

ESTABLISHING JUSTICE

Jeremiah 5:1-4

1 "Run to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem; See now and know; And seek in her open places If you can find a man, If there is anyone who executes judgment, Who seeks the truth, And I will pardon her. 2 Though they say, 'As the LORD lives,' Surely they swear falsely." 3 O LORD, are not Your eyes on the truth? You have stricken them, But they have not grieved; You have consumed them, But they have refused to receive correction. They have made their faces harder than rock; They have refused to return. 4 Therefore I said, "Surely these are poor. They are foolish; For they do not know the way of the LORD, The judgment of their God.

As Christians, we are commanded to establish justice and do justice. While this can obviously apply to many areas, what does it look like to do justice in regards to abortion? Again, this can be viewed from many fronts such as opening our mouth for those appointed to destruction at the sidewalk, delivering those being taken to death at the door, providing for the needs of the poor and fatherless in caring for mommas and babies, and more. Specifically, what does it look like in the process of making laws regarding abortion.

The hashtags of late seem to be centered around **CRIMINALIZATION or EQUAL PROTECTION or EQUAL JUSTICE**. However, has God only called us to criminalize abortion and give equal protection or to DO JUSTICE? We use the word equal justice, but if we aren't doing justice in our system of laws already, bringing equality is only EQUAL INJUSTICE. If

God is Just and is therefore the very definer of the word Justice, can we be doing justice if we are coming short of His demands?

My goal in this talk is to challenge faithful Christians to consider what the Scriptural calling is for us as we consider the right and just punishment for murder with a specific emphasis on abortion. While you may not agree with all my premises, I hope to stir you up to read through all the passages of Scripture and seek the Lord for what His heart is in this matter.

In addition, I want to challenge you to examine if we really are willing to trust God in this area. I believe most of our compromise in these areas comes from a desire to do what is good in this area but a lack of Faith in God that what He says is true.

Is the following true?

Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Revelation 17:14 "These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful."

Revelation 19:16 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

If we are heralds of the King of kings, and He has authority, then why do we come and declare He is King now, but the best we can do is beg for the scraps that the world will give us? If we were the ambassadors of the a greater nation giving our demands to a lesser nation, we would not declare them to that nation and then capitulate to them. We would give our demands and then wait on our nation's leader to come and fulfill His word.

2 Chronicles 16:9 "For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His. You have acted foolishly in this. Indeed, from now on you will surely have wars."

Psalms 81:10-11 "I, the LORD, am your God, Who brought you up from the land of Egypt; Open your mouth wide and I will fill it. 11 "But My people did not listen to My voice, And Israel did not obey Me.

Isa 30:15 For thus the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, has said, "In repentance and rest you will be saved, In quietness and trust is your strength." But you were not willing.

God is willing to fulfill His desires to and through us. Will we be like Israel in the days of old? Are we willing to trust Him, proclaim His Truth without compromise and wait on Him to establish justice?

WHAT IS JUSTICE?!

IS HAVING RIGHT LAWS ENOUGH?

As we begin this discussion, let's consider where Israel, and then Judah, were when they were destroyed or carried away to exile.

1. Both had proper laws regarding the shedding of innocent blood.
2. Both even had laws demanding that all murderers be put to death.
3. Yet, the land was still polluted by innocent blood. Why? Because they continued to shed innocent blood and they didn't carry out the execution of every murderer.

*****BLOODGUILTINESS**

“lest innocent blood be shed in the midst of your land which the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance, and thus guilt of bloodshed be upon you.

Deuteronomy 19:10

So ye shall not pollute the land wherein ye are: for blood it defileth the land: and the land cannot be cleansed of the blood that is shed therein, but by the blood of him that shed it. 34 Defile not therefore the land which ye shall inhabit, wherein I dwell: for I the LORD dwell among the children of Israel.

Numbers 35:33-34

Assuming that we agree that the shedding of innocent blood in the land (whether that be the blood of those who are born or preborn) brings guilt upon the land, we must then ask how can we cleanse the land of blood guiltiness. If our guilt is before God, then we should look to His Word to give light.

