

## **Fostering, Adoption, Assisted Human Reproduction by Artificial Insemination and Surrogacy:**

### **A Bible Review**

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#### **Preamble**

2 Timothy 3:16 *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.*

We shall study from the entire Bible though the New Covenant is our operational law in this dispensation. The key is to rightly divide the word of truth -2 Tim 2:15, Rm 15:4

#### **Introduction**

Genesis 1:27-28; 2:24 affirms: *“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, **Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth**, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth... Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.*

Proverbs 18:22 *Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD.*

Jeremiah 29:6 *Take ye wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that ye may be increased there, and not diminished.*

Psalms 127:3-5 *Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.*

From the very beginning, mankind was made by God and humans were mandated to pro-create by sexual reproduction of a man and a woman within a marriage or family setting. The first man (Adam) had sexual intercourse with his wife (Eve), who conceived and gave birth to Cain -Gen 4:1. They later had other sons and daughters (Gen 5:4) who equally married and bore offspring too (Gen 4:17; 5:6). Occasionally, despite deliberate efforts/attempts over an extended period, couples may have problem conceiving and this condition described as **infertility** could be due to several factors. Medical research attributes such to physiological (defect, malfunction, blockage, infection etc. in reproductive tracts /organs) or psychological (stress, sub-conscious repression) issues, etc. and unexplained factors. Sarai was the first described as barren in Gen 11:30. The scriptures indicate there were spiritual possibilities wherein the Lord may shut up a womb for awhile -Gen 20:17-18; 29:31. For God’s chosen people, barrenness was the exception not the rule (Exo 23:26, Deut 7:14) and was usually temporary (Psalms 113:9) [as the LORD was working out his redemptive scheme] except for transgressors who had disdained God and were specifically so punished for life -Lev 20:20-21, Num 5:12-28, 2 Sam 6:16-23.

We are however instructed: *“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much”* -James 5:16.

Genesis 25:21 *And Isaac intreated the LORD for his wife, because she was barren: and the LORD was intreated of him, and Rebekah his wife conceived.*

The attitude and action of Isaac is preferred to that of Elkanah who said *“...Hannah, why weepest thou? and why eatest thou not? and why is thy heart grieved? am not I better to thee than ten sons?”* in 1 Sam 1:8 and the woman had to become the prayer warrior rather than the husband and family-head himself. [Elisha’s exact prophecy to the Shunammite woman was the miracle **not** the conception -2 Kg 4:8-17]

#### **What options may a person use to raise a non-biological child?**

Kidnapping is sinful - 1 Kg 3:16-27, 1Tim 1:10. Biblical concepts to raise non-biological children are:

1. **Fostering** - one takes care of another's child by agreement; the child often knows the real parents and

such may visit one another. Thus a couple treats someone else's child as if it were their own, though the child may go back to the original home later. Today there are official 'Foster Programs' where one could be linked with such children who may periodically exchange mutual visits with their biological parents. Most people prefer to foster the children of their relatives via an informal arrangement. Abram considered one of his servants as his foster child and as probable heir till he was assured of getting Isaac. Genesis 15:2 *And Abram said, Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus?* 3 *And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir.* [Timothy was Paul's foster son -Acts 16:1-3, 1 Cor 4:17, 1 Tim 1:2]

**2. Adoption** - one becomes a legal parent to an abandoned child and raises such as his/her own. Moses was an adopted son of Pharaoh's daughter (Exo 2:1-10), Abraham cared for his orphaned nephew Lot (Gen 11:27-12:5) while David took the crippled son of Jonathan his late friend as his own (2 Sam 4:4; 9:6-13). [God '*predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself*' -Eph 1:5, Rm 8:15] An adopted child bears one's name. If such child's relative or biological parent surface in future the bond with the nurturer cannot be easily broken. An adopted child has inheritance rights though such may freely turn it down as Moses later did when he came of age given the subjection of his people. Hebrews 11:24 *By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter.*

### **Were there forms of assisted human reproduction in Bible times?**

Interestingly there was a **Levirate System** geared towards it basically in two ways:

**1. Female Version:** this occurred when a man, usually at the prompting of his barren wife impregnate another virgin (usually her maid) so as to raise children. It is an act of desperation by the wife who selects the mating partner to be someone over whom she exercises authority; she owns the slave or maid as well as the latter's belongings and so had some rights over a resulting offspring. The other woman is normally kept as a subordinate wife in the polygamous relationship. Examples include Sarai giving Hagar to Abram, Rachael and Leah giving Bilhah & Zilpah respectively unto Jacob.

