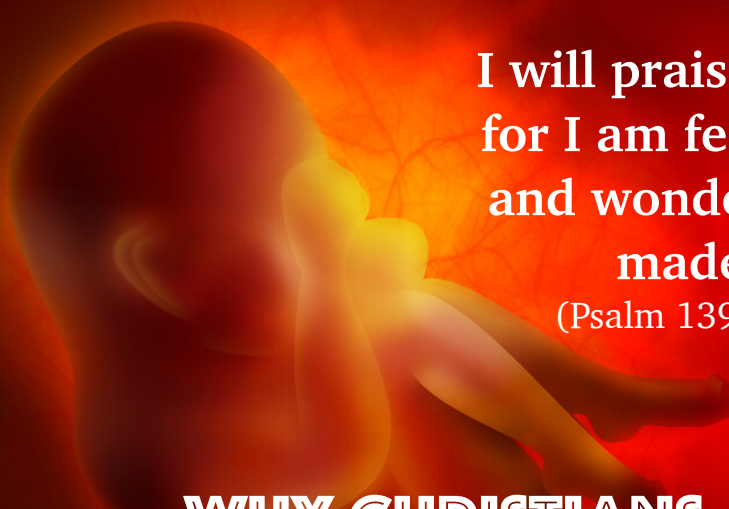


# CHRISTIAN WATCH



I will praise thee,  
for I am fearfully  
and wonderfully  
made

(Psalm 139:14)

## WHY CHRISTIANS MUST OPPOSE ABORTION

That a child in the womb is a real person is proven by the fact that John the Baptist, six months after being conceived in the womb of his mother Elisabeth, responded to the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ in Mary's womb, when the expectant mothers met one another. The timing of this meeting was when the Lord Jesus had Himself but very recently been conceived (miraculously by the power of the Holy Spirit upon Mary). We accordingly read in Luke's Gospel,

*"And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb" (Luke 1:41).* So here one baby in the womb is responding to the presence of another baby in the womb,

proving that they are both real human beings with personalities and emotions.

Science tells us that “the heart of an embryo starts to beat from about 5-6 weeks of pregnancy” and that “by the 10<sup>th</sup> week the foetal heart will have developed fully” (1). Therefore, abortion is the destruction of real life, life which has come into being in the providence of God, who has in fact ordained the existence of every single person in the womb, not just from the moment of conception, but even from before time began, because God has planned all things from eternity.

For example, God says to the prophet Jeremiah, “*Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee*” (Jeremiah 1:5).

We further learn - from Psalm 139 - that it is God Himself who fashions a person’s physical make-up in the womb. Such life is therefore not “just a lump of cells” which can be discarded. It is rather exactly what the Lord has carefully planned. In this psalm David is addressing God about the beginning of his existence, as his own body was being formed within his mother, and in verses 15 and 16 he states concerning his embryo,

*“My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret ... Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them”* (Psalm 139:15-16). So God’s word tells us here that every detail of a human being’s genetic and physical make-up was “written” out, that is, planned by God, even before the embryo came into being. Therefore abortion is to kill life which God has ordained, and is accordingly a premeditated breach of the sixth commandment, “*Thou shalt not kill*” (Exodus 20:13).

(1) <https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/when-does-a-fetus-have-a-heartbeat#timeline>