First, the idea of criminalization is not a scriptural idea. You will not find God calling us to criminalize murder. Not only this, but caging (jailing) men made in the image of God is a completely ungodly idea. We see the wicked Egyptians and Romans doing this, but never do we see God calling His people to cage men. Depending on the crime, they were either put to death, beaten, treated with “eye for eye and tooth for tooth,” made to pay restitution to their victim or sold into servanthood to pay back their restitution debt. Understanding this, the land will never be cleansed of blood guiltiness by mere “criminalization” nor are Christians establishing justice by only “criminalization” including “equal protection.”

As a side note, no where is there ever a penalty for a victimless crime. God does have laws to prevent victims (parapet around a rooftop), but no where does He have penalties for a “crime” without a victim. While this doesn’t have anything to do with murder or the penalty, it does shed light toward what justice and injustice should look like.

***CRIMINALIZATION OF MURDER IS NEVER CALLED JUSTICE NOR EVEN MENTIONED IN THE SCRIPTURE- ONLY PUTTING THE MURDERER TO DEATH.**

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A common idea now is to call for equal protection. What does this mean? It means we don't have unequal weights or we don't deal with folks in partiality. A human is protected equally regardless if they are born, a certain age in the womb, healthy or terminal, etc. While this idea certainly fits into the definition of justice, it doesn't satisfy God's calling. God doesn't just call us to outlaw all murder. We certainly should outlaw ALL murder! However, justice demands God's penalty be carried out on the murder(s).

If we are to see the land cleansed of the guilt of innocent blood, we must do more than outlaw all murder.

*** WE MUST PUNISH ALL MURDER WITH THE DEATH PENALTY.**

Genesis 9:6- “Whoever sheds man’s blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man.

Exodus 21:12-14 12 He that smiteth a man, so that he die, shall be surely put to death. 13 And if a man lie not in wait, but God deliver him into his hand; then I will appoint thee a place whither he shall flee. 14 But if a man come presumptuously upon his neighbour, to slay him with guile; thou shalt take him from mine altar, that he may die.

Leviticus 24:17

17 And he that killeth any man shall surely be put to death.

- * GOD'S CALL IS TO ESTABLISH JUSTICE. ANYTHING SHORT OF THE DEATH PENALTY FOR ALL WHO INTENTIONALLY MURDER IS SIMPLY INCREMENTALISM ON A DIFFERENT LEVEL.**
- * IS IT ANY LESS SINFUL TO KNOWINGLY COMPROMISE ON WHAT GOD DEMANDS BECAUSE WE KNOW THAT PEOPLE WON'T STAND WITH SUCH A HARSH JUDGMENT OF MURDER?**

Many will point out that having the death penalty as a possibility is all that is required. Please take time to reread the above verses. God doesn't say that there needs to be a possibility of death. He demands it in every case.

In addition, to say that America or individual states have the death penalty as a punishment for murder is really a joke. There were 22,000 murders in the USA in 2022. There were 18 executions! That is an 0.08% execution rate. God call's for a 100% execution rate.

When seeking to outlaw abortion, many will not righteously demand an end to all abortion because they don't think we can get the needed "votes" to abolish abortion without making some exceptions like babies under a certain age, babies

conceived by rape, or babies with certain medical conditions. This is wicked!

WHAT IS THE RESULT OF NOT EXECUTING JUSTICE IN THIS AREA?

Ecclesiastes 8:11 Because the sentence against an evil deed is not executed quickly, therefore the hearts of the sons of men among them are given fully to do evil.

Hosea 4:1-2

1 Listen to the word of the LORD, O sons of Israel, For the LORD has a case against the inhabitants of the land, Because there is no faithfulness or kindness Or knowledge of God in the land. 2 There is swearing, deception, murder, stealing and adultery. They employ violence, so that bloodshed follows bloodshed.

