“Be fruitful, and multiply” is the first commandment given to mankind by God.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

—Genesis 1:27-28 KJV

Man is the crowning achievement of God’s perfect creation, and is given special authority and purpose- being made in the image of God. As God is above and beyond his creation, ruling over it with supreme power and creative intelligence, Man is to fulfill a special role as governor of the created order. God created mankind as male and female for the purpose of reproduction.

Commandment or Blessing?

Some may say that it is not actually a moral imperative for a man to procreate with his wife, but that God was merely defining their nature with his creative word. When God said, “Let there be light”, he was calling it into being by his omnipotent Word. So when God blessed the birds and fish, he was merely defining their nature by his Word, and not expecting them to understand, nor consciously obey.

And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.

—Genesis 1:22
There is a distinction in the blessing given to man, however; God does not merely bless, but he also addresses them directly. “And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply”. God knows that man can understand, and he expects man to obey. So it is both a blessing and a command. Man is actually given two progressive commands: to procreate, and to subdue the earth.

This First Commandment, to “be fruitful, and multiply” is part of original Law, direct from the Creator, applicable as long as this created order endures.

Already Fulfilled?

Some may say that the earth has already been sufficiently replenished and subdued by man, giving him leave to discard this ancient injunction, and to pursue matters of greater cultural relevance; but as long as the earth endures, so does the relevance of this command given to man in the beginning. The earth passes away before the word of God becomes obsolete.

For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

—Matthew 5:18-20
Part of the Law?

When God later codified his Law for men in the Ten Commandments, this was in consistent continuity with the natural order established in the beginning. If the command to “Be fruitful, and multiply” is actually one of the commandments of God, one would expect it to be somehow encompassed by summaries of the Law of God delivered later.

The Fifth Commandment preserves the authority of a father and mother over their children, as the dominion of man is extended through natural generation.

Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

—Exodus 20:12

These fundamental precepts of God’s moral Law all spring from the order that is laid down in the beginning. Created male and female, humans have a God-given responsibility to procreate, and to exercise authority over their children.

The Sixth Commandment is also relevant in this case.

Thou shalt not kill.

—Exodus 20:13

The prohibition against murder applies not only to the fully grown, but extends even to the youngest and most formative of human beings. When, in the interest of preventing the fruit of the womb from coming to fruition, life is snuffed out at the very source of generation—this commandment against murder is violated also.
Jesus Christ often expounded upon the Moral Law of God in his teaching, as he appealed not only to the Ten Commandments, but to the original Law established in creation. In answer to a question regarding marriage, Christ appeals to the original law from the book of Genesis.

And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

—Matthew 19:4-6

In a similar method of interpretation, we can arrive at the following exposition of original law regarding procreation:

Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it? So they are mutually enjoined to procreate. What therefore God has ordained, let not man attempt to prevent.

Holy matrimony reaches its very fulfillment in childbearing, inasmuch as the child embodies the “one flesh” that results from the biological union of husband and wife. Even the word itself “matrimony” signifies “the making of a mother”.

**Only Abortion is Wrong?**

Childbirth can be prevented by abortion, and also by contraception. Abortion is rightly perceived as a serious crime against humanity, nature, and God.

It is prohibited simply enough by the Commandment “Thou shalt not kill.”
Some have been taught to allow for abortion in the case of certain situations, such as:

- **Rape or incest**: In the cases of rape or incest, the child himself has done nothing wrong, and bears no guilt from the actions of one or both of his parents. The baby is certainly not worthy to be punished by death, and to do so would be a great injustice.

  The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin.
  
  —Deuteronomy 24:16

- **Fetal Deformity**: God is the Creator not only of humanity in general, but of each and every human being. God takes ownership of each person, including those with disabilities.

  And the LORD said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the LORD?
  
  —Exodus 4:11

- **Life of the mother**: To consider abortion allowable in the effort to save the life of the mother is a Talmudic Jewish deception. The Talmud, which is contrary to Biblical Law, and blasphemous against Jesus Christ, provides all sorts of loopholes which allow for: abortion, murder, fornication, adultery, homosexuality, pedophilia, and all manner of other sins. In the Talmud, an infant is only considered “potential life”, and not life itself. It could also be classified as a “rodef”, or pursuer, which threatens the life of the mother, and hence, should be killed preemptively. The Talmud also teaches a principle, called “Whose blood is redder?” - which says that one cannot make a distinction as to the value of one life over another; hence, a mother might rightly kill her child in order to preserve her own life.
The whole concept that a child must sometimes be killed to preserve the life of the mother is a red herring- inasmuch as modern medicine has the means to preserve the lives of both mother and child through various methods. All efforts should be made to save the lives of both the mother and the child, even if success in saving the life of the child by premature delivery might seem highly unlikely.

