced but Noah’s own family. The blood of the children is on the hands of their parents. Even if they didn’t want to get on the ark themselves, they could have sent their children. But they did not.

Regarding the flood, only Noah is said to be “perfect in his generations”, **Genesis 6:9**, “These *are* the generations of Noah: **Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations**, and Noah walked with God.”

**Genesis 6:1-4**, “1 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, 2 That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they *were* fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose. 3 And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also *is* flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years. 4 There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare *children* to them, the same *became* mighty men which *were* of old, men of renown.”

In light of **Genesis 6:1-4**, it seems that the rest of mankind had corrupted themselves with the seed of the angels that sinned. That means that none of these children were even fully human. Further with all the sin in the world, many diseases would have been rampant even among these children. That is certainly true in the land of Canaan as well. Remember that God delayed the conquest of Canaan until their sin was full, **Genesis 15:16**, “But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: **for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.**”

Further, the giants were in the land of Canaan.

**Numbers 13:33**, “**And there we saw the giants**, the sons of Anak, *which come* of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.”

**Deuteronomy 9:2**, “**A people great and tall, the children of the Anakims**, whom thou knowest, and of *whom* thou hast heard say, Who can stand before the children of Anak!”

So, like in the flood, there was a mixing of seed with non-humans.

In the land of Canaan, God made it clear that they could convert or leave.

**Exodus 23:30**, “By little and little I will drive them out from before thee, until thou be increased, and inherit the land.”

**Deuteronomy 7:22**, “And the LORD thy God will put out those nations before thee by little and little: thou mayest not consume them at once, lest the beasts of the field increase upon thee.”

**Joshua 24:12**, “And I sent the hornet before you, which drove them out from before you, *even* the two kings of the Amorites; *but* not with thy sword, nor with thy bow.”

If they refused to do either, they would be conquered. Conquering was the last resort, but if they refused their other choices, conquering was all that was left.

Joshua’s successes demonstrated that God was with him and they could not defeat him. If they decided to stay and fight, they knew it was a death sentence for them and their children. All they had to do was obey God to spare their lives and the lives of their children. Again, the blood of the children is on the hands of their parents.

Don’t forget that in Canaan, the firstborn was often sacrificed to their pagan gods. They were burnt in the fire or buried in the cornerstones of their homes, etc. Their daughters offered their hymens to the gods of fertility and took their turn as a temple

prostitute. Many of their sons also served as temple prostitutes. Disease and perversion were beyond correction.

I once had a man say to me that he had problems with the conquest of Canaan. Later in the conversation, he said he understood capital punishment. He recognized that some individuals got so corrupt that there was nothing you could ever do with them but kill them. I asked him if this was ever true of entire cities or cultures. He agreed that it could happen. Of course, only God could know when this was the case. This is exactly what happened to the Canaanites.

Imagine that Joshua had spared all the children below fighting age. What would have happened in 20 years or so? These children would attack Israel to avenge their parents. Recently, we were not fighting the same people in Iraq that we fought in the early 90’s or even the early 2000’s. We were fighting their children and grandchildren.

Not only that, the Canaanites would want to marry Israelites. God warned that this would be a snare to them and turn their children from God. In fact, that is exactly what happened precisely because Israel did not fully follow God’s command to destroy all the Canaanites that remained in the land.

At what age does a child become corrupted like their parents beyond rehabilitation? I don’t know and neither do you, but God does. While the bodies of innocent children were destroyed, their souls were saved. Only God knows which ones these were.

However, it remains true that more were saved by God’s judgment than would have been saved by His mercy. But it is not up to us to decide such things. The only one who has the right or the knowledge required to make such decision is the Giver of Life, God Himself.

On this basis, I am not only opposed to abortion, but euthanasia and suicide. It is for God, not humans, to decide who dies when. The only exception to this is when God has told us to put someone to death, for example: **Genesis 9:6**, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man."

When God commanded Israel to kill the Canaanites, we have another situation where God has made the decision, not man. The same is true of the flood and the death of the firstborn in Egypt. The decision to give life or terminate it belongs to God alone.

How many times has somebody been conceived who would cure cancer or write treasured literature, or invent something wonderful but they were aborted? We will never know the answer to this question, but God does. I am certain, however, that we have forfeited many blessings from God because of abortion.

There is obviously much more that could be said on every point here. However, this should give you some idea as to how to answer such a question.