

To Clone or Not To Clone

Much is in the news these days about medical experimentation in human cloning. Kinda scary - is it not?!

Cloning is now being successfully done in several species of animals. Genetic research and gene therapy show great promise for cures of catastrophic diseases. Every day we see on the news reports of new break-thrus in cancer research.

What are we in the faith community to think of all of this? Is this God's will? What are our Christian ethicists saying to us about this new breakthrough?

What are we to say to childless couples, those suffering from AIDS and all kinds of cancer?

You can be assured that the debate will go on at high and low levels - - sometimes at the hi-decibel screaming level. Some folks are probably already getting up demonstration groups and having signs made.

World governments, including our own, are quick to enact laws creating criminal penalties for those who participate in this leading edge research and experimentation. A report on the national news today revealed that scientists may have to station themselves on a ship in international waters to pursue their research.

This seems like fertile soil for us church folks to express an opinion, and you can count your ten-commandments on that!

Some will seek out what the Bible has to say. Some will just go with their gut feeling, and others will be content to just stick their head in the sand and ignore the whole thing.

We are sometimes better at imitating the Ostrich than we are at doing theology on new revelations. You know the seven last words of the church "we have never done that here before" - - and of the course the rest of that is - - "we ain't going to either."

The daily papers are crying, "who can play God?"

Let me humbly suggest that we earnestly seek communion with God and seek to know what God will ultimately reveal to us.

Friends, here is my take on all of this.

God is still in control! God is still in charge! God is still creating and revealing and God is still God!

If all of this is of God it will prevail and succeed - - if it is not it will not!

I don't think we need "Dr. Frankenstein monster" control laws. We have plenty of laws to take care of any abuse. These are not mad scientists who are involved in this research. Many, if not all, of these are men and women of deep and abiding faith doing their very best to live out God's calling of their giftedness.

The church needs to lead the way in forming the debate on human cloning. It is a God issue! Let's just let God be God!