

Modern topic 5: science

Bible teaching on Modern science: blood donation, organ donation, vaccination, contraception, plastic surgery, human cloning and euthanasia/assisted suicide/dying.

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Information notice board

- 1) **About me.** Before I became a devoted Christian, I spent 20 years of my life having grown up in church tradition, knowing about God but not knowing God. God however rescued me to turn me into his servant and I got baptized in May 2017. Since then, he has given me a message, to go and preach the gospel as a preacher and an evangelist including to his servants bound up in traditions. You can read my full testimony [here](#):
- 2) **About these series.** The Lord Jesus gave me a single word “Go”. This word will define a series of 12 topics he has also given me to tell his church in order to develop mountain moving faith. This message is one of those topics.



What God told me at the start..

On 30 September 2020, more than one year ago since I am publishing this article, the Lord gave me 12 messages in a season called “Go” which would be about mountain moving faith. Those 12 messages were in a particular order and as the year comes to an end, the significance of the order is becoming clear to me. For example:

- The November message covered Magic, and this is just after Halloween.
- The December message among others is covering Euthanasia or assisted suicide/dying. One year ago, infact from the beginning of the world the Lord knew this debate would be taking place around this time for example:
 - Respected Newspaper “The Economist” in it’s November 13th 2021 edition welcomes the spread of assisted suicide through laws having been passed in more than 12 dozen countries, for example, In New Zealand a law was enacted after 65% of voters backed it. 5 of Australia’s 6 states have assisted dying laws, Portugal’s parliament passed one and the British House of Lords is debating itⁱ.
 - CNN also reported that it is legal in Spain and Austria has drafted a law to make it legal. ⁱⁱ
 - Even Jersey, my home already recommended via a citizen’s jury in May 2021 that assisted dying should become legal. ⁱⁱⁱ

Lawmakers are passing laws, guided by science and “modern man”, but what does God the author of life say about it?

At the beginning of this season, the Lord also gave me psalm 139 to share with you, so he can help us understand the times and the seasons.

This psalm shows first that God knew us from the beginning, before we became a cell, even before we were formed, and that our lives are very precious to him! Part of it goes thus:

Verse 16-18:

*Your eyes saw my unformed substance;
in your book were written, every one of them,
the days that were formed for me,
when as yet there was none of them.*

*How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
If I would count them, they are more than the sand.
I awake, and I am still with you.
(Psalms 139: 16-18 ESV).*

it then also shows that often times the wicked speak, hiding behind science and we the righteousness of God often remain silent - UNTIL we can't take it anymore and then we speak showing them how different God sees things. It for example says:

*You murderers, get away from me!
God, kill those wicked people—
those who say bad things about you.
Your enemies use your name falsely.
Lord, I hate those who hate you.
I hate those who are against you.
(Psalms 139: 19-21 ERV).*

What God has revealed in this time/season thus far....

To help you understand the seasons we are in, where God wants us to develop "Mountain moving faith", let me recap of the foundation in Christ alone which he has built this season. All messages are here: <https://www.shaweleroad.com/go>

His ways show:

1. **Faith is the substance of things hoped for**, belief in what's unseen. Science and human folly focus on what's seen. (This was *message #1*)
2. Instead of walking in paths of righteousness, **we walk in wickedness and in sin** (*Message #2*).
3. While we were yet sinners, God reached down to us and gave us the law, so that by looking at it, we could see it's impossible to please God by following rules and to then reach out and take his hand of mercy, this is **AMAZING Grace** (*Message #3*).
4. God then shows us how to exercise faith: we speak his word. We preach. Miracles signs and wonders follow the preaching of the word, yes including if we preach about **the God of hell** (*Message #6*).

Along the path of righteousness, stumbling blocks come up:

5. **which religion is the right one?** (*Message #4*)?
6. **What do you do with wealth?** Does God want you rich or poor (*Message #7*)?
7. In the midst of this, God taught us **how to pray and meditate** because many of us are groaning "God, do you even hear me?" He showed us why he might not be hearing our prayers (*Message #5*).

