



Sermon Outline – August 26, 2018

[#46] *The Need for God's Perfect Justice*

Deuteronomy 21:1–9

Children's Sermon: Truth Four ⁱ

- #1 - **God is the sovereign Creator of all things.** You belong to God.
- #2 - **God created people for His glory.** ...to know, trust, and love Him most of all.
- #3 - **God is holy and righteous.** God's commands are holy and righteous. You must obey God's commands all the time.
- #4 - **Man is sinful:**

Romans 3:23

...**all** have sinned and *fall short* of the glory of God,

Explanation:

- If we are to live with God in heaven forever, **we must obey all His commands perfectly, all the time.** We must never do anything wrong. Can we do this? Have you ever disobeyed any of God's commands? Which ones? Have I?
- God's commands show us **we all break His laws.** ...everyone—Being a sinner is the opposite of being holy and righteous. When did our sin begin? (Ps. 51:5).
- We show we are sinners like Adam by the wrong things we think, desire, say and do. E.g. We do not always love God most of all. We do not obey His good command to honor mom and dad. Sometimes we lie.

Instinct: Lion & Rabbit

Implication:

- You have disobeyed God's commands. You are a sinner. (close with prayer)

Notes:

Exposition of the Sixth Commandment (Deut. 19:1–22:12)

- A. Protect the Innocent, Purge the *Murderers* (19:1-21)
[Laws concerning stealing inheritance (19:14)]
- B. Laws Concerning War: Yahweh Alone Protects Israel's Life (20:1–20)
 - 1. Rules of eligibility for service
[Israel protected to enjoy their inheritance (20:5-7)] Cf. Luke 14:16–24
 - 2. Rules of engagement
[Do not Besiege the Trees (20:19-20)]
- C. Atonement for Unsolved *Murders* (21:1–9)
- D. Yahweh Protects the Lives of Wives & Children (21:10-21)
- E. A Culture of Life in the Promised Land (21:22-22:12)
[e.g. Lost belongings, stewardship of birds]

Atonement for Unsolved Murders

¹ “If in the land that the Lord your God is giving you to possess someone is **found slain**, lying in the open country, and it is not known who killed him...

Today's Clear Biblical Bullet...

Yahweh requires satisfaction for the shedding of innocent blood.



Atonement is Needed!

Genesis 4:9–11

⁹ Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I do not know; *am I my brother's keeper?*” ¹⁰ And the Lord said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. ¹¹ And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand.

Numbers 35:33–34

³³ You shall not pollute the land in which you live, for *blood pollutes the land*, and *no atonement can be made for the land for the blood that is shed in it, except by the blood of the one who shed it.* ³⁴ You shall not defile the land in which you live, *in the midst of which I dwell, for I the Lord dwell in the midst of the people of Israel.*”

Personally Innocent, but Corporately Guilty

2 Sam. 21:1–6, 14 – David Avenges the Gibeonites (7 sons of Saul)

Elders of the Closest Town Must Perform the Prescribed Ceremony (21:2-4)

³ And the elders of the city that is nearest to the slain man shall take a *heifer that has never been worked* and that has not pulled in a yoke. ⁴ And the elders of that city shall bring the heifer down to a *valley with running water*, which is *neither plowed nor sown*, and shall break the heifer's neck there in the valley.

Declaration Before the Priests (21:5)

⁵ Then **the priests**, the sons of Levi, shall come forward, for the Lord your God has *chosen them to minister to him and to bless in the name of the Lord*, and by their word every dispute and every assault shall be settled.

Hand Washing (21:6)

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...

Testimony & Supplication (21:7-8)

⁷ and they shall testify (declare),

‘Our hands did not shed this blood, nor did our eyes see it shed. (personal innocence)

⁸ **Accept atonement**, O Lord, for your people Israel, (corporate guilt)

whom you have redeemed,

and **do not** set the guilt of *innocent blood* in the midst of your people Israel,

so that their **blood guilt** be atoned for.’

Doing Right Shall Purge the Guilt (21:9)

⁹ So you shall *purge the guilt* of **innocent blood** from your midst, when you do what is right in the sight of the Lord.

Key Ideas:

- ✓ Owing responsibility to give God satisfaction
- ✓ Human inability to give the required satisfaction
- ✓ God graciously provides the required satisfaction to be received through faith (doing the right thing)

“Rabbinic sources report that the ceremony was abolished in the first century [A.D.] because murder had become common and was committed openly; even if the authorities did not know who the killer was, it was highly unlikely that nobody knew, as verse 1 requires.”ⁱⁱ (Cf. 2 Kings 24:3–4 – The sins of Manasseh)

Our Bloodguilt Paid for by God Himself!

Consider Our Bloodguilt in Adam!

- ✓ All the murders on the news! (e.g. 362 homicides in Chicago in 2018)
- ✓ Abortion over **600,000** babies murdered in the womb each year! **1 out of 4 Women by 45...**
(majority non-medical reasons)
- ✓ An Interview with Garrett Kell
- ✓ Jesus!

Matthew 27:4

Judas Iscariot - “I have sinned by betraying *innocent blood*.”

...Fired at our Life & Heart

For those who obey the gospel, Yahweh provides the satisfaction he requires for our bloodguilt!



Jesus (Yahweh Saves) through Faith

Romans 10:14–16

¹⁴ How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵ And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” ¹⁶ ***But they have not all obeyed the gospel.*** For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?”

Have you obeyed the gospel?

- ✓ An Interview with Garrett Kell
- ✓ Owing your sin through confession & repentance
- ✓ Avoid the, “but at least I...”
- ✓ Boast about Jesus alone!

If you have never turned and put your trust in Jesus...

- ✓ God requires satisfaction for our bloodguilt and Jesus is the only way to pay what is owed.

ⁱ Helping Children to Understand the Gospel

ⁱⁱ Tigay, J. H. (1996). Deuteronomy (p. 473). Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society.