Even if it were a matter of weighing the value of one life against another, this might not favor the life of the mother. What manner of mother would it be, who would use her own infant to stop a bullet, and save her own life? Would this be morally acceptable? The future of all life is contingent on the unknown. The life of an infant, due to its young age, would have more “potential life”, that the life of her mother, whose life is already partly spent.

**Non-Abortifacient Birth Control More Acceptable?**

Most Christians today agree that birth control by abortion is wrong, but they allow for birth control by contraception.

Of course, they often blur the distinction, through the use of “only sometimes abortifacient” means of birth control. Many will use the Pill, which often causes abortions (but not always). What manner of moral turpitude is it to play Russian Roulette with the life of your child? Is it no less murder, just because it doesn't happen every time?

Some might question whether it is really murder to cause the expulsion of an embryo. This can be answered in accordance with the answers to two other questions: “Is the embryo human?”, and “Is the embryo alive?”

**When Does Life Begin? At One Month of Age?**

In another Talmudic deception, a child under the age of 30 days is considered of questionable viability, and without the legal rights of personhood. This is partly based upon the fact that God did not count infants under one month as part of the population.
...every male from a month old and upward shalt thou number them.

—Numbers 3:15

Nevertheless, a child is very much alive, even before reaching one month of age. The difference between a newborn child, and a grown child, is not one of substance, but merely one of age.

So some people will draw the line at \textit{viability}, but not God.

\textbf{At Birth?}

Some might say that a person is not fully alive until they are given \textit{breath}. In the beginning, Man was mere clay until he was given “the \textit{breath} of life”.

\begin{quote}
And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.
\end{quote}

—\textit{Genesis 2:7}

By this reasoning, an infant is not yet fully alive before it breathes, and so abortion is not actually murder, but merely manslaughter. In the Talmud, a child before birth is not considered a person or living soul, “nephesh” (נָ֫פֶשׁ - - pronounced: neh'-fesh), but it is only “potential life”.

The creation of Adam and Eve, however; does not parallel the creation of a new born baby. Adam and Eve were created in adult form, and their life did not begin, until God breathed it into them. A human baby, on the other hand, is alive from the moment of fertilization.

So some people will draw the line at \textit{birth}, but not God.
At Quickening?

Some people will draw the line somewhere during fetal development in the womb, when it was presumed that the soul enters the body. This is sometimes called the “quickening”.

The Bible also defines life as being present in the blood.

For the life of the flesh is in the blood

—Leviticus 17:11

So an infant that has blood is alive, even before it breathes.

So some people will draw a line at some point in fetal development, but not God.

At Conception?

It is an observable material fact that human life begins at conception, and so some will say that it is wrong to prevent it from coming to fruition only after this point. Yet God regards life even before conception.

My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; 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

When it says, “When as yet there was none of them” - it implies a point in time before any body parts existed, essentially, before conception. This also agrees with another verse:

Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.
When it says, “Before I formed thee in the belly”, it implies a point in time before conception.

So some people will draw the line at \textit{conception}, but not God.

\textbf{Even Before This}

God regards life before \textit{viability}, before \textit{breath}, before \textit{quickening}, and before \textit{conception}, according to the design that God has made to bring it forth. God calls those things that are not, as though they were. God made promises to Abraham regarding his future seed.

\begin{quote}
For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever. And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.
\end{quote}

\textit{—Genesis 13:15-16}

God speaks of “seed” as descendants that are destined to be born from a certain ancestor. This is a plan that God fulfills over time through many generations.

The Apostle Paul says that Levi was in the loins of Abraham (before he was conceived).

\begin{quote}
And as I may so say, Levi also, who receiveth tithes, payed tithes in Abraham. For he was yet in the loins of his father, when Melchisedec met him.
\end{quote}

\textit{—Hebrews 7:9,10}

God Speaks of the Monumental Significance of Destined Descendants. To Abraham, God says:
And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee. And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.