Our great king then started showing us the so called “modern things” that are preventing us from exercising childlike faith, which at its core is about believing the word of God, not the things we see in this world. He dealt with:

8. **Modern feminism** (*Message #8*)
9. **Relics** such as the shroud of Turin and how these things and idols cause faithful people to stumble (*Message #9*).
10. **Death, purgatory, reincarnation and similar death topics.** He used the pain from the death of my dad to help me open other’s minds (*Message #10*).
11. **Modern magic.** Building on the subjects of relics and death he shows how magic/witchcraft is hiding in plain sight - in astrology/stars and even things like wellness and self-help (*Message #11*).

It is against this background that he is building us to this final topic where he deals with the final thing which hinders our faith – **science** (*Message #12*), which deals with only what is seen. It really is the anti-thesis of faith for faith is about what is unseen.

In the message I will unpack that:

- We are not as scientific as we claim (as I started to show in the topic of magic).
- Science is good and has made a tremendous difference in various fields.
- But it also has a dark side (the bad and ugly) in these same fields, if you don’t see the spiritual matters behind it all.

Science and religion have not always been in opposition as many of us think.

The process of separation of science and God was however not always the case because really until just last evening (the 1800s), many primary developers of key scientific disciplines which we love and are amazing were in fact God fearing scientists. For example:^{iv}

- Galileo Galilei (1564 – 1642) – Astronomy, mathematics and physics.
- Isaac Newton (1642-1727) – dynamics.
- Robert Boyle (1627- 91)- chemistry.
- Gregor Mendel (1822-84) – genetics.

Additionally, many of today’s world-famous leading universities have their origins in God (but some hide this fact). For example:

- *Harvard University* was named after a Christian minister.
- *Yale* was started by clergymen, and *Princeton’s* first year of class was taught by Reverend Jonathan Dickinson. *Princeton’s* crest still says “*Dei sub numine viget,*” which is Latin for “Under God she flourishes.”

- *Oxford University* was established by various religious orders and likewise, *Cambridge University* was established in 1209 by Christian leaders. Meanwhile *Saint Andrews*, Scotland's oldest university, was founded principally for the teaching and study of theology.^v

Furthermore, science and faith deal with different things. To help you see this, If I asked you a pretty simple question to illustrate the matter:

"Why is the water boiling in the tea kettle?"

- The scientific answer might be: "The water is boiling because at this temperature it undergoes a phased transition from liquid to vapour."
- Another acceptable, though non-scientific answer is: "The water is boiling because I put the kettle on the stove."
- A third answer might be: "The water is boiling because my prayer partner is coming over for tea."

None of the answers is wrong; rather, each gives a different perspective to the question. The scientific answer does not therefore tell the whole story. Science is therefore tremendously successful in understanding the physical world, but we should not let that tempt us to think it can be used to understand everything in life. If I am to be honest, for many, it seems science is "as much a religion" as religion is after all. The facts are there but then are interpreted (often with passion) to fit the scientists' convictions.

Science at its core tries to study the physical/natural through observation and experiment and so science try as it might cannot fully explain God and his ways, though God uses science and nature to reveal himself to us) because the Bible says: God is Spirit viand so is not physical or natural – you cannot see or touch him.

Many agnostics and atheists therefore hide behind science as their faith system, because it likewise takes faith to believe in the Big Bang Theory – because there are all sorts of assumptions made. It is therefore a religion of sorts. Meanwhile, even many of those who label themselves as agnostics or atheists research shows, actually are not as scientific as they say. Many of them hold on to new age beliefs. Reputable Pew Research shows that as example in America^{vii}:

- 22% of atheists actually hold onto one of these 4 new age beliefs (reincarnation, astrology, psychics and the presence of spiritual energy in physical objects like mountains or trees).
- 56% of agnostics believe in one of these 4 new age beliefs
- 80% of those who say they believe in "nothing in particular" actually believe in one of these 4 beliefs.

The Good, the Somewhat Bad and the Ugly of science

Modern science can generally be viewed from looking at various Christian views I researched on this topic as moving on a sliding scale from those generally viewed as:

- Positive or good – covering organ donation, blood donation and vaccination
- 50/50 – somewhat good and somewhat bad – covering family planning and plastic surgery
- Ugly – covering cloning and euthanasia/assisted suicide/dying.