While it is true that the law is a tutor and is a needed and helpful to changing the hearts of our nation toward the shedding of innocent blood. This is not enough. If we have the right laws to give us understanding into what murder is and that it is wrong but don't execute God's righteous judgment on it, the hearts of the sons of me will still be given over to do evil. The end result is that bloodshed follows bloodshed and we spiral toward a sure destruction by the hand of God!

*** WHAT IS THE PENALTY FOR A NATION WHO WILL NOT RIGHTLY DEAL WITH THE SHEDDING OF INNOCENT BLOOD IN ITS MIDSTS?**

2 Kings 17:6-20

6 In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria and carried Israel away into exile to Assyria, 7 Now [this] came about because the sons of Israel had sinned against the LORD their God, 17 Then they made their sons and their daughters pass through the fire, and practiced divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking Him. 18 So the LORD was very angry with Israel and removed them from His sight; none was left except the tribe of Judah.

2 Kings 24:3-4

3 Surely at the commandment of the LORD [this] came upon Judah, to remove [them] from His sight because of the sins of Manasseh, according to all that he had done, 4 and also because of the innocent blood that he had shed; for he had filled Jerusalem with innocent blood, which the LORD would not pardon.

WHAT ABOUT...

THE LAW IS A TUTOR. ISN'T THAT ENOUGH?

Deuteronomy 19:10-13

10 “lest innocent blood be shed in the midst of your land which the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance, and thus guilt of bloodshed be upon you. 11 “But if anyone hates his neighbor, lies in wait for him, rises against him and strikes him mortally, so that he dies, and he flees to one of these cities, 12 “then the

elders of his city shall send and bring him from there, and deliver him over to the hand of the avenger of blood, that he may die. 13 "Your eye shall not pity him, but you shall put away the guilt of innocent blood from Israel, that it may go well with you.

Deuteronomy 21:1, 4, 6-9

1 "If anyone is found slain, lying in the field in the land which the LORD your God is giving you to possess, and it is not known who killed him, ... 4 "The elders of that city shall bring the heifer down to a valley with flowing water, which is neither plowed nor sown, and they shall break the heifer's neck there in the valley. ... 6 "And all the elders of that city nearest to the slain man shall wash their hands over the heifer whose neck was broken in the valley. 7 "Then they shall answer and say, 'Our hands have not shed this blood, nor have our eyes seen it. 8 'Provide atonement, O LORD, for Your people Israel, whom You have redeemed, and do not lay innocent blood to the charge of Your people Israel.' And atonement shall be provided on their behalf for the blood. 9 "So you shall put away the guilt of innocent blood from among you when you do what is right in the sight of the LORD.

*** Getting the law correct did not rid the land of innocent blood! They always had the law correct. Carrying out the correct penalty, when possible, rid the land of innocent blood.**

*****CITIES OF REFUGE- MANSLAYER VS MURDERER**

Another thought to consider in this discussion are cities of refuge. Folks often bring up cities of refuge and talk about degrees of murder and manslaughter. Many people think that cities of refuge were meant as a form of penalty.

WHAT SAITH THE SCRIPTURES?

Numbers 35:22-25 ‘However, if he pushes him suddenly without enmity, or throws anything at him without lying in wait, 23 ‘or uses a stone, by which a man could die, throwing it at him without seeing him, so that he dies, while he was not his enemy or seeking his harm, 24 ‘then the congregation shall judge between the manslayer and the avenger of blood according to these judgments. 25 ‘So the congregation shall deliver the manslayer from the hand of the avenger of blood, and the congregation shall return him to the city of refuge where he had fled, and he shall remain there until the death of the high priest who was anointed with the holy oil.

There are no degrees of murder mentioned in the Scripture. Cities of refuge were not punishment for a lesser degree of murder. They were given as a refuge or protection for someone who accidentally killed someone (manslayer) to protect them from the avenger of blood.

