



Numbers Chapter 35 and 36

The City of Refuge

Last week we took a look at the 14 tribes of Israel, and we discussed why the original 12 tribes of Israel were often times named differently throughout the 66 books of the Bible.

This week we will be taking a look at the cities of refuge that Yehovah God had commanded the house of Israel to create for what was known as “the manslayer”.

A manslayer was someone who had either killed a human being by accident or had murdered a human being with willful intent. And depending upon whether or not someone was killed accidentally or someone was murdered with willful intent... the guilty party was treated differently, and we'll soon see that as we dive into Numbers chapters 35 here this evening. But the first thing that we need to understand is why the murdering of a human being came with the death penalty in the first place.

We must remember that mankind is indeed a creation of the Most High Elohim of Israel. Whenever Yehovah creates what he calls “a son”... that “son” is indeed made in his image. **Genesis 1:26-31 E1**

Gen 1:26 Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

Gen 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Gen 1:28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Gen 1:29 And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food.

Gen 1:30 And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.

Gen 1:31 And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

And so, here in Genesis chapter 1 verse 26 we have our Father in heaven speaking to his divine counsel who is his heavenly host who are also known as "the sons of God". And if you do not know who the divine counsel or the heavenly host of our Father in heaven is, I would encourage you to go read Job chapter 38 verse 7 where it is written that the sons of God shouted for joy when Yehovah God laid the foundation for the world.

Once again, because the world had not yet been created when God was forming the foundation of the earth.... man did not exist at the time that God was creating the foundation of the earth.

Because the earth had not been created as of yet, we know that man could not have been in existence at that point in time because it is written that man was not created until after the earth had been created according to the book of Genesis.

And we clearly see these "sons of God" shouting for joy at the foundation of the world which clearly tells us that the sons of God spoken of here in Job chapter 38 were a creation of God that was created before mankind was created. Not says I... but says our God breathed Scripture.

And therefore, Genesis chapter 1 verse 26 is not talking about human beings when God said and I quote, “Let us make man in our image.”
(scrn 1)

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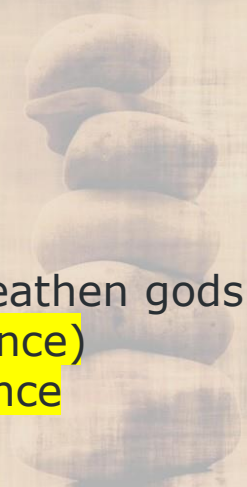
צלם
Image =tselem

BDB Definition:

- 1) image
 - 1a) images (of tumours, mice, heathen gods)
 - 1b) image, likeness (of resemblance)
 - 1c) mere, empty, image, semblance (figuratively)

Part of Speech: noun masculine

A Related Word by BDB/Strong's Number:
from an unused root meaning to shade



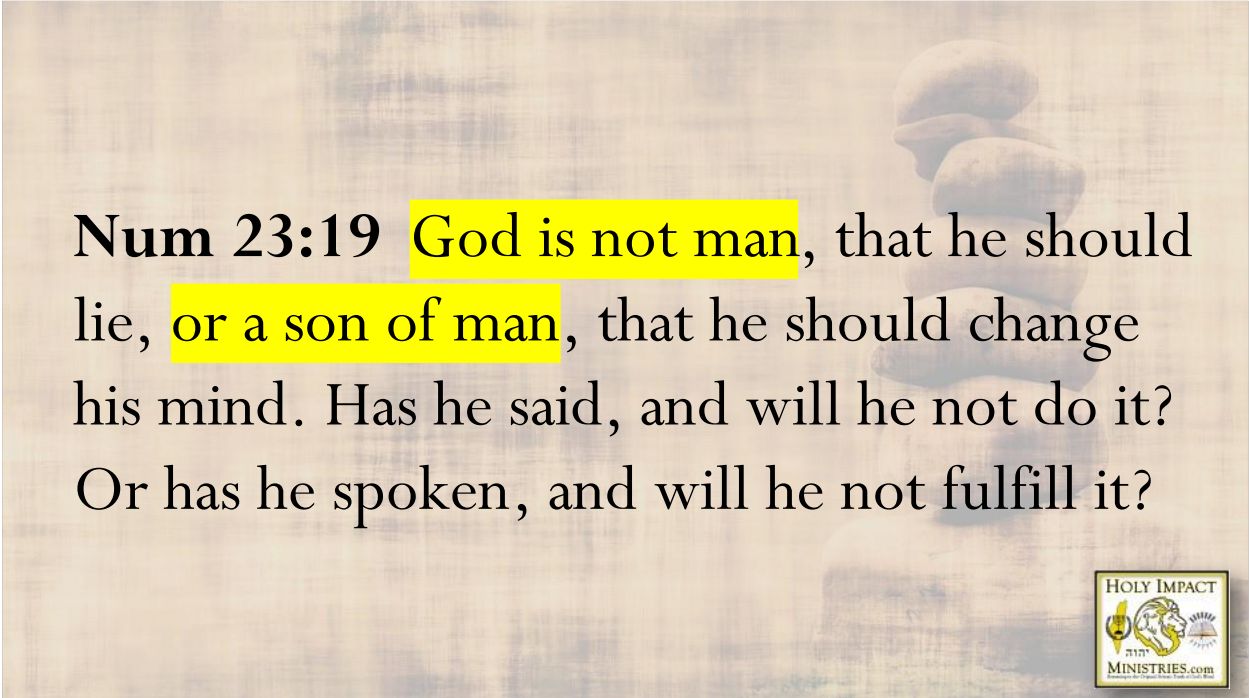
Many of our English translated Bibles will say that God said, “let us make man in our own image after our likeness”. And most English-speaking people will cling to the word “image” instead of the word “likeness” never truly understanding what is being said here in the book of Genesis.