—Genesis 17:6,7

God blesses Israel with descendants yet in the future:

And God said unto him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins

—Genesis 35:11

If God ordains the destinies of the families of the earth long before their ancestors are born, and explicitly commands mankind to “Be fruitful, and multiply”, is he not displeased when people seek to frustrate his purposes through birth control?

In the Bible, the advent of a great king is known at their very birth, as it was with the coming of Christ. How many “kings”, “nations”, and great men of the earth has Mankind been deprived of, because of birth control?

**Does the Bible say anything specifically about Birth Control?**

There is the precedent of Onan, which is a form of case law. When Onan selfishly avoided his responsibility to father children, this displeased the Lord.

And Judah said unto Onan, Go in unto thy brother's wife, and marry her, and raise up seed to thy brother. And Onan knew that the seed should not be his; and it came to pass, when he went in unto his brother's wife, that he spilled it on the ground, lest that he should give seed to his brother. And the thing which he did displeased the Lord: wherefore he slew him also.

—Genesis 38:8-10
Some people try to evade the implications of this passage by saying that the sin of Onan was something other than birth control, like failing to fulfill his father's wishes, or failing to do the duty of a kinsman, or of wasting seed; neither of which were punishable offenses in themselves, but the implications are obvious that what he did displeased the Lord. What he did was to practice birth control.

**A Problem of Motive**

Christ applied the law of God not only to outward actions, but to the thoughts and motives of the heart.

When Christ expounded on the commandment against murder, he said:

> Whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment…

— Matthew 5:22

And the Apostle John wrote:

> Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer…

— 1 John 3:15

Let us not despise the children, by intentionally blocking the means by which they might come into the world.

The scribes and Pharisees condemned others who committed adultery, while they freely entertained the same motives in their heart. Christ cut to the quick, by applying the law to the inward man.

> Ye have heard that it was said to those of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, that whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

— Matthew 5:27,28
Using a similar method of exposition, the statement could be made:

Ye have heard that it was said to those of old time, thou shalt not kill: but I say unto you, that whosoever uses birth control with the intent of preventing unwanted children has committed murder already in his heart.

Even though abortion is a distinct crime of feticide, the primary motive for abortion is birth control. It is hypocritical to condemn abortion, while at the same time giving consent-by-silence to other methods of birth control.

Since the beginning, the Law of God opposed murder with the death penalty; but notice how this is conjoined with the reiteration of the command to procreate:

Whoso sheddeth man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man. And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein.

— Genesis 9:6,7

The Dominion Mandate

Christians often like to cite the command to “have dominion” as justification for promoting legislation against abortion, while ignoring the very command therein to “Be fruitful, and multiply.” When many consider the words “have dominion”, being naturally inclined towards the things of this world, they desire political power over others (all with a good cause, of course - that they might outlaw abortion.) The command to “have dominion” is for having dominion over creation, not having dominion over other men. It is not a call to political activism, but a call to farming. If they were to obey the command to “have dominion”, it would be through childbearing. If Christians were to ignore the political mechanizations of this world system, and simply attend to the natural function of childbearing; they would, through simple demographics, dominate in the cultural sphere over time.
An increase of political power is directly linked to the increase of progeny.

Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

— Psalm 127:3-5

To “speak with the enemies in the gate” is to have influence in the halls of power. The strength to silence enemies comes from the very babes:

Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

— Psalm 8:2

It is Unnatural to Go Against Nature

The problem with birth control is in the motive, and not the method. The so-called “natural method” of occasional abstinence between married couples intent on preventing childbirth, can be wrong by motive, regardless of the apparent innocence of the method. This is contrary to explicit biblical instructions:

Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.

— 1 Corinthians 7:3-5
The only sanctified purpose for abstinence between married couples is for the sake of fasting and prayer, and that by mutual consent. Child-aversion or child-spacing is not a valid purpose. There is a time in life when God gives rest from the painful process of childbearing. This time is called “menopause”.