The person who accidentally killed someone or manslayer was never commanded to go and stay in a city of refuge and therefore didn't have to go to the city of refuge; they just weren't protected or given refuge if they didn't. An example given in the scriptures was related to an axe head flying off and hitting a person accidentally and killing them.

*** THIS PERSON WAS NOT GUILTY OF MURDER. HE WAS GIVEN PROTECTION AT A CITY OF REFUGE FROM THE AVENGER OF BLOOD.**

Anyone who killed someone intentionally or intentionally injured (hit) someone that died (even if they didn't intend to kill them) was called to be put to death. They weren't given refuge in a city of refuge. This was murder. Not manslaughter.

The laws discussing the goring of oxen gives us some understanding on what we would call "manslaughter" today. If a man's oxen that was not given to goring killed a man, the oxen was to be put to death (it wasn't intentional and no reasonable way to avoid it) and the man was free. If a man's oxen that was given to goring killed a man, the ox and its owner were put to death. The owner was guilty because of the given expectation that the animal would shed the blood of man. This gives light to me of killing someone while drinking and driving, paying for someone's abortion, etc. What we call "Manslaughter" was considered murder and ended in the death penalty and "unintentional manslaughter" didn't exist.

****AREN'T WE NOW UNDER GRACE? WHAT ABOUT JESUS' TEACHING OF NOT RESISTING AN EVIL MAN AND NOT TAKING VENGEANCE?**

- * Under the old covenant, the carrying out of the death penalty for shedding of innocent blood was done by the avenger of blood. Under the covenant of grace, individuals are not to carry out that vengeance. However, the government is clearly given authority to do so.

Num 35:12 'The cities shall be to you as a refuge from the avenger, so that the manslayer will not die until he stands before the congregation for trial.

Leviticus 24:19-20

19 'If a man injures his neighbor, just as he has done, so it shall be done to him: 20 fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth; just as he has injured a man, so it shall be inflicted on him.

Matthew 5:39 "But I say to you, do not resist an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.

Romans 12:19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath [of God,] for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord.

Romans 13:4 for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil.

1 Peter 2:13-14

13 Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority, 14 or

to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right.

****WHAT ABOUT THE WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY?**

Lots of people bring this passage up as an argument against the death penalty. I would argue it is the very opposite.

John 8:2-12

2 Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them. 3 Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst, 4 they said to Him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. 5 “Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?” 6 This they said, testing Him, that they might have [something] of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with [His] finger, as though He did not hear. 7 So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, “He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first.” 8 And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. 9 Then those who heard [it,] being convicted by [their] conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest [even] to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. 10 When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, “Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?” 11 She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said to her, “Neither do I condemn you;

go and sin no more.” 12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”

Leviticus 20:10 ‘The man who commits adultery with [another] man’s wife, [he] who commits adultery with his neighbor’s wife, the adulterer and the adulteress, shall surely be put to death.

Deuteronomy 22:22-24

22 “If a man is found lying with a woman married to a husband, then both of them shall die--the man that lay with the woman, and the woman; so you shall put away the evil from Israel. 23 “If a young woman [who is] a virgin is betrothed to a husband, and a man finds her in the city and lies with her, 24 “then you shall bring them both out to the gate of that city, and you shall stone them to death with stones, the young woman because she did not cry out in the city, and the man because he humbled his neighbor’s wife; so you shall put away the evil from among you.

Deuteronomy 16:19

19 "You shall not pervert justice; you shall not show partiality, nor take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and twists the words of the righteous.

Deuteronomy 10:17

17 "For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality nor takes a bribe.

Exodus 23:1-2

1 "You shall not circulate a false report. Do not put your hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness. 2 "You shall not follow a crowd to do evil; nor shall you testify in a dispute so as to turn aside after many to pervert justice.

Deuteronomy 17:6-7

6 "Whoever is deserving of death shall be put to death on the testimony of two or three witnesses; he shall not be put to death on the testimony of one witness. 7 "The hands of the witnesses shall be the first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hands of all the people. So you shall put away the evil from among you.