Part 1: Good

Most Christians broadly argue that the science around organ donation, blood donation and vaccination would be classed as “good science”. Some of the ideas and bible principles to support this include:

On organ donation^{viii}

Though the Bible does not directly address organ donation, there does not seem to be evidence that it is forbidden under any principles in Scripture. Organ donation typically falls under two types:

- *Living donation* - a living person voluntarily donates one of his or her organs (e.g a kidney) to another person.
- *Deceased donation* – which is often the most debated. In this case, organs, eyes, or tissue are transplanted from a deceased donor to another person.

Christians worry about organ donation because for example: they believe the body is being mutilated and it might all be required at the resurrection and so needs to be intact. They also worry that those who receive the organs might not be deserving.

In response the general bible principles to consider include the following:

1 John 3: 16: *“This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.”* Giving up your organs for another person is a form of showing love for another person and this is biblical.

1 Corinthians 15: 150 and 1 Corinthians 5: 1- 3 seem to show that our heavenly/resurrection bodies will not really be like our current earthly bodies, hence potentially supporting that it doesn't matter if you don't have some organs at death.

1 Corinthians 5: 1- 3 says:

For we know that when this earthly tent we live in is taken down (that is, when we die and leave this earthly body), we will have a house in heaven, an eternal body made for us by God himself and not by human hands. We grow weary in our present bodies, and we long to put on our heavenly bodies like new clothing. For we will put on heavenly bodies; we will not be spirits without bodies.” (NLT).

Thus, the Bible seems to suggest that Christians will be getting completely new bodies.

On donating blood – is it a sin?^{ix}

The bible says that *“the life of the body is in its blood” (Lev 17:11)* and so some Christians are opposed to blood donation on these grounds.

But there is nothing in principle or in Scripture that forbids a person from donating blood. On the contrary, we are commanded to *“not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it” (Prov 3:27).*

Also Jesus once said, *“Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends” (John 15:13)* and that could mean the shedding of blood in the process of saving someone's life. Many veterans have done just this; some paying with their lives.

Should Christians get vaccinated?^x

Few topics seem to elicit stronger emotions or more opinions than the decision of whether or not to vaccinate. *Is it really that much of a risk to just opt out? How can we really know these vaccines are safe?* And what about the ethical concerns regarding how they're made? These are important questions—questions worth taking seriously.

We can't understand vaccines without first understanding the incredible power of our natural immune system. When disease-causing viruses and bacteria infect our bodies, they carry a sort of molecular "fingerprint" that our bodies can recognize as foreign. To defeat an infection, our immune system must generate an army of disease-fighting cells equipped to identify the invader by this particular fingerprint. Generating this defense can take days, but after an infection has passed, immune cells called "memory cells" (a type of white blood cell) remain circulating in the body long-term. With the extraordinary tools of modern medicine, researchers are able to create tiny particles that mimic the molecular fingerprint of a virus or bacterium.

These particles are the key ingredients of a vaccine, and they come in various forms. Some simply copy a piece of the infectious germ (like the vaccine for whooping cough) or its genetic material (like some COVID-19 vaccines) in order to prepare the body's defenses. Others (like the polio vaccine) contain a deactivated (or "dead") version of the virus, while still others (like MMR and chickenpox) contain a version of the germ that is attenuated, or weakened to the point that it won't cause disease in a healthy patient. When injected into the body, these particles trigger a gentle but effective immune response, leaving the body equipped with the disease-fighting memory cells needed to prevent a real infection in the future.

People sometimes mistakenly assume they have to choose: Either get vaccinated, or boost your natural immune system and rely on its disease-fighting powers instead. But vaccines do not—and cannot—*replace* the work of our immune system. Vaccines are the ultimate immune-boosters, strengthening our immune system and equipping it to do the extraordinary work God created it to do. Like a military drill, vaccination ensures our defenses are fully prepared to fend off a dangerous disease. The reality is that *no* vaccine is 100% risk-free, just as no medical procedure is 100% without risk. It is for this reason that approval bodies like FDA have an approval process.