Genesis 16:1 *Now Sarai Abram's wife bare him no children: and she had an handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar.* 2 *And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the LORD hath restrained me from bearing: I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that **I may obtain children by her.*** *And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai.* 3 *And Sarai Abram's wife took Hagar her maid the Egyptian, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife.* 4 *And he went in unto Hagar, and she conceived: and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes.*

Genesis 30:1 *And when Rachel saw that she bare Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister; and said unto Jacob, Give me children, or else I die.* 2 *And Jacob's anger was kindled against Rachel: and he said, Am I in God's stead, who hath withheld from thee the fruit of the womb?* 3 *And she said, Behold my maid Bilhah, go in unto her; and she shall bear upon my knees, that **I may also have children by her.*** 4 *And she gave him Bilhah her handmaid to wife: and Jacob went in unto her.* 5 *And Bilhah conceived, and bare Jacob a son.* 6 *And Rachel said, God hath judged me, and hath also heard my voice, and hath given me a son: therefore called she his name Dan.* 7 *And Bilhah Rachel's maid conceived again, and bare Jacob a second son.* 8 *And Rachel said, With great wrestlings have I wrestled with my sister, and I have prevailed: and she called his name Naphtali.* 9 *When Leah saw that she had left bearing, she took Zilpah her maid, and gave her Jacob to wife.*

**2. Male Version:** this is the arrangement whereby when a married man dies childless, his widow would be married to his near kinsman in order to raise up seed unto the deceased for name propagation and inheritance purposes. Judah tried to implement it in Gen 38:1-11 before it was made a formal legislation under the Law of Moses. Num 27:8-11 applied if the widow was past child-bearing or marry a stranger.

Deuteronomy 25:5 *If brethren dwell together, and one of them die, and have no child, the wife of the dead shall not marry without unto a stranger: her husband's brother shall go in unto her, and take her to him to wife, and perform the duty of an husband's brother unto her. 6 And it shall be, that **the firstborn which she beareth shall succeed in the name of his brother which is dead, that his name be not put out of Israel.** 7 And if the man like not to take his brother's wife, then let his brother's wife go up to the gate unto the elders, and say, My husband's brother refuseth to raise up unto his brother a name in Israel, he will not perform the duty of my husband's brother. 8 Then the elders of his city shall call him, and speak unto him: and if he stand to it, and say, I like not to take her; 9 Then shall his brother's wife come unto him in the presence of the elders, and loose his shoe from off his foot, and spit in his face, and shall answer and say, So shall it be done unto that man that will not build up his brother's house. 10 And his name shall be called in Israel, The house of him that hath his shoe loosed.*

It must be NOTED that in both cases, **the woman who is to conceive in order to assist the original family must first be taken as a wife!** In female leviracy she is subservient to the madam of the house (Gen 16:9) whereas in the male version, the brother of the infertile man could only mate with her after the original husband had died and she has now been married unto him (Ruth 4:1-17, Mt 22:23-27). This reinforces the fact that only those who are married to each other should bring forth children. If it were okay to have another attempt to impregnate a man's wife while he is alive, Abraham might have asked Lot to sleep with his wife or God would not restrain king Abimelech from sleeping with Sarah when he took her into his harem -Gen 20:1-9. God's **approved pattern** between a man and a woman has always been '**marriage, sex, children.**' Tracing genealogy is central to bring forth and identify the messiah. Rahab was part of Jesus' ancestors after she married and had children not while a prostitute because his lineage matters. Boaz married Ruth before she became David's great grandma by levirate law. To preserve the lineage of Christ, God killed the child Bathsheba had when David impregnated another man's wife. She had Solomon after becoming Uriah's widow and David's companion. God incarnated in Mary while she was a virgin but betrothed not while she was without a man to raise the holy child and not while she was a full wife already disvirgined. It was significant and an exception God had to send an angel to Mary and to Joseph respectively, to announce and explain it. The law and its levirate system were abolished when the New Testament went into effect (Heb 8-9, Col 2, Eph 2, Gal 3-4). Polygamy is no longer tolerated (1 Cor 7:2) and a barren wife need not compel her husband to impregnate another woman. She might end up a widow indeed who is desolate (1 Tim 5:3-5) in her advanced years if she does not remarry (1 Tim 5:14, 1 Cor 7:40). Besides, a widow has liberty in Christ to now marry whomsoever she wills without necessarily being restricted to her late husband's relation -1 Cor 7:39.