If God wills for a married couple to be without children, He could leave the woman to be infertile. And yet, even if a couple were infertile through no fault of their own; to be content with such a situation because of an attitude of child-aversion, is a sinful departure from a Biblical worldview. Consider the saints of old:

And when Rachel saw that she bare Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister; and said unto Jacob, Give me children, or else I die. And Jacob's anger was kindled against Rachel: and he said, Am I in God's stead, who hath withheld from thee the fruit of the womb?

—Genesis 30:1,2

How many Christians today have such a Biblical worldview, praying, “Give me children or else I die!” On the contrary, many harbor a selfish resentment against children, and fear rather that they might die, if they had children too many or too soon.

The Curse

Many women seem to regard children as a curse, rather than a blessing. This is somewhat understandable, inasmuch as elements of the curse are felt in the process. Of course childbearing is not easy. It is not meant to be. The curse has brought pain and sorrow into the process, but this should be borne with courage and honor. The woman suffers in childbirth:

Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children;

—Genesis 3:16
The man is also burdened, with the labor of working to provide for his growing family.

...cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread…

—Genesis 3:17b-19a

Nevertheless, these burdens of sorrow should be borne with strength of character. Beware, lest in the effort to avoid the effects of the fall, a greater curse shall come.

A Matter of Worldview

What is needed is a not a human recommendation of method, but a shift in worldview - to appreciate the gift of life that God desires to give to us. Children, as a good gift from the Father above, should be welcomed and received with thanksgiving. To prevent lawful procreation in disdain of the God-given responsibility to bear children, in effect despises the Creator by the rejection of his gifts.

It is God who withholds or provides the fruit of the womb. Christians ought not to presumptuously assume the place of God, by exalting their own plan for their family, in opposition to his revealed moral will. On a larger scale, we ought also to trust God for the regulation of regional populations.

Historical Christian Tradition

There is no valid historical Christian tradition which allows for the use of birth control. Catholic, Protestant, or Orthodox. Throughout history, all Christian traditions have agreed on the condemnation of birth control.
Many Protestants have been deluded into thinking that opposition to birth control is only an antiquated Roman Catholic dogma. This deception was foisted on the American people by Margaret Sanger herself, who divided her adversaries, by characterizing opposition to birth control as only a Catholic issue. In American history, Protestants were at one time more fierce in their opposition to birth control— even more “pro-life” than Catholics. Before the days of Margaret Sanger, the American Protestant, Anthony Comstock, championed the criminalization of birth control, pornography, and other evils.

**Church Fathers**

The issue of birth control is specifically addressed by several church fathers.

I am supposing, then, although you are not lying [with your wife] for the sake of procreating offspring, you are not for the sake of lust obstructing their procreation by an evil prayer or an evil deed. Those who do this, although they are called husband and wife, are not; nor do they retain any reality of marriage, but with a respectable name cover a shame. Sometimes this lustful cruelty, or cruel lust, comes to this, that they even procure poisons of sterility. . . . Assuredly if both husband and wife are like this, they are not married, and if they were like this from the beginning they come together not joined in matrimony but in seduction. If both are not like this, I dare to say that either the wife is in a fashion the harlot of her husband or he is an adulterer with his own wife

—Augustine, *Marriage and Concupiscence* 1:15:17
The exceedingly foul deed of Onan, the basest of wretches . . . is a most disgraceful sin. It is far more atrocious than incest and adultery. We call it unchastity, yes, a sodomitic sin. For Onan goes in to her; that is, he lies with her and copulates, and when it comes to the point of insemination, spills the semen, lest the woman conceive. Surely at such a time the order of nature established by God in procreation should be followed. Accordingly, it was a most disgraceful crime. . . . Consequently, he deserved to be killed by God. He committed an evil deed. Therefore, God punished him.

—Martin Luther

Deliberately to withdraw from coitus in order that semen may fall on the ground is doubly monstrous. For this is to extinguish the hope of the race and to kill before his is born the hoped-for offspring. This impiety is especially condemned, now by the Spirit through Moses' mouth, that Onan, as it were, by a violent abortion, no less cruelly than filthily cast upon the ground the offspring of his brother, torn from the maternal womb. Besides, in this way he tried, as far as he was able, to wipe out a part of the human race. If any woman ejects a fetus from her womb by drugs, it is reckoned a crime incapable of expiation and deservedly Onan incurred upon himself the same kind of punishment, infecting the earth by his semen, in order that Tamar might not conceive a future human being as an inhabitant of the earth.