The bible position on why vaccination can be generally classed as good:

In [Philippians 2:5-7](#), God commands us to, *"In your relationships with another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus" by "taking the very nature of a servant" and "not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."* We, of course, need to make wise decisions for ourselves, recognizing that our *"bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit"* ([1 Corinthians 6:19](#)). But we also need to recognize that we were created to be in community with others, loving and serving them as Christ would.

Until we consider the effect our vaccination decisions have on others, we have not addressed the question from a fully Christian perspective.

Part 2: 50/50 (somewhat good, somewhat bad)

Contraception/family planning^{xi}

The Bible nowhere forbids birth control, either explicitly or implicitly, and we should not add universal rules that are not in Scripture. Some of the major theological objections that have been made to birth control can be categorized according to the following questions:

- Is birth control consistent with the truth that children are a gift from the Lord?
- Shouldn't we let God determine the size of our family?

It is very important to delight in the reality that "children are a gift of the Lord." (Psalms 127: 3-4) but some people go further and argue from this that since children are gifts from God, it is wrong to take steps to regulate the timing and number of children one has.

In response, it can be pointed out that the Scriptures also say that a wife is a gift from the Lord (Proverbs 18:22), but that doesn't mean that it is wrong to stay single (1 Corinthians 7:8). Just because something is a gift from the Lord does not mean that it is wrong to be a steward of when or whether you will come into possession of it.

It is wrong to reason that since A is good and a gift from the Lord, then we must pursue as much of A as possible. God has made this a world in which tradeoffs have to be made and we cannot do everything to the fullest extent. For kingdom purposes, it might be wise not to get married. And for kingdom purposes, it might be wise to regulate the size of one's family and to regulate when the new additions to the family will likely arrive.

Sometimes people also reason that if you really want to "trust God" to determine the size of your family, then you should not use birth control.

We certainly don't think that way in other areas of life. We don't reason, for example, that we should never get haircuts so that "God can decide" the length of our hair. Farmers don't just let the wind plant their crops in the fear that actively regulating what is grown on their land somehow interferes with the provision God wants to give them. And a family doesn't just trust God to provide food for by waiting for it to drop from the sky, but instead goes to the store to buy it.

Further, God has revealed that it is His will for us to regulate and direct creation for His glory (Genesis 1:28).

And what is the bible position on abortion and emergency contraceptives, the "morning after pill".^{xii}

Since modern birth control and fertility options were not available during biblical times, the Bible is silent on the matter of using these methods to prevent or encourage pregnancy but Abortion or Emergency Contraceptive Pills (ECPs) are not an acceptable form of birth control because abortion and the morning-after pill work post-conception, resulting in the death of a living human being.

God knows every person before his or her creation and lovingly forms the body within the womb (Jeremiah 1:5; Psalm 139:13-16). Many options, including [adoption](#), are available for those who do not wish to keep the baby.

Plastic surgery^{xiii}

The Bible does not specifically address a Christian having plastic surgery or cosmetic surgery. There is nothing in the Bible to indicate that plastic surgery is, in and of itself, wrong.

There are people – such as acid burn and accident victims who we recognise genuinely need plastic surgery. Nevertheless, The most commonly performed cosmetic procedures include breast augmentation/lifts, liposuction (the removal of body fat), facelifts, eyelid lifts, buttock and other body lifts, leg vein treatments, botox/fat injections, and nose and face reshaping.

When vanity motivates a person to undergo surgery, he/she has become his/her own idol. The Bible warns us not to be vain or conceited ([Philippians 2:3-4](#)) and not to draw attention to ourselves by the way we look ([1 Timothy 2:9](#)). Another concern would be the cost. This is a major consideration because most people have families, and the expense of plastic surgery should never come before the needs of the family. The Bible also tells us that we need to use wisely the money that God has entrusted to us ([Proverbs 11:24-25](#); [Luke 16:10-12](#)).

Other considerations for Christians to consider before this include:^{xiv}

- your body does not belong to you but to God, The Holy Spirit's temple (1 Cor 6: 19-20). It belongs to who redeemed you/bought it.
- Use your body to glorify God, rather than yourself. "It is my eager expectation and hope that . . . Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death." Phillipians 1: 20.

In conclusion decisions on family planning and plastic surgery need wisdom from the Lord before being undertaken.