### **Is it proper to seek medical solution to infertility?**

Generally, prayers for healing are important as doctors only try to care -2 Kings 1:2-6, 2 Chro 16:12, Mk 5:26. Divine providence work things out for those that love and trust God to fulfill his purpose for their good -Rm 8:28. It is perfectly okay to seek medical treatment **which does not violate ethical, moral and above all godly principles.** Luke was a physician (Col 4:14) and Christ is the Great Physician (Lk 4:23, Exo 15:26)! The following inspired passages endorse the application of medicine.

Jeremiah 8:22 *Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?*

Luke 5:31 *And Jesus answering said unto them, they that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick.*

3 John 1:2 *Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.*

### **Definition of some key medical terms (wikipedia.com)**

1. Insemination: the introduction of semen into a woman by natural means (e.g. husband and wife).

2. Artificial insemination (AI): the injection of semen into the vagina or uterus other than by sexual intercourse.

Basically in two categories:

(A). A married couple gives out their sperm and eggs for fertilization in a laboratory procedure and the fertilized egg (embryo) is returned to the woman's uterus - this is called In Vitro Fertilization (IVF).

(B). From a sperm bank where random men donate their sperm, such sperm are cross-matched with any woman's egg (the anonymous donor having met certain profiling criteria) irrespective of whether she is married or not (like the reported case of a sister in Abuja).

3. Surrogacy (S): A method or agreement whereby a woman agrees to carry a pregnancy for another person or persons, who will become the newborn child's parent(s) after birth. The fetus may be conceived naturally or by IVF using: (A). another woman's egg (B). The volunteer carrier's egg  
[In this treatise AI/S will mostly denote **2B and 3B**]

There are various approaches to fertility treatment depending on the condition of the persons involved. It may be via drugs, surgery, therapy, etc. **Though supposedly good intentioned, a few are reprehensible for violating scriptural principles.** It is generally agreed that research efforts for human cloning is unacceptable and illegal so we shall not dwell on that. Be wary of using just any medical procedure for the conception of a baby e.g. using the sperm of a man and the ovum of a woman who are NOT married to each other via artificial insemination/surrogacy (AI/S). Ponder deeply on **Eph 5:25-31**.

Malachi 2:15 *And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.*

John 8:39 *They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham. 40 But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham. 41 Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.*

Romans 9:10 *And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac;*  
Hebrews 12:7 *If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? 8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. 9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?*

Hebrews 13:4 *Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.*

The above passages show that God established the one-flesh union within marriage to bring forth godly offspring. To bring forth a child from fornication or illicit relationship is sinful. Rebecca did not conceive via adultery or gang-rape or by anyone other than her own husband. If she did it would have been dishonourable and not of good report. Each child should have a known biological father that should train him up and not be fathered by an obscure person. We need wisdom from above to use our knowledge or technological advances in a responsible and godly way. It is not medical procedures per se that is the issue but **how** such is used. To use AI for conception by singles or a third-party outside a marriage is wrong. Those who support or encourage such system undermine God's plan for raising children. In modern third-party assisted reproduction, egg and sperm 'donation' are typically done anonymously and usually with some form of compensation. No Christian should plan to raise a new life in such ungodly manner; no child deserves to be brought into this world with such **deliberate uncertainty as per its roots or denial of the right to know its true identity**. If a couple has the husband's

sperm extracted and used to fertilize his wife's ovum and the embryo is left to grow in the test tube or is implanted in his wife or another woman's womb to be carried to term, it is STILL the couple's mutual seed. When the **new life or embryo is created with the cell of a third party** then a child has been obtained outside of wedlock via **another** one-flesh relationship. In today's free world, whosoever facilitates the production of a child that would intentionally be reared away from and deprived of affinity with its biological progenitor/s, is effectively a child-stealer/trafficker engaged in '**Baby Factory**' activities. Society frowns at the crude facilities wherein people are paid to sleep with someone or pregnant prostitutes or teenagers are enticed to give up their babies for a childless couple. Such are declared illegal and usually make the news headlines whenever discovered by security or government agents. Yet society endorses sperm and egg banks where anyone could go 'donate' his/her seed to be used 'anonymously' by others for pro-creation. That is absurd since confidentiality & technology doesn't make indirect sex holy! Such donation is hardly ever altruistic but is usually for a fee or other gain. Besides, while the name and exact identity of the donor is typically undisclosed to the recipient, such would have matched desired traits as per social and physiological criteria for a mating partner.

There is mental and remote sex in even third party AI/S. That is why it results in conception of a baby. Some assume adultery only occurs when direct sexual contact takes place between a married woman and another man without her husband's consent. Please be informed that in God's sight it is still 'breaking wedlock/one-flesh' even if she has her husband's consent to be so impregnated irrespective of whether:

1. Natural mating of penile penetration takes place in the husband's absence or presence.
2. The other man merely masturbates and the woman scoops the semen and dip into her vagina by herself.
3. The semen is extracted from a stranger using medical tools to fertilize her egg in/outside the womb.

