

Glad Tidings

"And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers..." (Acts 13:32)

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Seminary Student And The Scriptures

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Jesus honored the Scriptures by which He exalted God and His Way, while also exposing error and man's ways.

Jesus pointed the self-righteous Pharisees to the Scriptures which demanded the honoring parents. *"Honor thy father and thy mother: and, he that speaketh evil of father and mother, let him die the death"* (Matthew 19:4, Deuteronomy 5:16, Exodus 21:17, Leviticus 20:9). The Pharisees were adding their own traditions by teaching, *"...Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, 'That wherewith thou mightiest have been profited by me is given to God'"* (Matthew 15:5). Jesus responds by declaring they have not honored the revealed command to honor one's parents, making it void in their lives (Matthew 15:6). Jesus applied Isaiah 29:13 to them, by declaring *"their heart was far from God, teaching as their doctrines the precepts of men"* (Matthew 15:7-9).

James Talarico is a 37-year-old Democrat running for the Texas Senate this year. Currently, he is also a Presbyterian seminary student often relating Jesus and the Bible to how government and individuals should treat one another. In doing so, he

reveals a lack of respect for the revealed Word of God, which Jesus never did. When the devil quoted Scripture to tempt Jesus to fulfill it (Psalm 91:11-12, Matthew 4:6), Our Lord presented another portion of Scripture to counteract the temptation. Jesus used Scripture to harmonize with the Truth issuing from God.

A year ago, podcaster Joe Rogan asked Talarico for *"the biblical evidence that supports the opinion for being pro-abortion."* Seminarian James directs viewers to the first chapter of Luke where *"God asks Mary for her consent"* to give birth to Jesus.

Where in Luke's account surrounding the conception and birth of Jesus does God through His angel *"Asks, is this something she is willing to do"*? Gabriel initially greets Mary with, *"Hail, thou art highly favored, the Lord is with thee."* When Mary is troubled by the manner of salutation, Gabriel responds with, *"fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God."* (Luke 1:28-30). The angelic messenger from God then immediately declares, *"And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus"* (Luke 1:31). When Mary responds, ...*"how*

can this be, seeing I know not a man?" Gabriel answers, *"...the Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Most High God shall shadow over thee; wherefore also the holy thing which is begotten shall be called the Son of God"* (Luke 1:34-35). Hearing this, Mary says, *"Behold, the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her"* (Luke 1:38).

Nowhere in Luke 1 does God ask for Mary's consent. But Talarico sums it up saying God asks Mary if *"this is something she wants to do, and Mary responds by saying 'Let it be done.'"*

This is James Talarico's evidence for the pro-abortion stance. No woman should therefore be forced to create a life and give birth against her will. Conception, the beginning of life, is going to occur biologically regardless if the woman consents or not. God declares what is about to occur in His handmaid (miraculous conception and giving birth to the Son of God). She responds with agreeing to the process as declared, not giving her consent before it happens. Mr. Talarico, like the Pharisees, teaches a doctrine of man, manifesting a heart far removed from God...and His Inspired Word.