Jesus was brought a woman who was supposedly caught in the very act of adultery. However, the law demanded that both the man and the woman be put to death. If she was caught in the very active of adultery, where is the man? Either the Pharisees are being false witnesses and lying saying she was caught in the very act of adultery or they are using unequal weights and balances which God hates. Either way, they are in sin. If Jesus' phrase "let him who is without sin" is referencing anyone who has ever sinned, then there can never be any accountability or penalty executed by man no matter how small. We know this is not the case because God required many penalties for sin and wrong in society and in the church throughout the old and New Testament. The obvious conclusion here is that Jesus is referring to them being without sin in the action they are carrying out currently. They are sinning in the way they are executing this justice.

God demands justice. His justice does not always include the death penalty, but it does always include equal weights and balances and truth as a witness.

The law demanded that the two or three witnesses be the first to cast the stone. Hence, Jesus states who is to cast the first stone. A witness that is using equal weights and balances and speaking the truth. Jesus doesn't declare that no one is to be put to death. Jesus declares that the woman should be stoned by witnesses that are walking faithfully according to the law of God if she is guilty according to the law of God. There were no witnesses. Hence, she was not condemned. That obviously does not mean that Jesus will not condemn her on the day of judgment for adultery if she was actually guilty for it and dies in her sin. But as a man who abide under the law, he would not condemn her as there were no witnesses against her. If there had been true witnesses, they would have had a man there to be stoned as well. Instead, they knew they were guilty and walked away.

An important point to consider from John 8 is why they came to Jesus. They brought this woman before Jesus to test him that they may have something to accuse him with. Sadly, they did not desire justice or mercy. They did not desire to please God. They just wanted to catch their opponent. I have found that most people that bring this passage up, have the same mindset. My prayer is that we will ask questions with a sincere desire to know Jesus, love him, obey him, glorify him, and do justice and mercy, rather than just to ask a "gotcha" question in order to accuse those who don't think like us.

WHAT ABOUT IN THE CASE OF INTENTIONAL NEGLIGENCE?

Exodus 21:28-29

28 "If an ox gores a man or a woman to death, then the ox shall surely be stoned, and its flesh shall not be eaten; but the owner of the ox shall be acquitted. 29 "But if the ox tended to thrust with its horn in times past, and it has been made known to his owner, and he has not kept it confined, so that it has killed a man or a woman, the ox shall be stoned and its owner also shall be put to death.

If a man's bull gored someone to death, the bull would be put to death and the man would have no penalty. However, if the bull was known to gore, then the man would be put to death. Why? Because the man chose to risk injury to others for his own selfish desires. This is comparable to drunk driving or driving at obvious dangerous speeds that would endanger others.

WHAT ABOUT VICTIMLESS CRIMES?

Deuteronomy 22:8

When thou buildest a new house, then thou shalt make a battlement for thy roof, that thou bring not blood upon thine house, if any man fall from thence.

The Law is in place for wisdom and light, but there is no penalty associated with not obeying it because there is no victim. Most of our court system is overwhelmed with victimless "crimes" which are not crimes at all. This is merely a means to steal from the citizenry.

ARE ALL GOVERNMENTS GIVEN AUTHORITY BY GOD OR ARE THERE JUST SPECIFIC ONES?

Romans 13:1-4

1 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. 4 For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.

No person or government has authority unless it has been given to him by God. Governmental agents who are authorities are appointed by God. Who are the governments that have authority? The ones who are “not a terror to good works but to evil.” The ones who are a praise to good works... The ones who are God’s deacons for good... the ones who bear the sword to be avengers to execute what on him who practices evil. To resist this governing authority is to resist God.

*** MAY GOD GIVE US WISDOM AND COURAGE TO
ESTABLISH JUSTICE IN OUR LAND!**

Amos 5:15 Hate evil, love good; Establish justice in the gate. It may be that the LORD God of hosts Will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Psalms 82:3-4

3 Defend the poor and fatherless; Do justice to the afflicted and needy. 4 Deliver the poor and needy; Free them from the hand of the wicked.

