



# THE BROOKSVILLE BULLETIN

*Brooksville church of Christ*  
604 W. Fort Dade Avenue, Brooksville, FL

September 11, 2022

## Language Matters (Brian Messerli)

In the wake of the Supreme Court's overturn of Roe v. Wade, it is helpful to know how Satan manipulates language to confuse the abortion issue.

God is against abortion. He condemns murder (Genesis 9:6). He refers to pregnant women as being "with child"

(Genesis 16:11 – not "with tissue" or "with a clump of cells"). He refers to unborn babies by what they'll be in the future (Genesis 25:23). He actively takes part in weaving, forming, and shaping us in the womb (Ecclesiastes 11:5; Psalm 139:13).

Yet Satan wants to confuse us, so he influences people to twist language to make abortion sound reasonable. As the father of lies (John 8:44), it's what he does. When he told Adam and Eve they would be "like God," it sounded

great, but he didn't tell them what it really meant.

Language matters. If Satan can manipulate our language, he can manipulate our beliefs. One writer said, "Obscurity is the father of heresy, and ambiguity is the mother of all error." The following is a list of

phrases that have been manipulated to obscure the abortion issue.

### ✓ PRO-CHOICE

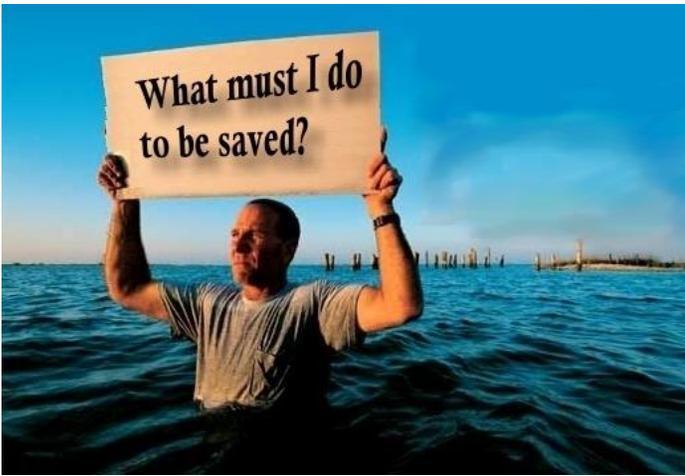
This makes it sound like those who oppose

abortion oppose freedom of choice, but that's not true. Freedom is great, but it has to be used responsibly (Galatians 5:13). No one, in any function of society, should have the freedom to kill babies in the womb without consequence.

### ✓ REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Abortion advocates argue the government is trying to force them to reproduce against their will. But once a child is conceived, they've already reproduced, so the reproductive rights aren't hindered





at all. Sex is the reproductive act, not birth.

#### ✓ TERMINATE THE PREGNANCY

"Pregnancy" sounds cold and clinical, not personal. More accurately, abortion is the termination of a person.

#### ✓ FETUS

Again, this is meant to dehumanize the child in the womb. But "fetus" is simply the Latin term for "offspring" or "young still in the womb."

#### ✓ FAMILY PLANNING

Abortion advocates argue that every woman has the right to plan when she starts a family. But anti-abortion laws aren't getting in the way of her plans; it's the pregnancy. She may not have planned to have a child, but that's not the law's fault; nor is it the responsibility of the government to provide her a way to kill the child so she can get back to her plans.

#### ✓ RIGHTS

Where in God's word or in the U.S. Constitution does anyone have a "right" to kill a baby in the womb?

#### ✓ MY BODY MY CHOICE

The problem is that abortion affects someone else's body. The

baby being killed is a separate body within the mother's body.

#### ✓ ACCESS: WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE

Abortion is labeled "health-care" to sound helpful to women, but it's not helpful to the future women in the womb being aborted. Healthcare is about healing, not killing.