Part 3: The Ugly/Worrying

Human cloning^{xv}

A clone is a genetically identical copy of a living organism, such as the famous sheep "Dolly" (unveiled in 1997). The cells of any living thing contain a complete set of genetic information or "instructions" for itself. Dolly was a copy or "clone" of a sheep.

Should Christians view the cloning of animals differently than humans? In Genesis 1:28, humans were appointed by their Creator to rule over "every living thing that moveth upon the earth" (as well as fish and birds—verse 26). Therefore, if the cloning of animals could benefit mankind (e.g. producing cows that yield more milk that would feed more people), then there seems to be no Biblical reason not to clone animals.

What about cloning humans? Cloning of humans can be opposed for a variety of reasons: The Bible draws a very clear line between the nature of animals and humans. People are created differently ("in the image of God"—Genesis 1:27) and separately from the animals.

Each fertilized human egg, including any that results from cloning, is a new human individual. Perfecting the cloning technique requires several experiments, and many embryos will be destroyed in the process.

Human cloning is closely tied to the issue of abortion and the real beginning of human life.

No serious biologist who is familiar at all with the human body would argue against the clear fact that all the DNA coding needed to build each individual's physical features is there right at the egg's fertilization. No new genetic information is ever added to a developing embryo. An embryo is human from the beginning. And according to the Bible ([Exodus 20:13](#)) and virtually all ethical standards, it is wrong to intentionally kill such innocent human life.

Euthanasia/assisted suicide^{xvi}

For centuries, physicians have adhered to the sentiment as described by the Hippocratic Oath. One of the clauses included in the historic commitment is this: *“I will neither give a deadly drug to anybody who asked for it, nor will I make a suggestion to this effect.”*

Those who subscribe to the oath promise to refrain from participating in two actions now known as euthanasia and physician assisted suicide.

Euthanasia is the intentional act of taking a human life for the purpose of relieving pain and suffering. This can occur actively or passively.

- **Active euthanasia** involves an intentional act on the part of the physician toward a patient that causes death.
- **Passive euthanasia** involves withholding treatment with the intent to cause death. Physician assisted suicide, “PAS”, is a type of voluntary euthanasia in which a doctor either intentionally provides information to a patient about how to commit suicide, or prescribes the means that allow the patient to commit suicide.

There are three primary arguments in favor of euthanasia and PAS: autonomy/freedom of choice, minimizing pain and suffering, and the idea that there is no morally relevant difference between taking steps to hasten death and allowing the dying process to occur.

In Canada, if a physician refuses to participate in euthanasia or PAS, he is legally required to refer patients to a physician who will. But the Bible teaches that suffering is not necessarily something that should be avoided at all costs. Romans 5:3 teaches us to *“rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance.”*

Similarly, James teaches this: *“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing”* (James 1:2-4).

For most people, including Christians, rejoicing in our sufferings is not easy. A dying person screaming in pain or weeping in loneliness in a hospital bed does not want to be told to be joyful in his suffering; and indeed, he generally shouldn't be.

Others in favor of euthanasia and PAS cite personal autonomy and freedom of choice. Everyone, they argue, has a right to die when and how they choose, and in fact, human dignity includes this. But consider the words of Job: *“A person's days are determined; you have decreed the number of his months and have set limits he cannot exceed”* (Job 14:5). Euthanasia and PAS “assert a desire to be infinite” and reject a dependence on God, the author of life and controller of death.

“So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them” (Gen. 1:27). Human beings are created in the Imago Dei—the Image of God. This alone gives us inherent dignity and a value to our lives. At some point, determining that our lives are not worth living fundamentally rejects this dignity.

Conclusion: Practical faith.

So, what must you do to exercise your child like faith or faith like a mustard seed?

1. **Dare to imagine/believe/dream (again).** A good pastor said “believing is our role, the making it happen/doing is God’s role”.
2. **Go back to where you have fallen from, trust the word of God again.** Too few of us believe the bible and that Jesus is the son of God and there lies our sin. “The one who is sinning will keep on sinning”, we shouldn’t be like the wicked, instead by patient endurance, possess your soul.
3. **Believe in the message the messengers preach.** Messengers like us evangelists don’t send ourselves! How can you believe unless you hear? But how can you hear unless we are sent. It’s why it is written: “*How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings*” (Romans 10: 14-15). During this holiday season, give yourself the gift of faith.