Notice here according to Brown driver Briggs Hebrew definitions, that the Hebrew word for “image” is the Hebrew word “tseh-lem” (tselem). And the Hebrew word “tselem” also means “likeness”.

And so, just like many Hebrew words the Hebrew word “tselem” also has several different meanings. The Hebrew word “tselem” can indeed mean “image” but it can also mean likeness or semblance figuratively speaking. And so then, the question then becomes was God speaking

directly concerning a visual image that we could see with our eyeballs, or was God speaking figuratively concerning his spiritual image? And if God was referring to his spiritual image, what would this spiritual image look like?

First John chapter 4 verse eight tells us that God is love. Deuteronomy chapter 32 verse four tells us that God is faithful and without iniquity, he is just and upright. Titus chapter 1 verse two tells us that God never lies. (scrn 2 show)



Num 23:19 God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?



Numbers chapter 23 verse 19 tells us that God is not a man nor is he a Son of Man and that he does not change his mind. What he has said he will do and what he has spoken he will fulfill.

And so it was... that God created man the same way that he had created the sons of God who were already with him from the beginning of the foundation of the world.

All of God's created "sons" were created as spiritual beings just like

Yehovah God. And all of God's created "sons" were created to have the capacity to love just like Yehovah God. And all of God's created "sons" were created with the ability to be faithful and to be without iniquity just like Yehovah God. All of God's created "sons" were created with the capacity to be able to be just and upright just as Yehovah God himself is just and upright.

And therefore, I would submit to you that the "image" of God encapsulates much, much more than just two arms, two legs, two eyes, two ears, a nose and a mouth as some believe. Because man was created with the capability of being good, and just, and righteous, and faithful just as God is good and just and righteous and faithful... man has been created in the image of God and in his likeness just as all of God's creation has been created.

All of the "sons" of God are created in the image of God because Yehovah God himself was creating for himself and I quote, "sons of God". And all of God's creation who are the sons of God whether they be men or angels bow down before Yehovah God.

In the 22nd chapter of the book of Revelation an angel, a messenger of Yehovah God appeared before the apostle John to tell John not to seal up the prophecy of the book of Revelation because the time was near, and our Messiah would soon come. And the apostle John fell at the feet of this angel to worship the angel. But the angel, the messenger of God stopped John from falling at his feet and worshiping him. Listen closely to what the angel tells John in Revelation chapter 22 verses eight and nine (**scrn 3**)

Rev 22:8 I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me,
Rev 22:9 but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers the prophets, and with those who keep the words of this book. Worship God’.



Once again, the angel tells John that the Angels are our fellow servants with us and that they are also those who keep the words of this book. And the angel tells John to worship God. And for more clarification concerning the fact that all of God’s created “sons” including myriads and thousands of thousands of angels do indeed worship both Yehovah God and the Lamb of God who is our Messiah... all we have to do is turn to **Revelation chapter 5 verses nine through 14 E2**

Rev 5:9 And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation,

Rev 5:10 and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”