#### ✓ CLUMP OF CELLS

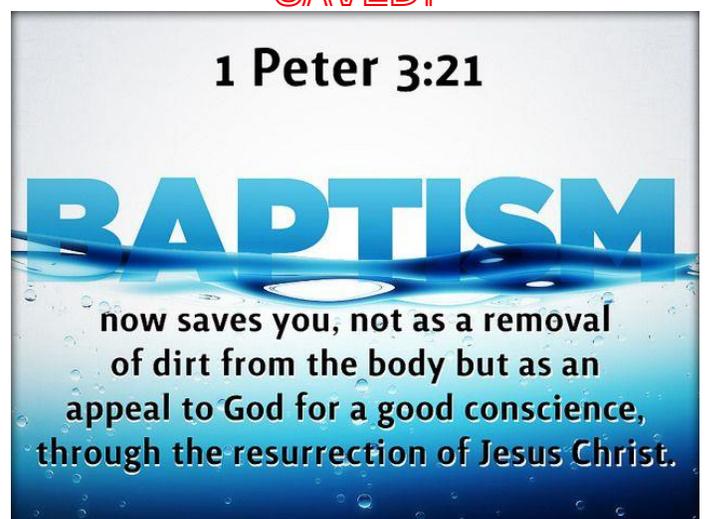
This is another attempt to dehumanize the child, but what makes a clump of cells in the womb any different than a clump of cells six inches outside the womb? It's still a human being made in God's image with his/her own unique DNA and inherent value and worth.

#### ✓ THEOCRACY

This presents abortion laws as the government imposing Christian values on people. But this issue isn't strictly religious; it's a human issue. People don't need to be religious to value human life.

LANGUAGE MATTERS. Let's not allow Satan to manipulate language to confuse the abortion issue.

**ANSWER TO THE QUESTION  
WHAT MUST I DO TO BE  
SAVED!**



## The Attraction To Sin (George Sweetings)

Several years ago, our family visited Niagara Falls. It was spring, and ice was rushing down the river. As I viewed the large blocks of ice flowing toward the falls, I could see that there were carcasses of dead fish embedded in the ice. Gulls by the score, were riding down the river, feeding on the fish. As they came to the brink of the falls, their wings would go out, and they would escape from the falls.

I watched one gull which seemed to delay, and wondered when it would leave. It was

engrossed in the carcass of a fish, and when it finally came to the brink of the falls, out went its powerful wings. The

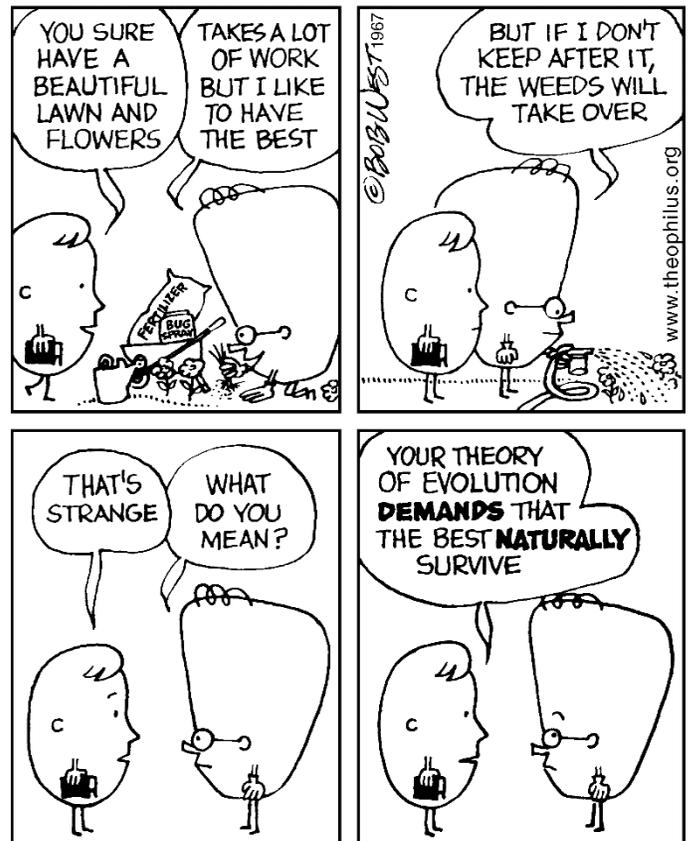
bird flapped and flapped and even lifted the ice out of the water, and I thought it would escape. But it had delayed too long so that its claws had frozen into the ice. The weight of the ice was too great, and the gull plunged into the abyss.

