

GENESIS

רָצַח

Kill - (rawts-sack) - Murder. To murder someone in a violent and unjust manner.

“Who are we to play God by taking a life.”

When we take a life because of murder, we are not playing God we are obeying God. According to Gen.9 we are the agent that God uses to carry this mandate out.

“If we kill we are no better than the killer and so killing is killing and killing is wrong.”

Again not a reasonable statement because there is a difference in killing someone who is trying to harm your family and the person who intends to harm your family by killing them.

“Capital Punishment is state murder.”

That’s ridiculous because that is like saying everyone who is being punished for a crime and is in prison is state kidnapping because you are holding them against their will.

“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.’

MATTHEW 5:21

But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.

MATTHEW 5:22

ῥακά

Raca - (rhak-ah') - Vain fellow, to cast scorn upon someone, it is abusive language toward someone, it could be a racial slur. It is a word that is said in a harmful way to cause them hurt.

μωρός

You Fool - (mo-ross) - A rebel against God, a worthless person, a godless person, an apostate and you are consigning that person to hell. You have judged them.

But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man.

MATTHEW 15:18

**For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts,
murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts,
false witness, blasphemies.**

MATTHEW 15:19

Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us."

LUKE 23:39

But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation?"

LUKE 23:40

And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong."

LUKE 23:41

Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom."

LUKE 23:42

And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

LUKE 23:43

For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”

ROMANS 10:13

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.

DEUTERONOMY 17:6

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.

DEUTERONOMY 17:7

BIBLICAL ARGUMENT AGAINST DEATH PENALTY USING JOHN 8:

This woman was undeniably guilty, under the Law, of a capital offense.

Jesus said only those who were sinless could carry out the penalty (cast the first stone).

BIBLICAL ARGUMENT AGAINST DEATH PENALTY USING JOHN 8:

No one is sinless.

**Therefore, no one is qualified to carry
out the death penalty.**

BIBLICAL ARGUMENT AGAINST DEATH PENALTY USING JOHN 8:

Since "no man" condemned her (verse 11), it was left to God alone to do so.

So Jesus is God and did not condemn her, and she was free to go.

BIBLICAL ARGUMENT AGAINST DEATH PENALTY USING JOHN 8:

Therefore, Jesus was teaching that the death penalty, while instituted by God in the Old Testament, had now been abolished.

This is because we are not under the Law, but under grace.

“Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.

MATTHEW 5:17

For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.

MATTHEW 5:18

Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

MATTHEW 5:19

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WHAT WE DO KNOW:

For whatever reason, no one could fill the role of innocent witness, and cast the first stone. There wasn't even one innocent witness.

In light of Deuteronomy, we know why Jesus did not condemn her. He knew of her guilt, because He told her to sin no more, but Jesus Himself was not a legal witness, He did not witness the adultery.

We know Jesus did not abolish the Old Testament Law on the death penalty – He actually re-affirmed it by endorsing Deuteronomy 17.

**But if any harm follows, then you shall
give life for life,**

EXODUS 21:23

**Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for
hand, foot for foot,**

EXODUS 21:24

Burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.

EXODUS 21:25

“If a man strikes the eye of his male or female servant, and destroys it, he shall let him go free for the sake of his eye.

EXODUS 21:26

And if he knocks out the tooth of his male or female servant, he shall let him go free for the sake of his tooth.

EXODUS 21:27

And rose up and thrust Him out of the city; and they led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city was built, that they might throw Him down over the cliff.

LUKE 4:29

**Then passing through the midst of them,
He went His way.**

LUKE 4:30

Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."

JOHN 8:58

Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

JOHN 8:59

ῥαπίζω

**Slap - (hrap-id'-zo) - Smite with the palm
of the hand.**

While he answered for himself, “Neither against the law of the Jews, nor against the temple, nor against Caesar have I offended in anything at all.”

ACTS 25:8

But Festus, wanting to do the Jews a favor, answered Paul and said, "Are you willing to go up to Jerusalem and there be judged before me concerning these things?"

ACTS 25:9

So Paul said, "I stand at Caesar's judgment seat, where I ought to be judged. To the Jews I have done no wrong, as you very well know.

ACTS 25:10

For if I am an offender, or have committed anything deserving of death, I do not object to dying; but if there is nothing in these things of which these men accuse me, no one can deliver me to them. I appeal to Caesar.”

ACTS 25:11

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),

GALATIANS 3:13