Rev 5:11 Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,

Rev 5:12 saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

Rev 5:13 And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the

earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

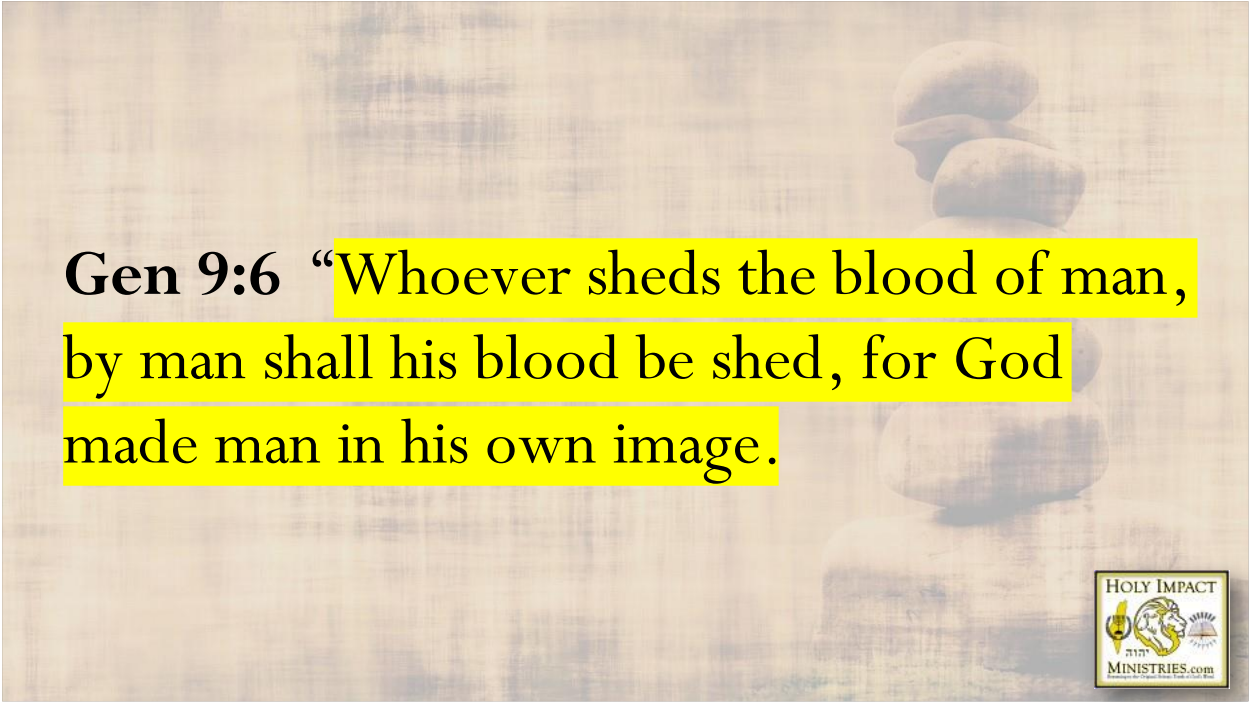
Rev 5:14 And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.

And once again, who is the Lamb of God who was slain? Who is this Lamb of God in Revelation chapter 5 verse 13?

Once again, this is our Passover lamb who died on Passover day not on some Roman Catholic created "Good Friday". And it is Yehovah God and the Lamb of God that all the created sons of God bow down to and worship. And why? Because they were all created in the image of God in the likeness of God and they all have the capability of knowing and understanding the love of God and they all have the capability of being good, and righteous, and faithful, and just... just as our God is good and righteous and faithful and just. You see this my friends is what the image of God is. The image of God is not necessarily what you see with your human eyeballs but what you see with the spirit that dwells within you.

And it's important to understand all of this when it comes to the murder of a human man who was created in the image of God. Every man whether he has chosen good, or evil was created in the image of God with the capability to be good and righteous and faithful and just. And because he was created in the image of God with these capabilities... he is loved by Yehovah God.

All of us as human beings have children. All of us as human beings have good children, and we have bad children. We have children who have done well and have excelled. We have children who have fallen and have failed our expectations. And so too it is with our Father in heaven. We love them both and so does our Father in heaven. And once again, this is why we find this in **Genesis chapter 9 verse six (scrn 4)**



Gen 9:6 “Whoever sheds the blood of man,
by man shall his blood be shed, for God
made man in his own image.



The death of God’s children is never celebrated. Make no mistake about it, our Father’s heart breaks every time one of his children falls just like our hearts break when our children fall. And this is exactly why when any man is killed the death penalty for the murderer is called into play.

With that information under our belts, let’s now read **Numbers chapter 35** so that we can know exactly what it says and just as importantly what it does not say. E3

Cities for the Levites

Num 35:1 The LORD spoke to Moses in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho, saying,

Num 35:2 “Command the people of Israel to give to **the Levites** some of the inheritance of their possession as cities for them to dwell in. And you shall give to the Levites pasturelands around the cities.

Num 35:3 The cities shall be theirs to dwell in, and their pasturelands shall be for their cattle and for their livestock and for all their beasts.

Num 35:4 The pasturelands of the cities, which you shall give to the Levites, shall reach from the wall of the city outward a thousand cubits all around.

Num 35:5 And you shall measure, outside the city, on the east side two thousand cubits, and on the south side two thousand cubits, and on the west side two thousand cubits, and on the north side two thousand cubits, the city being in the middle. This shall belong to them as pastureland for their cities.

Num 35:6 "The cities that you give to the Levites shall be the six cities of refuge, where you shall permit the manslayer to flee, and in addition to them you shall give forty-two cities.

Num 35:7 All the cities that you give to the Levites shall be forty-eight, with their pasturelands.

Num 35:8 And as for the cities that you shall give from the possession of the people of Israel, from the larger tribes you shall take many, and from the smaller tribes you shall take few; each, in proportion to the inheritance that it inherits, shall give of its cities to the Levites."

Cities of Refuge

Num 35:9 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

Num 35:10 "Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When you cross the Jordan into the land of Canaan,

Num 35:11 then you shall select cities to be cities of refuge for you, that the manslayer who kills any person without intent may flee there.

Num 35:12 The cities shall be for you a refuge from the avenger, that the manslayer may not die until he stands before the congregation for judgment.