The material possessions of this world can entrap us if we become too attached to them. They will take us to our destruction if we cannot give them up. Oh, the danger of delay.



THEOPHILUS

Helping the Fittest Survive



## Careful To Answer (Robert Turner)

When Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were called before the king and faced charges of refusing to worship the golden image he had erected, Nebuchadnezzar asked, "Who is that god that shall deliver you out of my hands?" Things looked pretty dark. But they replied, "We have no need to answer thee in this matter" (AS). The King James version reads, "We are not careful to answer thee in this matter" (Daniel 3:15-16).

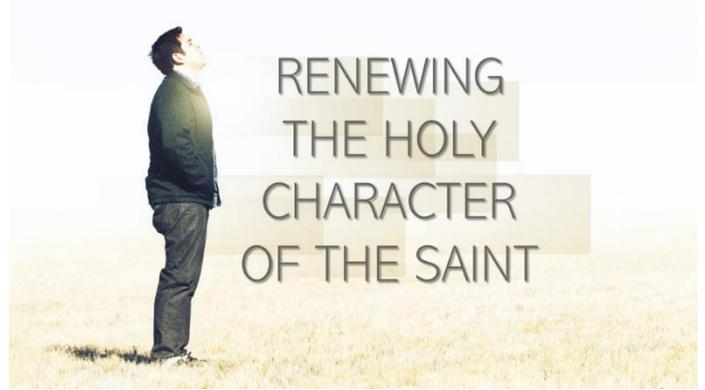
The thought seems to be, we will not choose our words carefully — concerned lest we offend; we will not try to "talk our way out of"

There was a time sin shocked us. But as brain washing progresses, what once amazed us only amuses us. We laugh at the shady joke; tragedy becomes comedy; we learn to speak the language of Vanity Fair.  
(Vance Havner)

this situation. And they added, "Our God is able to deliver us" (if it suits His purposes to do so), "but if not, be it known unto thee, O King, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up."

Several years back, a preacher said John (the Immerser) "lost his head" because he "lost his head" — he was not tactful in his criticism of Herod. John had said, of Herod's marriage to his brother Philip's wife, "It is not lawful for thee to have her" (Matthew 14). John was not "careful to answer," someone might say. Well, he certainly was not trying to "butter up" the king.

On the other hand, John and the captive Jews of Daniel 3 were very careful to maintain their faith in God and to court His approval. John lost his head, and the three Hebrews were thrown into the fiery furnace, but each gained more than he lost. We "have no need" for any man's approval as we have need for God's approval.



Jesus said, "Fear not those who kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul. but rather fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in Hell" (Matthew 10:28).

We are not advocating crudeness! Daniel's brethren were respectful to the king; and love for souls will forbid our becoming a bully with the truth. Shouting and stomping pronouncements of damnation are often signs of weakness, while genuine strength is accompanied by humility. But genuine strength speaks truthfully, directly, and clearly, regardless of temporal consequences — and because of inevitable eternal consequences.

**PRAY WITHOUT CEASING**

### **Brooksville Church of Christ**

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#### **Times of Services**

Sunday Bible Class for all ages (10:00am)

Sunday Worship all Welcome (11:00am & 6:00pm)

Wednesday Bible Class for all ages (7:00pm)

*Supporting the GOSPEL in other places:*

↪ Jamey Hinds, Hollywood, Florida; Roy Fenner, Panama City, Florida

↪ Zeke Flores, Columbus, Texas; Philip North, Branson, Missouri

↪ The saints in Nicaragua

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