Value of Life/ Stem Cell Research

Why is the study of evolution so important?
1. If evolution is true, Genesis is not.
2. If evolution is true, Moses, Paul, Jesus not correct.
3. If evolution is true, Genesis is not literal.
4. If evolution is true, the atheist has power.

Important for this because if we evolved from bacteria, what value is human life?

What is life? When does it begin?
1. Isaiah 49:1 The LORD has called Me from the womb.
2. Jeremiah 1:5 Before I formed you in the womb I knew you.
3. Psalm 139:13 For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother’s womb.
4. Job 3:11-16 A miscarried child is mentioned with kings and princes.

Over 40 references to conception in the Bible. Genesis 4:1, 17; Luke 1:31, 36, 41; Genesis 1:26

Recent “Breakthroughs”
2. 1999, Japanese scientists make 27 of these…
3. A few years ago in New Zealand, human-pig embryo.
4. Virginia lab – created 50 human embryos.

So, what should the Christian’s response be to stem cell research? It depends.

What are stem cells? That are cells that have not yet differentiated.

Three hurdles for Scientists:
1. In order for these cells to work appropriately to perform whatever function we desire them to perform, scientists must be able to control the development of these cells.
2. In order for these cells to work appropriately, the host must not reject the new cells.
3. Is it ethical?

Where do these cells come from?
1. Adult tissue – including baby teeth – adult stem cell research
2. Umbilical Cords – adult stem cell research
3. Aborted fetuses – embryonic stem cell research
4. Leftover Embryos from In Vitro Fertilization. – embryonic stem cell research

Two Categories: Adult and Embryonic. The Christian can support adult stem cell research, but not embryonic stem cell research.

Current Scoreboard:
Adult Stem Cell Therapies: 73
Embryonic Stem Cell Therapies: 0