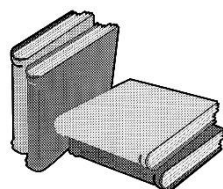


The Rock and Pit

*Look unto the rock whence ye are hewn,
and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged.*



Isa 51:1

Selections from the Christian's heritage in print,
collected by Dean Brown

Issue 940

The Murderer of the Unborn The Southern Church Had Changed

When the 1970 General Assembly of the Southern Presbyterian Church voted to approve abortion on the grounds of “socio-economic conditions of the family,” Dr. Robinson strongly protested the action as “condoning the murder of the unborn.” In *“God and Unborn Children”*, Robinson defended his position with many scriptures under three main points:

1. God is the Creator of human life, made in His own image.
2. The God of the Covenant is the God of our seed, that is, they are His children in the covenant sense.
3. Even prior to their birth God personally relates to unborn babies as persons, children, sons.

Robinson noted that “the primitive church condemned pagan abortions” (citing four documents prior to AD 200) and that “our Presbyterian catechisms protect the sanctity of human life”. ...

Dr. Robinson’s resolution opposing abortion was defeated by a large majority of the 1970 General Assembly.

The Southern Church had changed, and Robinsons’ words seemed to many to be a voice of the past.¹

Pleading for a Reformation Vision:

The Life and Selected Writings of William Childs Robinson, p. 112-113

Banner of Truth, 2013

¹ The Presbyterian Church in America, the PCA, made up largely of separating Southern Presbyterian pastors and churches, was formed three years later in 1973. Many northern churches, including Cornerstone, were added in 1982 through the joining of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod. Nearly half of the founding pastors of the PCA were taught by Robinson at Columbia Seminary. The Southern and Northern liberal mainline Presbyterian churches merged in 1983.