Num 35:13 And the cities that you give shall be your six cities of refuge.

Num 35:14 You shall give three cities beyond the Jordan, and three cities in the land of Canaan, to be cities of refuge.

Num 35:15 These six cities shall be for refuge for the people of Israel, and for the stranger and for the sojourner among them, that anyone who kills any person without intent may flee there.

Num 35:16 "But if he struck him down with an iron object, so that he died, he is a murderer. The murderer shall be put to death.

Num 35:17 And if he struck him down with a stone tool that could cause death, and he died, he is a murderer. The murderer shall be put to death.

Num 35:18 Or if he struck him down with a wooden tool that could cause death, and he died, he is a murderer. The murderer shall be put to death.

Num 35:19 The avenger of blood shall himself put the murderer to death; when he meets him, he shall put him to death.

Num 35:20 And if he pushed him out of hatred or hurled something at him, lying in wait, so that he died,

Num 35:21 or in enmity struck him down with his hand, so that he died,

then he who struck the blow shall be put to death. He is a murderer. The avenger of blood shall put the murderer to death when he meets him.

Num 35:22 "But if he pushed him suddenly without enmity, or hurled anything on him without lying in wait

Num 35:23 or used a stone that could cause death, and without seeing him, dropped it on him, so that he died, though he was not his enemy and did not seek his harm,

Num 35:24 then the congregation shall judge between the manslayer and the avenger of blood, in accordance with these rules.

Num 35:25 And the congregation shall rescue the manslayer from the hand of the avenger of blood, and the congregation shall restore him to his city of refuge to which he had fled, and he shall live in it until the death of the high priest who was anointed with the holy oil.

Num 35:26 But if the manslayer shall at any time go beyond the boundaries of his city of refuge to which he fled,

Num 35:27 and the avenger of blood finds him outside the boundaries of his city of refuge, and the avenger of blood kills the manslayer, he shall not be guilty of blood.

Num 35:28 For he must remain in his city of refuge until the death of the high priest, but after the death of the high priest the manslayer may return to the land of his possession.

Num 35:29 And these things shall be for a statute and rule for you throughout your generations in all your dwelling places.

Num 35:30 "If anyone kills a person, the murderer shall be put to death on the evidence of witnesses. But no person shall be put to death on the testimony of one witness.

Num 35:31 Moreover, you shall accept no ransom for the life of a murderer, who is guilty of death, but he shall be put to death.

Num 35:32 And you shall accept no ransom for him who has fled to his city of refuge, that he may return to dwell in the land before the death of the high priest.

Num 35:33 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.

Num 35:34 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."

One of the first things to make mention of here is that Yehovah God had commanded the house of Israel to make six different cities of refuge for the manslayer which once again would have been someone who had

killed a human being either by mistake, or by willful intent.

And that manslayer was to be kept safe until the congregation had made its judgment on the foundation of two or more witnesses as to whether or not that manslayer was guilty of intentional murder of a human being or not.

One of the first things that I want us to notice is that these six cities were six cities that were given to the Levitical priests according to Numbers chapter 35 verse six.

Now, these were not the only six cities that were given to the Levitical priesthood. As we can see in Numbers chapter 35 verse six, in addition to these six cities of refuge the house of Israel was also to give the Levitical priesthood an additional 42 cities. And so, these six cities of refuge were not the only cities given to the Levitical priesthood however, the six cities of refuge did indeed belong to the Levitical priesthood who were to protect these manslaughterers until the congregation had come together to properly judge the manslaughterer according to... two or more witnesses.

And I also want us to pay attention to the fact that it was indeed the congregation that would judge this manslaughterer. It was not the high priest, it was not the Levitical priesthood, but it was the congregation that was to judge the manslaughterer on the evidence of two or more witnesses. And it is clearly written in verse 30 that no person should be put to death on the testimony of one witness. And so, if there is only one witness it was illegal to put the manslaughterer to death.

Something else very important that I want us to make mention of is found in verse 15... where it is written that these six cities shall be a refuge for the people of Israel which included the Gentile stranger that traveled among them. Once again, just as we see in the book of Exodus in the book of Numbers, the Gentiles were always being drafted into the house of Israel and they were indeed seen as natives of the land as long

as they were circumcised and were obeying the commandments of Yehovah just like the rest of the house of Israel. And again, I want us to notice that these cities of refuge were for anyone who kills any person without intent. And this is extremely important to properly understand.

These cities of refuge were not created for someone who had willfully and intentionally murdered someone. These cities of refuge were created for someone who had inadvertently or accidentally killed someone by accident or mistake.

What needs to be understood is that there were at least three different words in the Hebrew language that were used to describe the killing of a human being. (**scrn 5**)

3 Different Hebrew Words For “Kill:

Slay: Gen 4:15:

Haw-rag (harag) = to kill, murder, destroy, murderer, slayer

Kill: Gen 4:15:

Naw-kaw (naka) = slay, kill, smitten, wound, beaten, smite

Murder: Psalms 94:6:

Raw-tsakh (ratsach) = premeditated, assassinate, murder

slay,
kill



Just like the English words “slay, kill” and “murder” all pertain to killing, so do the Hebrew words “harag, nawkaw,” and “raw-tsakh” all pertain to killing.

