

marking for God the official beginning of human life.

In Exodus 21:22-25 God leaves no ambiguity that for him; a born woman's life is paramount to that of an unborn fetus's life. "When men strive together and hurt a woman with child so that there is a miscarriage and yet no harm follows, the one who hurt her, shall be fined, according as the woman's husband shall lay upon him and he shall pay as the judges determine. If any harm follows then you shall give eye for eye, tooth for tooth, life for life."

If the woman miscarries but she doesn't suffer any other harm or death, the punishment is a fine for causing the death of the fetus. However, if any harm to the woman follows, then the punishment is an eye for eye or life for life.

The law considered the death of the fetus or any harm or death of the woman as a loss or damage to property that belonged to the husband. That's very different than the fetus having independent intrinsic value, which is what anti-abortion extremists desperately try to extrapolate from these verses.

Clearly, for God, a born woman's life outweighed that of an unborn fetus's life, conception to birth.

God killed the first born of Egypt including the innocent child just seconds out of the birth canal for vengeance. Is that frivolous? Punishing Israel for their impiety and idolatry, God caused abortions upon their innocent unborn babies by giving the Israelites "miscarrying wombs." Do I hear any outrage from anti-abortion extremists? For God, (and Pat Robertson, by his own recent admission) there are circumstances under which killing innocent human life, including fetuses, is moral. Seems current day anti-abortion extremists aren't in-step with God on this one.

For God, a woman has an absolute right to life and liberty over a fetus, conception to birth. For anti-abortion extremists a fetus has that absolute right. But it's Roe v. Wade that correctly and morally balances the right to life and liberty of both, hardly a public policy that would ever draw condemnation from God.

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## Roe v. Wade correctly balances right to life

To the editor

The Bible never speaks specifically of abortion, neither condoning nor condemning it. It's very curious that God, speaking so specifically on other critical issues, didn't speak in clear terms about elective abortion, much less condemning it, especially considering anti-abortion claims that God holds fetal life most sacred.

Verses about God's involvement in the creation of the process of human life development, like Jeremiah 1:4-5 that Richard Grimler in his March 20 letter cited, say absolutely nothing about when God bestows official recognition of the beginning of human life, that being the moment of birth. Genesis 2:7, "... and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul." The Hebrew word for human being or living person is nephesh, which is also the word for breathing. By God's own desire and design human beings breathe through their nostrils upon birth,