

God is Prochoice.

WHAT! God favors abortion. Let's go back to definitions. Prochoice means favoring the ability to choose. God created human beings with the ability to make choices. He didn't have to. It was His choice to do so.

He made human beings in His image, and it apparently includes the ability to choose as well as to think and communicate.

He also made creatures without choices. Plants' leaves reach out to the sun and their roots seek water. Animals operate mostly on instincts, although your dog seems to choose to love you as much as your cat chooses to tolerate you.

But humans were given the ability, as well as the obligation to choose. Our first father and mother were given a rule, a certain tree from which they were not to eat. There were two options, obey or disobey. You may have heard that they chose to disobey, and it was a rule with consequences which we still face today.

Humans have instincts but also the ability to think about, plan and consider whether or how they fulfill them. After being expelled from the Garden "where the living was easy," the provision of food became a major concern that required planning and work.

Instincts towards sexual attraction were present from the beginning, and people could see what the animals did about them. But humans can modify the expression of those instincts because we are able to consider the consequences.

Even the instinct to pay back others for harm can be restrained or redirected, something that would not affect a mother bear if her cub were threatened.

Avoiding trouble by telling lies is always a potential choice but telling the truth is also available and the advantages of truthfulness ought to be clear to anyone who thinks it through.

All of these decisions have consequences and human beings have the ability to consider, to plan and make informed decisions, although we do not fully know the future.

God knows the future and has given us object lessons in the rest of His creation. We reap what we sow and can therefore understand that planting crabgrass will not yield succulent fruits and nourishing vegetables.

But back to the usual connotation of Pro-Choice: the choice of what to do with an unwanted pregnancy is the culmination of a series of choices, perhaps made by the individual, influenced in some cases by others who have their own agenda, and perhaps made entirely by others.

The choices that are left at the end of those series do not include any really good ones. They are all difficult and – can I say it? Bad choices. Whether the pregnant person made the

choices, or it was forced upon her, the life of a separate human being is now involved, someone who had NO SAY in the proceedings.

There is another, even bigger choice embedded in all the others. The penalty for the first bad choice made by the founders of the human race, disobedience, is sin and sin leads to death. The ancients were made to understand it by the sacrificial system. Adam and Eve realized they were naked after taking themselves out of the protection of their Creator and tried to cover it up. The acceptable covering was clothing made of the skin of an innocent animal, who died for THEIR sin. This looked forward to the perfect sacrifice of the perfect person, Jesus Christ.

Forgiveness was made possible, but we humans still have a choice: accept it or reject it. Who would reject it? Well, acceptance involves two uncomfortable admissions. One is that I am sinful and have offended my rightful authority. Another is the recognition that I cannot solve this problem myself. The third is that I need to put myself back under authority, proper authority – my Creator, not my fickle appetites that invariably lead me to self-destructive behavior. The commitment does not lead to perfect execution but sets the direction for my life – the opposite of the way I had been going!

What are you doing with the choices you have been given?

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