But these three words can help us to define how someone was killed. When we go back and read the testimony of Yehovah God that many of

us know as the 10 Commandments, we find the commandment “you shall not murder”.

Something else to make mention of is that in your King James version of the Bible it states in Exodus chapter 20 verse 13 “thou shalt not kill”... which is an incorrect translation. The Hebrew word in Exodus chapter 20 verse 13 is the Hebrew word Raw=tsakh (ratsach) which means “to willfully and intentionally murder”. Once again, the King James version of the Bible missed its mark in its translation here in **Exodus chapter 20 verse 13. (scrn 6)**

KJV = Improper translation:

Exo 20:13 Thou shalt not ~~kill~~ (ratsach) murder.

ESV = Proper translation:

Exo 20:13 “You shall not murder.”



The Hebrew word for kill is “naka”, not “raw-tsak” and “naka” is not found in Exodus chapter 20 verse 13. The Hebrew word used in Exodus chapter 20 verse 13 is the Hebrew word “raw-tsakh”. And therefore, the King James version of the Bible is incorrect in its translation of Exodus chapter 20 verse 13. And so too is it wrong in the modern King James version of our English translated Bibles.

And therefore, what we can take away from this improper translation is

that God did not say thou shalt not kill, what Yehovah God said was... thou shalt not “murder” (ratsach). And once again, we should be able to understand the difference between a killing and a murder according to our God breathed Scripture.

Something else to keep in mind is that there is also something known as a righteous killing that also does not carry the death penalty.

If we will remember correctly in Numbers chapter 31 when the house of Israel took vengeance upon Midian and the Midianites, it was written in Numbers chapter 31 verse 19 that whoever killed any person or whoever touched any of the slain were to purify themselves and their captives on the third day and on the seventh day water.

The soldiers who fought in war were to encamp outside of the house of Israel’s camp for seven days. They were to wash themselves and their garments with water on the third day and on the seventh day. And all of their weapons and anything made of any kind of metal were to be purified with fire. And at the end of the seven days, they would once again be ritually clean and able to join the community.

And so, the point in all of this is that there is such a thing as a righteous killing. But it must be understood that a righteous killing is a killing that is sanctified and ordained by Yehovah God himself.

When Yehovah God told the house of Israel to go to war against the godless nations of Canaan, the men of war that he sent into battle were not guilty of murder in God’s eyes. Once again, there is a difference between a killing and a murder. And that’s why there are several different words to describe the several different meanings and it’s important that we sit up and take notice of which one of these Hebrew words was used when it comes to either a killing or a murder. **(scrn 7)**

Num 31:19 Encamp outside the camp seven days. Whoever of you has **killed (harag)** any person and whoever has touched any slain, purify yourselves and your captives on the third day and on the seventh day.

Killed = H2026

הָרַג

Killed = hârag

haw-rag'

A primitive root; **to smite with deadly intent** - destroy, out of hand, kill, murder (-er), put to [death], make [slaughter], slay (-er), X surely.

Total KJV occurrences: 166



Once again, the Hebrew word for “killed” in Numbers chapter 31 verse 19 is the Hebrew word “harag”. And the Hebrew word “harag” once again means to smite with deadly intent or to kill, or to murder.

But... once again, this kind of killing can be put into another whole category because this killing was ordered and ordained and sanctified by Yehovah himself in Numbers chapter 31 verse 19. **(scrn 8)**

3 Different Hebrew Words For “Kill:

Slay: Gen 4:15:

Haw-rag (harag) = to kill, murder, destroy, murderer, slayer

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Naw-kaw (naka) = slay, kill, smitten, wound, beaten, smite

Murder: Psalms 94:6:

Raw-tsakh (ratsach) = premeditated, assassinate, murder,
slay,
kill



And so, what we can take away from this is that the Hebrew word “harag” and the Hebrew word “ratsach” are very, very similar because either of these two Hebrew words can convey premeditated murder. But... the Hebrew word “naka” does not convey a premeditated murder. And this is exactly why it’s important for us to go back and to critique our English translated Bibles from time to time.

If something does not make sense in your English translated Bible, it is always wise to go back and look at the original Hebrew or Greek language in order to gain more insight into the proper meaning of that particular Scripture so that we can grasp the original meaning and intent of the Scripture. (scrn 9)

Cities of Refuge Found in Joshua Chapter 20



The map that we see here shows us the six cities of refuge that Yehovah God had commanded the house of Israel to set up for the manslayer. And I thought that it would be helpful to show you this so that you could see a visual representation of the cities of refuge and what their names were.

