Cloning

Wally Hayes · Series: **Meeting with Wally Hayes**

INTRODUCTION

- Tonight we're going to delve into this culture that we live in and just ask ourselves one very important question, and that is how far can we go?
- The thing that we want to be sure that we do not let happen to us is to let science overtake us and become our 67th book in the Bible.

1 Genetic Engineering: Something New for Something Old

Matthew 5:13

- In its simplest framework, it's basically the substitution of something new for something old.
- Insulin for diabetics is now produced by recombinant DNA.
- Underlying assumption of some people in this area that they can do things better than nature, as we Christians would say, better than God, and we've got to be careful about that.
- The Bible injunction for Christians to be the salt of the earth, Matthew 5.13, seems to me carries tremendous importance for us in this area and in all areas of our life.

2 The Bible and Genetic Engineering

2 Timothy 3:16–17; 2 Peter 1:3; 1 Corinthians 14:33

- Let us remind ourselves that the word of God is complete and perfect source of moral and spiritual information.
- The principles are there within God's word. We just need to probe diligently and study intently for the principles that are going to apply in this area.
- We need to not forget the importance of prayer.
- We need to pray, I think, for guidance as we think about some of these bioengineering technologies.

3 Assisted Reproduction Before and After Conception

Proverbs 6:16–17; Luke 14:13–14; Genesis 1:26–27

- There are a number of options open to married couples. They can remain childless, they can adopt, they can foster children, or they can think about assistant reproduction.
- Human life is sacred because God made man in his own image and the likeness, Genesis 1, 26 and 27.
- We do not, as Christians, have the right to abort. We do not have the right to do things that would harm the child.
- Once conception has taken place, as Christians, what we can do is very limited.

4 At Conception: Artificial Insemination

- You can use only the husband's sperm with his wife's egg.

- It's simply a medical science aid to correct a physiological problem, and I think Christians can support that.
- The other two types that's when there's a mixture or a donor, I would suggest to you that it's unacceptable for a Christian to do that.

5 In Vitro Fertilization

Psalm 127:3; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Timothy 5:14

- In vitro fertilization is simply fertilization outside of the female in a test tube.
- Somewhere in the process, it seems to me that the child has ceased to be a gift of God, Psalms 127, 3.
- Embryos are created and often destroyed in this process, and that's the real problem with this technology.
- To reproduce according to God's spiritual law, males and females must be married to each other, 1 Timothy 5, 14.
- In the case of in vitro fertilization, as long as it's done with those that are married and we control the number of embryos, then it doesn't violate God's law.

6 Cloning: Reproductive and Therapeutic

- Identical twins are human clones. A single egg is fertilized, that egg splits into two zygotes, and you get two identical individuals.
- There are two types of cloning reproductive cloning and therapeutic cloning.
- As Christians, we cannot take part in reproductive cloning.
- Embryonic stem cells require an embryo. And it requires us to kill that embryo. That living person.

MY NOTES