**The motive and result is same irrespective of approach used; the end does NOT justify the means!** In Christ, a couple's marital/covenant vows witnessed and endorsed by God is that the two shall become one '**for better for worse, till death**' NOT that another person will come mid-way and join either **to conceive** a child! The desire and quest to have a biological child by one or both should not overwhelm a Christian's trust in God. When one procures third party AI/S and is reluctant to share the news unto people and does NOT know or is unable to disclose the identity of the donor, such is **condemned by his or her conscience for doing something ungodly**. Otherwise there will be eagerness to share the testimony and proudly point to the donor-parent for others to thank for the act of generosity! If we truly believe that having a biological child is not a do or die affair then we should exhibit godly fear about marriage desecration. Note that other moral issues arise since it is usually done for a fee by a donor and may give rise to **lies** by recipient unto a child while young about its ancestry or even recapitulation by donor later to trace and try to claim the child. Please utilize sound reasoning. Preachers should not mislead those who wish to become parents; remember that teachers of God's word will receive the stricter judgment.

**We have discussed this matter with some ministers who support conception via third party artificial insemination / surrogacy (AI/S). Below is an extract of their arguments and our answers.**

**Min:** AI does not involve sexual intercourse and therefore not sinful.

**Ans:** I have explained that it involves an intercourse which takes place in the mind and ultimately makes the duo one flesh by somehow depositing the sperm of a man into a woman's womb with the aim of conception. It is therefore sinful when the duo involved are not married to each other.

**Min:** Adultery and fornication involves two people who sensually engage in erotic mutual sexual intercourse.

**Ans:** Wrong. Adultery is sexual immorality by a person who is married. Two people are NOT necessarily involved in fornication since it covers all sexual activity done outside a valid marriage. Fornication also occurs when one person mentally lust/fantasize or masturbate about another human, animal, cartoon image, etc. even without the object's awareness or participation, it covers gays, 'remote

copulation' (by any pair unwedded to each other) such as phone sexting, etc. -Mt 5:28, Rm 1:26-27,32.

**Min:** If the need arises that I should donate sperm why not as long as i do not know who uses.

**Ans:** Listen to yourself... inconsistent and unrealistic pontification! How can 'the need' arise for you to donate sperm when you do NOT know who needs it? That will never happen but you are free to walk into a sperm bank any day and donate sperm without collecting any reward. You also know some childless couples that you can direct to such facility without knowing who will get whose sperm. Why do you put the condition that you \*must not know\* who uses your sperm whereas you may choose to know who uses your blood? Simply because seeing the mother or child later **will remind you of the sin!** You will be **convicted** that you are shirking a responsibility having thrown that child away not raising it.

**Min:** Sperm or ovum donation is just like donating blood or any other organ. None of these is in the Bible so if you approve of one you should endorse the others.

**Ans:** Plausibly, organ transplants and blood transfusion would have been commended if such were feasible in Bible times. It is better to save life than to kill or let it be destroyed (Mk 3:4, Lk 6:9) but man should not play God. Jesus gave us his life/blood in a way and Paul alluded to transplant.

*Galatians 4:13 Ye know how through infirmity of the flesh I preached the gospel unto you at the first. 14 And my temptation which was in my flesh ye despised not, nor rejected; but received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus. 15 Where is then the blessedness ye spake of? for I bear you record, that, if it had been possible, ye would have plucked out your own eyes, and have given them to me.*

If you hold that blood transfusion and organ transplants are sinful then refrain from both. **Permanent transplant** is to save an existing life whereas fertilization via AI/S is **temporary implant** to create a new life outside the divine purview. A couple's consent that one of them should go get a biological baby outside wedlock does not and cannot override God's word on sanctity of marital one-flesh union.

**Min:** You want me to quote a bible passage for AI, please first give me a bible passage for CS.

**Ans:** Caesarian Section (CS) is a medical procedure to save endangered life/s, it is NOT to create life.

**Min:** Children of prostitutes or rape victims are found in Motherless Babies Home, yet you want Christians to adopt such instead of doing AI?