The names of these cities were Kedesh, Golan, Ramoth, Shechem, Bezer and Hebron, and we know that these were the names of the cities because we can find the names of these cities of refuge in the 20th chapter of the book of Joshua. And it's important to read the 20th chapter of the book of Joshua because Joshua chapter 20 greatly helps us to understand the purpose of these cities of refuge. And so, let's go read Joshua chapter 20 very quickly. It's a short chapter and well worth reading considering the topic of discussion here in Numbers chapter 35. And so, let's now turn to **Joshua chapter 20 E4**

The Cities of Refuge

Jos 20:1 Then the LORD said to Joshua,

Jos 20:2 "Say to the people of Israel, 'Appoint the cities of refuge, of which I spoke to you through Moses,

Jos 20:3 that the manslayer who strikes any person without intent or unknowingly may flee there. They shall be for you a refuge from the avenger of blood.

Jos 20:4 He shall flee to one of these cities and shall stand at the entrance of the gate of the city and explain his case to the elders of that city. Then they shall take him into the city and give him a place, and he shall remain with them.

Jos 20:5 And if the avenger of blood pursues him, they shall not give up the manslayer into his hand, because he struck his neighbor unknowingly, and did not hate him in the past.

Jos 20:6 And he shall remain in that city until he has stood before the congregation for judgment, until the death of him who is high priest at the time. Then the manslayer may return to his own town and his own home, to the town from which he fled.”

Jos 20:7 So they set apart Kedesh in Galilee in the hill country of Naphtali, and Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim, and Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron) in the hill country of Judah.

Jos 20:8 And beyond the Jordan east of Jericho, they appointed Bezer in the wilderness on the tableland, from the tribe of Reuben, and Ramoth in Gilead, from the tribe of Gad, and Golan in Bashan, from the tribe of Manasseh.

Jos 20:9 These were the cities designated for all the people of Israel and for the stranger sojourning among them, that anyone who killed a person without intent could flee there, so that he might not die by the hand of the avenger of blood, till he stood before the congregation.

The importance of Joshua chapter 20 becomes evident when we read in verse three that the manslayer who strikes any person without intent or unknowingly may flee there. They shall be for you a refuge from the avenger of blood.

And so, Joshua makes it extremely clear what these cities of refuge were all about. And Joshua also names the six cities in Joshua chapter 20 verses seven and eight so that we can know what they were and where they were.

Something else that I would like to mention is this “avenger of blood.”

What is “the avenger of blood” that we read about in both Numbers chapter 35 and Joshua chapter 20? (scrn 10)

Avenger = H1350

גאל
Avenger = gā'al

BDB Definition:

1) to redeem, act as kinsman-redeemer, avenge, revenge, ransom, do the part of a kinsman

1a) (Qal)

1a1) to act as kinsman, do the part of next of kin, act as kinsman-redeemer

1a1a) by marrying brother's widow to beget a child for him, to redeem from slavery, to redeem land, to exact vengeance

1a2) to redeem (by payment)

1a3) to redeem (with God as subject)

1a3a) individuals from death

1a3b) Israel from Egyptian bondage

1a3c) Israel from exile


1b) (Niphal)

1b1) to redeem oneself

1b2) to be redeemed

Part of Speech: verb

A Related Word by BDB/Strong's Number: a primitive root



Well, in Numbers chapter 35 the avenger of blood comes from the Hebrew word “gaw-al” (gaal) and it means to act as a kinsman redeemer or to do the part of a kinsman. In other words, this would be a family member looking for revenge. And so, this “avenger of blood” would be a family member of the person who was killed that would be looking for vengeance against the killer of that family member.

And according to Numbers chapter 35 verse 19, the avenger of blood which would have been a family member or a kinsman, was commanded to put the murderer to death when he meets him. And this is extremely eye-opening when it comes to the Scripture because we are told that vengeance belongs to God. But... when the image of God is destroyed, the kinsman redeemer is the one who is called by God to execute the vengeance of God.

And I also want us to understand Numbers chapter 35 versus 26 and 27 where it is written that if the manslayer goes beyond the boundaries of his city of refuge to which he fled and the avenger of blood finds him

outside the boundaries of his city of refuge... and the avenger of blood kills the manslayer, the avenger of blood shall not be guilty of blood.

And this once again goes hand in glove with obeying the commandment of Yehovah. Whether you are guilty of the murder or not, if you did not stay in the city of refuge as commanded by God and were caught breaking the commandment of God by leaving the city of refuge, the avenger of blood, the kinsman redeemer could take the life of that disobedient manslayer and not be guilty of blood.

And so, it's important for us to understand not only the options of the kinsman redeemer who comes to avenge the death of his family member... but it is also important for us to understand the commandment of the kinsman redeemer who comes to avenge the death of his family member.

We must remember, that the kinsman redeemer... the avenger of blood... is commanded to kill the murderer when he meets him. But if the murderer has run to a city of refuge... the congregation is then to judge the manslayer by the evidence of two or more witnesses to see whether he is guilty or not. And... if there is no more than one witness to the killing... then the congregation is to find the manslayer innocent.

And if the manslayer is found innocent he is to live within the confines of the city of refuge until the death of the high priest. And once again, he is not allowed to leave the city of refuge until the death of the high priest who was once again in the bloodline of Aaron.