Isaiah 1:17 Learn to do good; Seek justice, Rebuke the oppressor; Defend the fatherless, Plead for the widow.

1 Kings 10:9

“Blessed be the LORD your God, who delighted in you, setting you on the throne of Israel! Because the LORD has loved Israel forever, therefore He made you king, to do justice and righteousness.”

Psalms 10:17-18

**17 LORD, You have heard the desire of the humble; You will prepare their heart; You will cause Your ear to hear,
18 To do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed, That the man of the earth may oppress no more.**

Proverbs 28:5 Evil men do not understand justice, But those who seek the LORD understand all.

Proverbs 21:7

The violence of the wicked will destroy them, Because they refuse to do justice.

Proverbs 24:10-12

10 If you faint in the day of adversity, Your strength is small. 11 Deliver those who are drawn toward death, And hold back those stumbling to the slaughter. 12 If you say, "Surely we did not know this," Does not He who weighs the hearts consider it? He who keeps your soul, does He not know it? And will He not render to each man according to his deeds?

PLEASE TAKE TIME TO READ THROUGH AND MEDITATE ON THE FOLLOWING SCRIPTURES. PLEASE SPEND TIME SEEKING THE LORD TO GIVE WISDOM IN THESE THINGS AND THEN PRAY THAT GOD WILL STIR HIS CHURCH TO ESTABLISH JUSTICE IN THE LAND.

Genesis 9:6 “Whoever sheds man’s blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man.

Deuteronomy 19:7-13

7 “Therefore I command you, saying, ‘You shall separate three cities for yourself.’ 8 “Now if the LORD your God enlarges your territory, as He swore to your fathers, and gives you the land which He promised to give to your fathers, 9 “and if you keep all these commandments and do them, which I command you today, to love the LORD your God and to walk always in His ways, then you shall add three more cities for yourself besides these three, 10 “lest innocent blood be shed in the midst of your land which the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance, and thus guilt of bloodshed be upon you. 11 “But if anyone hates his neighbor, lies in wait for him, rises against him and strikes him mortally, so that he dies, and he flees to one of these cities, 12 “then the elders of his city shall send and bring him from there, and deliver him over to the hand of the avenger of blood, that he may die. 13 “Your eye shall not pity him, but you shall put away the guilt of innocent blood from Israel, that it may go well with you.

Leviticus 24:17,21 17 And he that killeth any man shall surely be put to death. 21 And he that killeth a beast, he shall restore it: and he that killeth a man, he shall be put to death.

Numbers 35:33,34 33 So ye shall not pollute the land wherein ye are: for blood it defileth the land: and the land cannot be cleansed of the blood that is shed therein, but by the blood of him that shed it. 34 Defile not therefore the land which ye shall inhabit, wherein I dwell: for I the LORD dwell among the children of Israel.

Numbers 35:15-34

15 'These six cities shall be for refuge for the children of Israel, for the stranger, and for the sojourner among them, that anyone who kills a person accidentally may flee there. 16 'But if he strikes him with an iron implement, so that he dies, he is a murderer; the murderer shall surely be put to death. 17 'And if he strikes him with a stone in the hand, by which one could die, and he does die, he is a murderer; the murderer shall surely be put to death. 18 'Or if he strikes him with a wooden hand weapon, by which one could die, and he does die, he is a murderer; the murderer shall surely be put to death. 19 'The avenger of blood himself shall put the murderer to death; when he meets him, he shall put him to death. 20 'If he pushes him out of hatred or, while lying in wait, hurls something at him so that he dies, 21 'or in enmity he strikes him with his hand so that he dies, the one who struck [him] shall surely be put to death. He is a murderer. The avenger of blood shall put the murderer to death when he meets him. 22 'However, if he pushes him suddenly without enmity, or throws anything at him without lying in wait, 23 'or uses a stone, by which a man could die, throwing it at him without seeing him, so that he dies, while he was not his enemy or seeking his harm, 24 'then the congregation shall judge between the manslayer and the avenger of blood

