Abortion in The Bible

Defending the Unborn baby in the womb and standing up against abortion, the practice of unborn babies being killed in the womb, should be of high importance for any Christian. Unfortunately, far too many baptized Christians try to defend legalized abortion and try to come up with arguments to try and defend the idea that being Christian and pro-abortion are compatible with each other. Recently, James Talarico, a candidate for U.S. senate in Texas, became the latest high profile person to put political ideology over his Christian faith on this issue. His argumentation is similar to other arguments I remember. I will highlight some important arguments they make to try and justify their stance, and show that their arguments do not hold to scrutiny while strengthening the Christian pro life argument.

A common argument claims that the bible never condemns abortion or that Jesus never condemned abortion (the latter used by Mr. Talarico). While technically the bible never condemns abortion by name and Jesus is never recorded as condemning abortion in the bible, this argument can be misleading and leaves certain facts out. John 21:25 says that “There are also many other things that Jesus did, but if these were to be described individually, I do not think the whole world would contain the books that would be written.”. This shows that just because it isn't written that Jesus condemned abortion, doesn't mean he never condemned it. John 16:12-13 meanwhile says “I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now. But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth.”. This means that even if Jesus did not condemn abortion to his apostles, The Spirit theoretically could have still come to guide them to the truth that later on, abortion is to be condemned.

Additionally, while the bible doesn't explicitly mention abortion, we can still affirm Christianity's condemnation from it. We can pair the bible's condemnation of murder with the scientific findings backed by modern technology, such as ultrasound, that the baby in the womb is a living being, and thus ending its life is murder and to be condemned. We also have biblical accounts of life in the womb. In Genesis 25, Rebekah was pregnant with Jacob and Esau. Genesis 25:22 recounts “...the children jostled each other in the womb…”. When she went to The Lord over this, The Lord said in Genesis 25:23 “”Two nations are in your womb, two peoples are separating while still within you; But one will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger.””. Already in the womb, The Lord describes them as 2 nations and two peoples, using present tense to do so. The Lord doesn't say will be 2 nations after birth or potentially 2 persons, they already are 2 persons, 2 nations. There is also Luke 1:41 where John The Baptist is in his mother's womb and already recognizes the Messiah Jesus Christ who is also still in the womb, so he leaps in Elizabeth's womb. Luke 1:44 further elaborated that he “...leaped for joy.”. Furthermore, Luke 1:43 says “And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?”. Jesus is in his mother's womb not far along in pregnancy, yet already Elizabeth is using present tense in describing Mary as the mother of her Lord. There is also 2 Thessalonians 2:15 which says “Therefore, brothers, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught, either by an oral statement or by a letter of ours.”. Certainly, the Christian teaching condemning abortion has been passed down from Early Christianity. The Didache (which some date from the 1st century) condemns abortion and Christianity has consistently

taught the condemnation of abortion for 2,000 years. The condemnation of abortion is a teaching passed down from us from early in Christian history. To say you can be a pro-abortion Christian because the bible doesn't condemn abortion is to ignore clear biblical evidence.

Pro-abortion Christians will also sometimes claim certain bible verses support their claim. A common argument is that Genesis 2:7 says life begins at breath or first breath. However, Genesis 2:7 doesn't actually say that. It says “...then the Lord God formed the man out of the dust of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.”. It is only talking about how God formed the man Adam. If someone wants to try and claim that this is how life starts for all human beings, they would be forced to claim that human beings are created out of dust from the ground. It is also popular to say that Numbers 5 supports the pro abortion position and that even God prescribed it, typically citing the NIV translation where if an adulterous woman is found to have committed adultery, her womb will miscarry after drinking bitter water. However, this is an outlier translation, as most translations and original languages talking about something happening to body parts. Plus that same NIV translation in Numbers 5:28 says the woman who was found not to have committed adultery “...will be able to have children.”. It should be noted that the NIV translation also has Elizabeth calling The Blessed Mother “...the mother of my Lord…” in verse 1:43 when she was early in pregnancy with Jesus. This says a pregnant woman already is a mother with a child, and can equate will have children to will become pregnant. It should also be noted that the subject of Numbers 5:11-31 is about a woman is suspected of adultery, not about abortion.

All in all, the claim that the bible doesn't support the pro-life position or supports the pro-abortion position is an assertion that fails to stand upon closer examination. The assertion twists some scripture and completely ignores others. I pray for the conversion of all those baptized Christians who want to defend the practice of abortion and keep it legal, and that they may know the full truth regarding this position.