When you start believing again, you will truly then hold on to every word Jesus spoke, like those early words he spoke when he had just come down from praying all night and choosing his disciples:

*“Blessed are you poor,
For yours is the kingdom of God.
Blessed are you who hunger now,
For you shall be filled.
Blessed are you who weep now,
For you shall laugh.
Blessed are you when men hate you,
And when they exclude you,
And revile you, and cast out your name as evil,
For the Son of Man’s sake.
Rejoice in that day and leap for joy!
For indeed your reward is great in heaven,
For in like manner their fathers did to the prophets.*

Luke 6: 21 – 23 (NKJV).

If you keep on believing, then you will eventually become like the heroes of faith, for example:

Women received their dead back to life. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. (Hebrews 11: 35 NKJV)

Which will you believe ? The God who has never failed, even if you cannot see him but his handiwork is evident to all or only the things you see?

This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live. (Deuteronomy 30: 19, NIV).

Choose life. See you on the other side, by God’s grace. Grace and blessings from God and from our Lord Jesus. Lord Jesus, come, Maranatha!

Let us pray.

How can I pray for you?

- **You are *faithfully searching*** for the Kingdom of God – but you cannot see it clearly owing to loss of your child like faith. Jesus wants you to believe again! Receive your faith back, in Jesus' name; or
- **You are *a prodigal son/daughter***– You used to believe but now you have fallen away. Thankfully Jesus is warning you to return to him, stop sinning before something worse happens(John 5: 14).
- **You have *never received the gift of Christ***, being eternal life and neither have you received Jesus' Holy Spirit, the one who will give you the gift of faith to believe without seeing.

Write to me so I can pray further for you: dwasake@shaweleroad.com

Next steps

- Visit our website which shows the steps it takes to get to know Jesus and be saved from this wicked generation. <https://www.shaweleroad.com/what-must-i-do-to-get-saved>
- Our work is freely given for we received freely from the Lord. If you however like what we are doing: [Then you can partner with us by giving to our work.](#)

Information notice board (continued)

Pray for us! Without the Lord, our effort is in vain. Pray that we remain faithful, humble servants.

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<https://leadinglightsnetwork.com/>

We are a group of Church leaders and planters who are committed to helping ordinary people start and lead Church meetings wherever they live in the world.

The above ministry/website has not paid us to provide this recommendation and so the views expressed here do not necessarily represent the views of the ministry promoted above. Likewise the views therein do not necessarily reflect those of this ministry.

Notes

ⁱ <https://www.economist.com/leaders/2021/11/13/the-welcome-spread-of-assisted-dying>

ⁱⁱ <https://edition.cnn.com/2021/10/23/europe/austria-assisted-dying-draft-law-intl/index.html>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.gov.ie/News/2021/Pages/AssistedDyingCitizensJuryFinalReport.aspx>

^{iv} *The Bible's answers to 100 of Life's biggest lessons*, Norman L. Geisler & Jason Jimenez, Baker Books, 2015.

^v <https://answersingenesis.org/christianity/harvard-yale-princeton-oxford-once-christian/>

^{vi} John 4: 24

^{vii} <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/10/01/new-age-beliefs-common-among-both-religious-and-nonreligious-americans/>

^{viii} <https://www.christianity.com/wiki/christian-life/what-does-the-bible-say-about-organ-donation.html>

^{ix} <https://www.patheos.com/blogs/christiancrier/2015/09/01/is-donating-blood-a-sin/>

^x <https://biologos.org/common-questions/should-christians-get-vaccinated/>

^{xi} <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/does-the-bible-permit-birth-control>

^{xii} <https://www.gotquestions.org/family-planning.html>

^{xiii} <https://www.gotquestions.org/plastic-surgery.html>

^{xiv} <https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/botox-dieting-and-plastic-surgery>

^{xv} <https://answersingenesis.org/sanctity-of-life/cloning/the-scientific-and-scriptural-case-against-human-cloning/>

^{xvi} <https://erlc.com/resource-library/articles/what-does-the-bible-teach-about-euthanasia-and-physician-assisted-suicide/>