—John Calvin

Mouthpieces of Satan

Rather than listen to the consensus of Christian History, and these aforementioned spokesmen for God, most American Christians today (wittingly or not) have a worldview that they have learned from the mouthpieces of Satan: Thomas Malthus and Margaret Sanger.
Thomas Malthus theorized that fundamental problems with civilization, such as epidemics, famines, or wars, were an economic result of a population that had expanded beyond the resources available to sustain them.

Thomas Malthus influenced Charles Darwin in the Theory of Natural Selection, commonly called “the Survival of the Fittest”. This provided the philosophical foundation for Eugenics, which was promoted historically in Europe by Adolf Hitler, and in America by Margaret Sanger.

No Christian tradition had ever accepted the practice of birth control before 1930, when the Anglicans led the way in their accommodation with secular culture at the Lambeth conference.

Some of those involved in this conference had communicated directly with Margaret Sanger, who had also encouraged a delay in childbearing after marriage, and child-spacing through birth-control.

**The Deadly Sin of “Pharmakeia”**

The Bible mentions the sin of “pharmakeia” (φαρμακεία, pronounced far-mak'-i-ah) in the context of other damnable sins like murder and various kinds of sexual immorality. This word signifies the use of drugs or potions with alleged magical powers, and is where we get the English words “pharmacy” and “pharmaceutical”. Because of an association with magic spells, this word is sometimes translated “witchcraft” or “sorcery”.

Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft [φαρμακεία], hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

— Galatians 5:19-21
Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries [φαρμάκων], nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

— Revelation 9:21

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers [φαρμάκοις], and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

— Revelation 21:8

For without are dogs, and sorcerers [φάρμακοι], and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

— Revelation 22:15

It is only fitting that this sin is mentioned in the context of murder and sexual sin (translated as fornication, or whoremongering), as the administration of drugs or potions was often for the sake of preventing conception, or causing an abortion. This could have been a way to avoid potential repercussions for engaging in idolatrous ritual prostitution or other pagan sexual rites or practices.

The word is used by the second-century physician, Soranos of Ephesus, in his book Gynecology, to refer to both contraceptive and abortive potions. The first-century biographer Plutarch also uses the same word (Romulus, 22.3) in a list of methods by which a woman might prevent her husband from obtaining a legitimate heir. So there is significant historical-linguistic support for the idea that “pharmakeia” encompasses the meaning of “birth-control”.

Other extra-Biblical sources and Christian tradition of antiquity explicitly mention birth-control as a sin. The Book of Jasher (which is referenced in scripture in Joshua 10:13 and 2 Samuel 1:18) speaks of an ancient potion of sterilization:
For in those days the sons of men began to trespass against God, and to transgress the commandments which he had commanded to Adam, to be fruitful and multiply in the earth. And some of the sons of men caused their wives to drink a draught that would render them barren, in order that they might retain their figures and whereby their beautiful appearance might not fade.

— Jasher 2:19,20

The practice of sterilization, as a more lasting form of birth-control, is implicitly condemned in scripture also; as it was considered a grave injustice to potentially disable a man’s reproductive capacity.

When men strive together one with another, and the wife of the one draweth near for to deliver her husband out of the hand of him that smiteth him, and putteth forth her hand, and taketh him by the secrets: Then thou shalt cut off her hand, thine eye shall not pity her.

— Deuteronomy 25:11,12

To be disabled in such a way, was a blemish which subjected a man to excommunication from the congregation.

He that is wounded in the stones, or hath his privy member cut off, shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD.

— Deuteronomy 23:1

An early church father, Hippolytus of Rome, explicitly addressed the use of drugs for producing sterility, when he wrote:

Whence women, reputed believers, began to resort to drugs for producing sterility, and to gird themselves round, so to expel what was being conceived on account of their not wishing to have a child…

— Refutation of All Heresies 9:7
The earliest Christian tradition also explicitly condemned the practice of birth control, as spelled out in the Didache, (or the Teachings of the Twelve Apostles):

And this is the second commandment of the teaching: you shall not kill; you shall not commit adultery; you shall not corrupt children, nor practice sexual deviation; you shall not steal; nor practice calling on spiritual guides; nor use sorcery \(\phiαρμακε\upsilon\sigmaις\); you shall not procure an abortion, nor practice infanticide; you shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

— Didache 2:1

Listed in conjunction with the sexual sins of adultery, pedophilia, and sexual deviation, and the offences against life of murder, abortion and infanticide, the meaning of \(\phiαρμακε\upsilon\sigmaις\) as the taking of a potion to prevent childbirth is amply consistent with the historical and literary context.