Something else to make mention of is found in Numbers chapter 35 versus 31 and 32 where it is written that no ransom would be accepted for the life of a murderer who is guilty of death.

In other words, there was no sin sacrifice or ransom that could be made for someone who destroyed the image of God. If you willfully and intentionally murdered someone, there was only the death penalty, and

no ransom or sacrifice could be given or made that would abolish this death penalty.

Keeping all of this in mind, today in our time we might wonder if the blood of our Messiah does indeed forgive all sin and transgressions against our Father in heaven. Obviously, we can see that the sin of willful and intentional murder was not forgiven in the Torah back in the days of Moses. But then again, no willful and intentional sin was forgiven in the Torah back in the days of Moses.

If you willfully and intentionally high handedly transgressed the law of God back in the days of Moses, there was no sacrifice for that willful and intentional sin. The sin offering was only for those who unintentionally sinned against God. Those who had accidentally sinned.

And so, to answer the question of whether or not willful and intentional sin is forgiven and washed away by the blood of the lamb, all we have to do is look at the apostle Paul who himself willfully and intentionally was murdering Christians before his conversion.

We can also look at King David and the murder of Uriah the Hittite Bathsheba's husband when David had Uriah killed in battle. Was this not a willful and intentional murder in order to steal the wife of another man? Indeed, it was! And yet... David obviously knew the key to repentance. And it was because David did have a broken spirit and a contrite heart, and it was because David did cry out in anguish because of his love for the word of God... that Yehovah God did indeed forgive David, at least up to a point.

We must remember that David was not allowed to build a house for Yehovah God because he was a man of war and had blood on his hands.
First Chronicles chapter 22 verse 8 to 10 (scrn 11)

1Ch 22:8 But the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 'You have shed much blood and have waged great wars. You shall not build a house to my name, because you have shed so much blood before me on the earth.'

1Ch 22:9 Behold, a son shall be born to you who shall be a man of rest. I will give him rest from all his surrounding enemies. For his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quiet to Israel in his days.

1Ch 22:10 He shall build a house for my name. He shall be my son, and I will be his father, and I will establish his royal throne in Israel forever.'



Here once again in first Chronicles we hear God telling David that David was not going to be allowed to build a house for Yehovah, but that David's son Solomon would be able to build a house for him. And therefore, we can clearly see that because David did have blood on his hands there was indeed some kind of penalty for David concerning this human blood on his hands.

And once again, we see here in first Chronicles chapter 22 that the first runner-up to be our Messiah was indeed Solomon who was the son of David. Once again, if Solomon would have obeyed the laws and the commandments of Yehovah, Solomon would have been our Messiah. Solomon would have been the only begotten son of God that God promised David in second Samuel chapter 7. Solomon's throne would have been established over Israel forever just as God had promised. The problem was that Solomon did not obey the commandment of Yehovah. Solomon failed miserably in obeying the law of God. And therefore, Solomon was excluded from the promise God made to David because of his disobedience. And I don't want to get into another whole study on this because we've already studied this several times in the past, we even

have studies on this particular topic at our website at HolyImpactMinistries.com. But... I do want us to understand that the killing of another human being is equal to destroying the image of God. And destroying the image of God does indeed come with a heavy penalty if done intentionally through hostility.

And something else as equally important to understand is that all who have broken these laws that we're reading about in the book of Numbers will be held accountable according to all that is written within this book. And let me say that again, all who have broken these laws that we are reading about here in the book of Numbers today... will be held accountable according to all that is written within this book.

If you are not covered by the blood of the Lamb of Yehovah God... then your sins... your transgressions against God still demand the death penalty for you.

Only those who have been reborn will be exempt from the judgment of this book. **THINK ABOUT THAT FOR A MOMENT!**

Not one crossing of a "t" not one dotting of an "i" of this law will be escaped by any human being who does not have the blood of the lamb covering their heads.

If you are not a new creation, then you are a walking dead man or dead woman and you don't even know it. If you have not gone down into that watery grave of baptism following your Messiah down into death... having been raised up a new creation... and if you have not picked up your cross and made the willful and intentional decision to follow your Passover lamb back to Yehovah God... then you are a walking dead man and you don't even know it. And this is exactly why our Messiah tells us in the 24th chapter of the book of Matthew that the very last thing that will take place at the end of the age is that the gospel will be preached to everyone upon the earth. Every single solitary person will have the opportunity to turn back and to repent before it is all said and done.

Every single solitary person will have the opportunity to choose whom it is that they will serve. **Second Corinthians chapter 5 verses 17 through 21 E5**

2Co 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

2Co 5:18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;

2Co 5:19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

2Co 5:20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

2Co 5:21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

And once again, you and I are indeed ambassadors of our Messiah. Yehovah God is making his appeal through us. And as such... we ought to be imploring others on behalf of our Messiah to be reconciled back to Yehovah God the Creator of the heavens and the earth. Knowing and understanding this, my hope and my prayer is that we will understand the responsibility that we have been given and have the honor and the valor and the courage to stand and be counted as Yehovah's chosen set apart remnant people

And with that being said I would like to close out the book of Numbers by reading through Numbers chapter 36 so that we can once again know exactly what it says in just importantly what it does not say. **Numbers chapter 36 E6**

Marriage of Female Heirs

Num 36:1 The heads of the fathers' houses of the clan of the people of Gilead the son of Machir, son of Manasseh, from the clans of the people of Joseph, came near and spoke before Moses and before the chiefs, the heads of the fathers' houses of the people of Israel.

