

commit murder [A. V. kill]: Mt. v. 21; Jas. iv. 2; . . .Mt. v. 21; xix.18; Ro. xiii. 9, (Ex: xx. 15 [13]; . . . Mk. x. 19; Lk. xviii. 20; Jas. ii.11. tina: Mt. xxiii. 31, 35; Jas. v. 6” (Joseph Henry Thayer, A Greek- English Lexicon of the New Testament, p. 657.)

From the foregoing, we learn that phoneuo, which is translated kill, means: “to kill, slay, murder; absol. to commit murder.” (Benson, The Bible Teaches Vol. 13, p. 140).

God does authorize capital punishment. Through the New Testament, God has given authority to civil government to execute those who are guilty of such crimes as to be deserving of death themselves. Paul wrote, “For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil” (Romans 13:4). Even Paul recognized the authority of the Roman government when he wrote, “Then said Paul, I stand at Caesar’s judgment seat, where I ought to be judged: to the Jews have I done no wrong, as thou very well knowest. For if I be an offender, or have committed any thing worthy of death, I refuse not to die: but if there be none of these things whereof these accuse me, no man may deliver me unto them. I appeal unto Caesar” (Acts 25:10,11). He so states that if he has done something worthy of death, he would be willing to pay the price of his own life.

This law forbids the taking of innocent life. Once again, we need to be reminded that life is precious to God because we are made in His image. David took the life of Bathsheba’s husband, Uriah (2 Samuel 11;12). Although David did not do the actual killing, he authorized it and therefore was guilty of murder.

Herod the Great authorized the killing of all the male children of Bethlehem (Matthew 2). These were innocent children who had no say in what happened with their life. These should have had the protection of Herod and others who were in places of authority, but they failed them. This happens today with the killing of millions of innocent babies still in their mothers’ wombs. The people in power should protect these innocent children, but they do not do so. The mother should protect the child, but she fails to do so also. Those who have taken part in this type of murder will stand before God on the day of judgment, and He will take vengeance on them for the killing of innocent life.

Those who commit suicide will also stand before God and answer for the taking of innocent life. You are not your own, and therefore you do not have the right to take your own life. Paul said, “What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s” (1 Corinthians 6:19,20).

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

- Sunday Bible Classes.....10:00
- Morning Worship11:00
- Evening Worship..... 6:00
- Wednesday Classes.....6:30

Free Bible Correspondence Course to all who ask. Please call us or write to us and we will help you get started.



You can be as **Miserable** or as **Happy** as you want!

- You can feel sorry for yourself.
- You can worry about everything.
- You can stir up anger with everyone.
- You can be jealous of others.

- OR ...** You can trust Jesus with your worries, burdens, and fears.
- You can love others as you would have them love you.
- You can believe that the Lord does all things well.
- You can have the joy of the Lord by giving your life to Jesus.

How Happy Do You Want To Be?

THOU SHALT NOT KILL

Johnie Scaggs, Jr.

A person might wonder, of all the ten commandments, why this one? However, when we stop and think about the nature of humanity, we can begin to understand how humanity often gives over to emotions and stops using the intellect and sometimes even does things that we know are wrong such as killing someone. The first recorded sin after Adam and Eve are put forth from the garden of Eden is the murder of Abel by his own brother Cain, “And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him” (Genesis 3:8). Why did this happen? Because of anger, jealousy, etc. When men stop reasoning (use their intellect) and begin acting and reacting by their emotions, sin is at the door, just like God warned Cain. “But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him” (Genesis 4:5-7).

After the flood, God told Noah and his sons that He would require payment of blood for all those who took the life of another. “And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man’s brother will I require the life of man. Whoso sheddeth man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man” (Genesis 9:5,6). He gives the reason behind this statement because man is made in the image of God. Life is precious, and God wants humanity to understand how special it is. Unfortunately, in our world today, we see signs that indicate that many people today do not know how valuable life is and are willing to take a life without even a second thought. Our world needs to be reminded that humanity is not like the animal world; unlike animals, we are made in the image of God, and therefore we are to live by a higher standard.

When God gave the commandment, “Thou shalt not kill” (Exodus 20:13), He was not saying that all killing was wrong, but rather that which was classified as murder. For example, God commanded Joshua to kill all the inhabitants of Ai (Joshua 8). That which is prohibited in Exodus 20:13 is murder.

- a. In quoting from the decalogue to the rich young ruler, Jesus says: “Thou shalt not kill” (Matt. 19:18).
- b. The Greek word phoneuo, which is translated kill, means: “to kill, slay, murder; absol. to

FAMILY MATTERS

ONGOING HEALTH PROBLEMS

SICK:

Pat Joiner, Leslie Guevara, Letha Angst, Gracie Pope, Michael Baugh, Melba Wilkins, Brenda Rogers, Jackie Flowers, June Breazeale, Sharon Joiner’s mother, James Parlor, and Gail Brown, Jeff’s brother wife. Please pray for Tim Franks, friend of Jeff Brown’s and his cousin Jan Moses. Freddie Blackshear is in need off our prayers.

LOCAL NEWS

PANTRY ITEMS FOR THE WEEK:

When buying items for the Pantry, try to buy canned goods that have a top on them that can be opened without a can opener.

Instant Potatoes

NEW YEARS PARTY

On the 9th of February at 6:00 pm we will have a new years party. We will be having hamburgers and hotdogs.

MEN’S MEETING:

The men’s meeting is today at 4:00 pm.

SINGING:

Our Monthly singing is tonight.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARY FOR THE MONTH OF JAN.

- Joe & Maryann Blackburn1/4/1966
- Jeff Brown1/25/1962
- Peyton Dennis1/16/1999
- Shawn Hickman1/10/1973
- Olivia Sage Morgan1/11/2019
- Amberly Dixie Rose Morgan 1/21/2021
- Crystal Pierce1/29/1973
- Martha Robinson1/14/1950
- Flora Shepherd1/15/1956

Jim Dearman and the TV program “Good News Today” airs on Macon TV every Sunday morning at 6:30 A.M. on WGXA-ABCTV16 both on Cox Cable and over the regular airwaves and may be picked up on an antenna. You can even download an app and see the programs any time you wish. See the website at <http://gnttv.org/> and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Good-News-Today-TV>.

SHUT-IN:

Sonny Teagle, Mary Harris

Welcome to the Bellevue Road Church of Christ. If you are a visitor, you are our honored guest. Please sign the guest book in the foyer.