according to these judgments. 25 'So the congregation shall deliver the manslayer from the hand of the avenger of blood, and the congregation shall return him to the city of refuge where he had fled, and he shall remain there until the death of the high priest who was anointed with the holy oil. 26 'But if the manslayer at any time goes outside the limits of the city of refuge where he fled, 27 'and the avenger of blood finds him outside the limits of his city of refuge, and the avenger of blood kills the manslayer, he shall not be guilty of blood, 28 'because he should have remained in his city of refuge until the death of the high priest. But after the death of the high priest the manslayer may return to the land of his possession. 29 'And these things shall be a statute of judgment to you throughout your generations in all your dwellings. 30 'Whoever kills a person, the murderer shall be put to death on the testimony of witnesses; but one witness is not sufficient testimony against a person for the death penalty. 31 'Moreover you shall take no ransom for the life of a murderer who is guilty of death, but he shall surely be put to death. 32 'And you shall take no ransom for him who has fled to his city of refuge, that he may return to dwell in the land before the death of the priest. 33 'So you shall not pollute the land where you are; for blood defiles the land, and no atonement can be made for the land, for the blood that is shed on it, except by the blood of him who shed it. 34 'Therefore do not defile the land which you inhabit, in the midst of which I dwell; for I the LORD dwell among the children of Israel.' ”

Leviticus 20:1-5 1 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 2 “Again, you shall say to the children of Israel: ‘Whoever of the children of Israel, or of the strangers who dwell in Israel, who gives [any] of his descendants to Molech, he shall surely be

put to death. The people of the land shall stone him with stones. 3 'I will set My face against that man, and will cut him off from his people, because he has given [some] of his descendants to Molech, to defile My sanctuary and profane My holy name. 4 'And if the people of the land should in any way hide their eyes from the man, when he gives some of his descendants to Molech, and they do not kill him, 5 'then I will set My face against that man and against his family; and I will cut him off from his people, and all who prostitute themselves with him to commit harlotry with Molech.

Ecclesiastes 8:11 Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

Exodus 21:12-14

He that smiteth a man, so that he die, shall be surely put to death. 13 And if a man lie not in wait, but God deliver him into his hand; then I will appoint thee a place whither he shall flee. 14 But if a man come presumptuously upon his neighbour, to slay him with guile; thou shalt take him from mine altar, that he may die.

Exodus 21:28-29

28 "If an ox gores a man or a woman to death, then the ox shall surely be stoned, and its flesh shall not be eaten; but the owner of the ox shall be acquitted. 29 "But if the ox tended to thrust with its horn in times past, and it has been made known to his owner, and he has not kept it confined, so that it has killed a man or a woman, the ox shall be stoned and its owner also shall be put to death.

Deuteronomy 22:8

When thou buildest a new house, then thou shalt make a battlement for thy roof, that thou bring not blood upon thine house, if any man fall from thence.

Amos 5:15 Hate evil, love good; Establish justice in the gate. It may be that the LORD God of hosts Will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Psalms 82:3-4

3 Defend the poor and fatherless; Do justice to the afflicted and needy. 4 Deliver the poor and needy; Free [them] from the hand of the wicked.

1 Kings 10:9

“Blessed be the LORD your God, who delighted in you, setting you on the throne of Israel! Because the LORD has loved Israel forever, therefore He made you king, to do justice and righteousness.”

Psalms 10:17-18

17 LORD, You have heard the desire of the humble; You will prepare their heart; You will cause Your ear to hear, 18 To do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed, That the man of the earth may oppress no more.

Proverbs 21:7

The violence of the wicked will destroy them, Because they refuse to do justice.

Proverbs 28:5 Evil men do not understand justice, But those who seek the LORD understand all.

Isaiah 1:17 Learn to do good; Seek justice, Rebuke the oppressor; Defend the fatherless, Plead for the widow.