

How Does God Feel About Murder?  
(Proverbs 6:16-19)

Introduction:

1. In our lesson we are searching the Scriptures to answer a timely question: "how does God feel about murder?"
2. This question is answered in Proverbs 6:16-19 where we are shown how God hates certain things, and they are an abomination to Him.
3. Please note the third subject in this list: "*hands that shed innocent blood.*"
4. While Solomon answered our question in Proverbs 6, let us examine additional passages.

Discussion:

- I. GOD SHOWED HOW HE FEELS ABOUT MURDER WHEN HE PUNISHED CAIN
  - A. According to Genesis 4:8, Cain committed the first murder when he killed his brother Abel.
  - B. Later, God said to Cain: "*the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground*" (vs.10).
  - C. God punished Cain for killing Abel (vs.11-15).
  - D. After the flood (Genesis 9:5-6), God gave the penalty for murder.
    1. God made man in His image.
    2. Those who commit murder give up the right to live.
- II. GOD SHOWED HOW HE FEELS ABOUT MURDER WHEN HE GAVE UP ON THE GENTILES (Romans 1:26-32)
- III. GOD SHOWED HOW HE FEELS ABOUT MURDER IN THE LAW OF MOSES
  - A. One of the 10 commandments was, "*Thou shalt not kill*" (Exodus 20:13).
  - B. This is interesting because God also commanded the Israelites to take the lives of certain people.
    1. Some violations of the law were punishable by death (Exodus 21:12, 15-17).
    2. On several occasions God instructed the Israelites to completely destroy their enemies (Saul was told to destroy the Amalekites -- 1 Samuel 15:3).
  - C. According to Matthew 19:18, "murder" was the kind of killing forbidden by God.
- IV. GOD SHOWED HOW HE FEELS ABOUT MURDER IN THE NEW TESTAMENT
  - A. Let us first examine the teachings of Christ.
    1. (Matthew 5:21-22) Jesus contrasted His will with what the Jews had been taught.
    2. (Matthew 15:19-20a) He showed that murder proceeds from the heart.
    3. Jesus gave 2 commands that will end murder (Matthew 22:39; 7:12).
  - B. Let us examine the New Testament epistles.
    1. (Galatians 5:19-21) Murder is described as a work of the flesh.
      - a. Those who persist in the works of the flesh will not inherit God's kingdom.
      - b. (Revelation 21:8) "*Murderers*" will have their part in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone.
    2. Who is responsible for punishing murderers?
      - a. The state is responsible (Romans 13:3-4).
      - b. God has given the state authority to administer capital punishment.
      - c. One problem we have today is addressed in Ecclesiastes 8:11.
    3. The New Testament also addresses spiritual murder (1 John 3:14-15).
- V. GOD SHOWS US HOW MURDER CAN BE AVOIDED
  - A. We must remember that life is a gift from God (Acts 17:25b).
  - B. We must root things out from the heart that can lead to murder [anger, hatred, bitterness, greed, etc] (Matthew 15:19).
  - C. We must practice the Golden Rule (Matthew 7:12).
  - D. We must strive to live peaceably with all men (Romans 12:18).
  - E. We must avoid evil influence (1 Corinthians 15:33).

Conclusion:

1. We know how God feels about murder.
2. Let us pray for our country as well as other countries (2 Chronicles 7:14).