**Gnosticism: The Opposite of Christianity**

The cult of Gnosticism, called the doctrine of antichrist in the Bible, shows us the polar opposite of a Christian worldview.

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

— 1 Timothy 4:1-5
The Gnostics had a dualistic worldview, that portrayed the spiritual world alone as pure, and all flesh as evil (the whole physical creation as a cosmic “abortion”- a garbage product of an inferior deity.) They forbade marriage, not merely because of scruples over sexual immorality, as many of them lived lives of gross perversion, but because they despised procreation. The saw it as an evil work to imprison yet another soul in a physical body, and they interpreted the cries of a newborn as a lament for their imprisonment.

In direct opposition to this way of thinking, we should receive the gifts of our good and loving Creator with thanksgiving, and gladly welcome children into the world.

**Neo-Gnosticism: Human Dominion Destroying the Earth?**

Modern adherents of the worship of the earth fault human procreation and dominion over the earth, especially as taught by Christianity, as the source of all kinds of evil. Excessive procreation makes their “goddess” very angry. They consider over-population to be destructive to the earth.

The fault for the destruction of the earth does indeed have a spiritual cause, but it is not with the Christian worldview. While the pagans contend for the purity of the natural environment, their moral environment rapidly degenerates into gross pollution. The transgression of natural law is what brings about the destruction of nature.

In the beginning, man had full dominion over the environment, and all was blessed; but after he sinned, then the curse came upon the earth. The cause of environmental destruction is due to those who transgress the divine laws.
The earth mourneth and fadeth away, the world languisheth and fadeth away, the haughty people of the earth do languish. The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left.

— Isaiah 24:4-6

The cause of the land being defiled, is due to the sinful immorality of those who defile their bodies among themselves. They go against nature by breaking natural law, and nature in turn goes against them. The body of Man was made of the dust of the earth, and when he defiles his body though sexual immorality, though a sort of cosmic bond, this defiles the land upon which he lives.

Defile not ye yourselves in any of these things: for in all these the nations are defiled which I cast out before you: And the land is defiled: therefore I do visit the iniquity thereof upon it, and the land itself vomiteth out her inhabitants.

— Leviticus 18:24-25

The life-cycle of a civilization is linked to procreative trends. When a people-group channels their sexual energies towards procreation, they grow and prosper; but when they give themselves over to sexual practices that are unfruitful, they decline and waste away. A growing economy requires an expanding population. A declining population eventually leads to a shrinking economy.

Our future prosperity and happiness on this earth, and the very future of humanity, depends entirely upon a proper and natural practice of procreation.
Limited Resources?

The fear that there are too many people on the earth, and not enough natural resources to sustain them, is wholly inconsistent with a Christian worldview. In its contempt for the dominion of man over the environment, Paganism would restrict both population growth and the development of natural resources. From a Christian perspective, the most precious resource on the earth is the human race, and its growth should be cultivated and sustained above all else. Mankind should use natural resources to their full potential and proper function - to sustain the life of mankind.

We should not disregard the commandment of God in the fear that our family should grow too large to feed. We should trust God to provide for us, and seek first to live as he desires.

Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

— Matthew 6:31-33

In a world without God, there is never enough for the privileged few; but in the company of the Great Provider, there is food enough for the multitude. By the providence of God, the food supply expands to meet the needs of a hungry population. Consider the example of the miracle of the multiplication of food:

And he took the seven loaves and the fishes, and gave thanks, and brake them, and gave to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the broken meat that was left seven baskets full.

— Matthew 15:36-37

God gives Blessings of Fruitfulness and Prosperity together:
And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he sware unto thy fathers to give thee. Thou shalt be blessed above all people: there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle. And the LORD will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them that hate thee.

— Deuteronomy 7:13-15

Of course everyone wants prosperity and good heath, but these come with the blessings of children.

And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God. Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep. Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store.