Num 36:2 They said, "The LORD commanded my lord to give the land for inheritance by lot to the people of Israel, and my lord was commanded by

the LORD to give the inheritance of Zelophehad our brother to his daughters.

Num 36:3 But if they are married to any of the sons of the other tribes of the people of Israel, then their inheritance will be taken from the inheritance of our fathers and added to the inheritance of the tribe into which they marry. So it will be taken away from the lot of our inheritance.

Num 36:4 And when the jubilee of the people of Israel comes, then their inheritance will be added to the inheritance of the tribe into which they marry, and their inheritance will be taken from the inheritance of the tribe of our fathers."

Num 36:5 And Moses commanded the people of Israel according to the word of the LORD, saying, "The tribe of the people of Joseph is right.

Num 36:6 This is what the LORD commands concerning the daughters of Zelophehad: 'Let them marry whom they think best, only they shall marry within the clan of the tribe of their father.

Num 36:7 The inheritance of the people of Israel shall not be transferred from one tribe to another, for every one of the people of Israel shall hold on to the inheritance of the tribe of his fathers.

Num 36:8 And every daughter who possesses an inheritance in any tribe of the people of Israel shall be wife to one of the clan of the tribe of her father, so that every one of the people of Israel may possess the inheritance of his fathers.

Num 36:9 So no inheritance shall be transferred from one tribe to another, for each of the tribes of the people of Israel shall hold on to its own inheritance."

Num 36:10 The daughters of Zelophehad did as the LORD commanded Moses,

Num 36:11 for Mahlah, Tirzah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Noah, the daughters of Zelophehad, were married to sons of their father's brothers.

Num 36:12 They were married into the clans of the people of Manasseh the son of Joseph, and their inheritance remained in the tribe of their father's clan.

Num 36:13 These are the commandments and the rules that the LORD commanded through Moses to the people of Israel in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho.

Numbers chapter 36 is an extremely simple to understand chapter that has everything to do with the tribe of Manasseh and the people of Joseph.

Once again, back in Numbers chapter 27 we read about the daughters of Zelophehad who died in the wilderness because his generation was cut off from the promised land due to their disobedience. And the daughters of Zelophehad had come to Moses inquiring about the inheritance of their father because they were indeed part of the tribe of Manasseh Joseph's people. And Yehovah had commanded Moses to give the daughters of Zelophehad possession of an inheritance among their father's brothers and to transfer the inheritance of their father to them.

Here in Numbers chapter 36, the heads of the tribe of Manasseh are worried that the inheritance of Zelophehad's daughters will be lost if the daughters of Zelophehad marry outside of the tribe of Manasseh.

And so, Yehovah commands the daughters of Zelophehad in Numbers chapter 36 verse six to only marry within the clan of the tribe of their father who was part of Manasseh. This way, their inheritance would stay within the tribe of Manasseh and not be scattered out to the other 11 tribes. And it is written in verse 10 that the daughters of Zelophehad obeyed the commandment of Yehovah and they were married to the sons of their father's brothers keeping themselves within the tribe of Manasseh so that the inheritance of their father would not be dissolved into the other 11 tribes.

And once again, this shows great resolve, and great self-discipline within the noble daughters of Zelophehad who once again obeyed the commandment of Yehovah and only married within their tribe. And I would submit to you that we could all learn a very valuable lesson from the noble daughters of Zelophehad.

There is so much to gain here within these God breathed Scriptures. There is so much to grasp, so much to teach, so much to share, so much to cling to, so much to understand... that I daresay if we are not continuously studying these God breathed Scriptures, our adversary will have every opportunity to sift us and sift us he will. My hope and my prayer is that we will all hear the commandment of Yehovah and do just

as the daughters of Zelophehad had done.

My hope and my prayer is that we have given you something to take to your prayer closet and to test through the fire of prayer this evening. My hope and my prayer is, that you will be blessed by hearing these Bible truths that we have put in your hearing this very evening.

And with that... we will begin our introduction into the book of Deuteronomy next Wednesday evening at 7 PM Eastern standard Time as we move into the last book of the Torah and do all that we can to grow and to be nourished by the bread of life that is... the spoken word of Yehovah God.

And so, until then, I will once again ask everyone within the sound of my voice to please take what you have heard here this evening to your own prayer closet. Bow your head and bend your knee and face the holy promised land of Jerusalem and ask in the name of Yeshua Hamashiach if what you have heard here today be true or not.

Ask, seek, and knock on his door and on his door alone in the proper door will be opened to you. And if you will do that, and if you will stay the course to the end, you and I will surely walk to the gates of his soon coming kingdom together.