**Ans:** Sin or crime is not genetically transmitted and it is how one raises a child that matters. As a preacher you supposed to know that a child shall not bear the parent's sin. Even the semen/ovum used for AI/S from a fertility clinic may be from a vile or evil person, you can't be too sure! In proper Motherless/Abandoned Babies Homes and Orphanages, children are not deliberately reared for sale or donation. Rather they are inadvertently placed there due to various circumstances. The one adopting is free from sin about their conception and is only helping out. Whether such baby arose from a raped spinster or abandoning prostitute or unidentified vehicle accident mother, etc. is not the adopter's fault. Such adopter is merely doing a good deed that the Lord approves compared to someone 'who contracts' two unwedded persons to conceive a child for him or her. It is surprising that you posit one could offer the spouse for such a contract in a desire to acquire a baby.

**Min:** Sperm donation is even more secured because there is no record of the donor. The donor cannot recognize the child from his sperm but a mother can recognized her abandoned child you adopted.

**Ans:** That is incorrect; a sperm donor may recognize and match an offspring if the physique and/or face or some birthmark, etc. is compelling enough. Besides, the record of the donor/s is/are well documented according to specifics even though it is not made known to the receiver for security and confidentiality purposes. If a mother come to recognize her abandoned child that I have adopted and she owns up and confess her sins I will gladly release the minor to her after NECESSARY INVESTIGATION / CONFIRMATION HAS BEEN DONE - that is why we keep emphasizing it's not and should not be a

do or die affair. Otherwise we can tell brethren to visit babalawo/sorcerers, modern/fake soothsayers, astrologers, etc. for solutions at all costs! If not, why not?

**Min:** AI/S is to save a couple from trauma and dissolution since childlessness could lead to breakage of marriage. We should support such people and encourage them when they choose to get sperm donors or surrogate mothers who will give an egg and help carry the baby.

**Ans:** We will ask you a series of questions to ponder upon; answer truthfully if you can.

1. Is childlessness a scriptural ground for putting asunder a marriage?
2. We rather one support via prayers and funds for their body treatment. Do you agree that if a couple prays for a child of their own, God's answer could be Yes, Wait or No and only time will reveal it?
3. On the pulpit which of these practices do/would you encourage brethren to practice as a giver or as a recipient: (A) Child Adoption/Fostering (B) Sperm donor/Surrogate mother.
4. If a sister introduced herself to you as a professional surrogate mother, would you encourage her to continue with the GOOD WORK and get her clients amongst the childless couples whom you are counseling?
5. If a prospective son-in-law of yours says his hobby is to donate semen across sperm banks in any city he visits or reside in, will you commend him for sowing bountifully in liberality?
6. Will your wife be happy if you now decide to emulate such action by dispersing your seed abroad/around and is that a good report in the brotherhood?
7. **You assert third party AI/S is not sinful, consider this scenario:** after returning home from a trip that lasted some months, you find that your wife is pregnant. She says she volunteered to be a surrogate for a couple from another city but cannot disclose who to you since both anonymity and confidentiality are inherent to that process. She would not tell even if she knew them but hasn't met them personally. She was just being a cheerful giver by donating her egg, willingly using her womb to carry a baby via artificial insemination. That she was not obliged to get your permission since Jesus said '*when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth.*' That unfortunately she was later informed by the undisclosed clinic that the couple died via vehicle accident, their next of kin is unknown so she has decided to keep **her** baby! **What would you do?**

*Dear reader, above questions were tactically evaded, we are yet to receive their categorical response!*

## **Conclusion**

Companionship is the primary reason for marriage not procreation. The levirate system of polygamy and of a brother raising a child unto a deceased via a widow has been abolished with the Mosaic Law. Having biological children is not compulsory for each human and not everyone will marry or have offspring. If however you wish to have children then marry or adopt a helpless, abandoned kid or orphan. If you and your spouse have challenges with conception then seek medical help for you to fertilize her own treated egg with your own boosted spermatozoa, don't hire a sperm/egg donor to defile your marriage bed and corrupt your family lineage. No-one who respects God's word about marriage and trust in Him would promote bringing forth a child by any two persons not married to each other. We encourage adoption and fostering because both remain scriptural and **do not stop a couple from waiting on the Lord for their own mutual child.** If one's wife is impregnated with semen of another man it is her biological child not the husband's! She is not adopting as the husband has allowed her to have one-flesh union -even if indirectly, with another man. Ditto if it is the husband that gives his sperm unto another woman, he would have his own child who becomes a **stepchild** to his wife. [The infertile partner can't aver Heb 2:13] Such conduct violates the New Testament and should not be found amidst saints. Where is our faith? We need grace to persevere as the Hebrew boys did before king Nebuchadnezzar. Let challenged disciples of Christ aver: "*We believe in God and will uphold marriage between a man and a woman as His mechanism for conceiving a child... If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from childlessness, and he will deliver us but if not, be it known unto thee, that we will not follow the world nor violate His word via third party Artificial Insemination or Surrogacy.*"