— Deuteronomy 28:2-5

And the LORD thy God will make thee plenteous in every work of thine hand, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy land, for good: for the LORD will again rejoice over thee for good, as he rejoiced over thy fathers

— Deuteronomy 30:9

God preserves the poor and prospers them with many children.

Yet setteth he the poor on high from affliction, and maketh him families like a flock.

— Psalm 107:41
If you are worried about becoming poor as a result of childbearing, you betray a lack of faith, and an unbiblical value system.

**Be Blessed! Prosper!**

Children are not a drain on prosperity and happiness; *they are* prosperity and happiness.

Blessed is every one that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways. For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee. Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table.

— Psalm 128:1-3

Children are divine rewards of happiness. To welcome and appreciate new life is essential to a Christian worldview.

**The Blessing of God is the Increase of Progeny – with Abundance, and a Multitude**

God blessed Noah and his sons:

And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein.

— Genesis 9:7

And Abraham:

That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies

— Genesis 22:17
And they blessed Rebekah, and said unto her, Thou art our sister, be thou the mother of thousands of millions, and let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them.

— Genesis 24:60

And Jacob:

And God Almighty bless thee, and make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, that thou mayest be a multitude of people

— Genesis 28:3

I will surely do thee good, and make thy seed as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.

— Genesis 32:12

Moses also blesses the children of Israel in like manner:

The LORD your God hath multiplied you, and, behold, ye are this day as the stars of heaven for multitude. (The LORD God of your fathers make you a thousand times so many more as ye are, and bless you, as he hath promised you!)

— Deuteronomy 1:10,11

Receive the Blessing! Receive Children! Receive Christ!

And Jesus, perceiving the thought of their heart, took a child, and set him by him, And said unto them, Whosoever shall receive this child in my name receiveth me


Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

— Luke 18:16
What About in a Time of Crisis?

If birth control is not explicitly forbidden by a specific commandment, and it is left to man to manage his own family growth, are not there special circumstances where birth control might be lawfully used? Perhaps. Consider various Biblical examples:

In Babylonian Captivity? No.

Take ye wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that ye may be increased there, and not diminished.

— Jeremiah 29:6

In Slavery in Egypt? No.

And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them.

— Exodus 1:7-9

And he increased his people greatly; and made them stronger than their enemies.

— Psalm 105:24

Pharaoh was afraid and said, “Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we”.

Pharaoh tried to implement a policy of birth control - to perpetuate the slavery of the people. He commanded the Hebrew midwives to practice the infanticide of male children, but they “feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them.”

Even today, the powers-that-be encourage policies of birth control to reduce Christian populations to slavish obedience. They are saying that we should limit our family size; but we should fear God, and obey his commandments.
Why do Christians Listen to the Voice of Pharaoh, Rather than God?

Birth control is slavery. A morally compromised people is an enslaved people.

Jesus Christ said, “He who sins is a slave to sin.”

A diminishing population is a weak and dying people.

What is the Purpose of Marriage?

That you should bring forth fruit!

yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed.

— Malachi 2:14b,15a

And an allusion to Christ and the Church (to be fruitful:)

Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.

— Romans 7:4

Redemptive History is linked to Childbearing

In the beginning, the first Woman was named “Eve”, which means “the mother of all living”, even before she became a mother. It was a description of her destiny.

Another verse links childbearing to redemption from sin. While sin came to Mankind through the Woman; it was also through a woman (the Virgin Mary) that redemption from sin came to Mankind through a holy birth.
And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

— 1 Timothy 2:14,15

The Forbidden Fruit - Sex Without Fruitfulness

The voice of the serpent comes to women and men today, enticing them to the forbidden fruit of sexual pleasures divorced from the pain of childbearing.

Don't fight against nature. If you go against the natural use of the body (which results in childbearing), God gives you over to sin and vile affections.

For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature

— Romans 1:26

Not only homosexuality, but sex for recreation, (instead of procreation,) is against the proper and natural function of the body.

Salvation came to mankind through the birth of a child, and in this example there is virtue. Consider the example of the blessed virgin mother of Christ, and continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

Repent and Be Forgiven

If you have been child-averse, and practiced birth control, it is not too late to find remedy, even if your child-bearing years are past. In Christ there is forgiveness for any number of sins. Repent of past sins done in ignorance, and renew your mind towards a true respect for life, welcoming children as a good gift of God.