

## A Heart Desiring Murder

Jesus in Matthew 5:21 speaks about murder and gives some sobering words. Some words to consider about murder beginning with the heart. A heart that desires to commit murder is not respected by God. In fact, when you consider how God views murder it is something that God hates (**Proverbs 6:17**). The God of love that we love to talk expresses things that God hates and that is being a hand that sheds innocent blood.

There are many forms of murder. Over the last years we have seen the school shootings increase, terrorists' attacks, acts of genocide, and even abortion. There are other forms of murder that we could consider as well, however let us consider things that we have discussed in the last sentence.

Think about the young man who opened fire on the Virginia Tech campus just a few years ago where many were killed. You even have the acts that we remember in the late 90's with the shootings at Columbine. There are so many things I wish could have been managed differently in these cases. I wish that there could be something to change their hearts and the events that have happened. However, and unfortunately these choices were made by these individuals, and they have chosen a path that is not respected by God in any way.

We remember the date of September 11<sup>th</sup> where some individuals took control of some airplanes and killed thousands of innocent people. This is a day that is fresh in my mind as I was in high school and thinking of how many lives were lost. I even heard the story of my wife telling me that the plane that crashed in PA flew right over her head as she was on a field trip. We reflect on these acts and are saddened by the extreme loss of life that was witnessed that day.

In the 1930's-40's we remembered the acts of genocide on the Jewish people. These individuals, like the rest, did not deserve to suffer what they suffered, even the loss of life that happened there. Certain people decided to try and eliminate a certain race and killed millions of people. It is a dark mark on world history that we are reminded of even to this day.

Now after discussing all these none are in comparison to the last one that has taken more lives than anything else in our history in this country. Abortion has killed well over fifty million babies that are recorded. This does not include many what we call back-alley abortions. This number is increasing rapidly each year, and it is sad to see this.

We talk about many dates to remember, and do you know what happened on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1973? This is a day in our history where abortions were allowed within the first 3 months of pregnancy. A heinous act that was now legalized. How can we think that this is a good day?

There are many who even try to justify the reasons for doing these things. For instance, what about the rights of the mother? What if a mother was in a position where she may lose her life, or other unfortunate events happened to her? Would she be okay to have an abortion? I am not going to give my opinion on this I want to go to God's word. Consider with me in **Genesis 35:16-19**. Here Rachel wanted to give Jacob children and had done so with Joseph and now was pregnant again. Her labor here was hard and exceedingly difficult, and she gave birth to Benjamin and died. We are not able to say whether we can take a life. We have an example here of a woman who was with child and gave birth and died. Some doctors today would say to just forget about the child and save yourself. Where did the child's needs come into play?

Sadly, majority of doing this is for birth control. This is a sad situation that people are doing this just to do it to stop from giving birth. My response to this is if you cannot manage the consequences do not put yourself in a position where this could happen. Do not commit fornication. Practice self-control like Joseph did with Potiphar's wife.

Talking about abortion concerns me and the reason is that so many people are okay with it. I am a proud parent of three and have had my wife experience two miscarriages. These were things where the baby had some complications and died on their own. I have expressed much sorrow with Justina on this and we remember those 2 we have lost. But for someone to commit this intentionally really concerns me. That is a hand that sheds innocent

blood and as we consider this it is sin and not respected by God. I pray that those who read this will consider this and share the same concern as I do on this touchy subject. Seek and serve God and know that this is not acceptable to God (**Romans 12:9**)