

Timeline of Truth – God Shows Mercy and Judgment (Deuteronomy 19)

Focus	First Sermon 1:1-4:43	Second Sermon 4:44-26:19				Third Sermon 27:1-34:17		
Divisions	Review of God's Acts for Israel 1:1-4:43	The Exposition and Expansion of the Ten Commandments 4:44-11:32	Ceremonial Laws 12:1-16:17	Civil Laws 16:18-20:20	Social Laws 21:1-26:19	Ramification of covenant 27:1-28:68	Palestinian Covenant 29:1-30:20	Transition of Covenant Mediator 31:1-34:12

<p>Deuteronomy 19:1 "When the LORD your God has cut off the nations whose land the LORD your God is giving you, and you dispossess them and dwell in their cities and in their houses, ² "you shall separate three cities for yourself in the midst of your land which the LORD your God is giving you to possess. ³ "You shall prepare roads for yourself, and divide into three parts the territory of your land which the LORD your God is giving you to inherit, that any manslayer may flee there.</p>	<p>1. God Commands _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Once they take the land They will set up three cities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the midst of them Prepare roads Divide the territory into three parts Any manslayer may flee there
<p>⁴ " And this <i>is</i> the case of the manslayer who flees there, that he may live: Whoever kills his neighbor unintentionally, not having hated him in time past -- ⁵ "as when <i>a man</i> goes to the woods with his neighbor to cut timber, and his hand swings a stroke with the ax to cut down the tree, and the head slips from the handle and strikes his neighbor so that he dies -- he shall flee to one of these cities and live; ⁶ "lest the avenger of blood, while his anger is hot, pursue the manslayer and overtake him, because the way is long, and kill him, though he <i>was</i> not deserving of death, since he had not hated the victim in time past. ⁷ "Therefore I command you, saying, 'You shall separate three cities for yourself.'</p>	<p>2. God Gives Conditions for a _____</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A manslayer is one who kills his neighbor unintentionally: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has not hated them in the past God gives an example This is to protect the manslayer from the avenger of blood: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> He would overtake him because the way is long He did not deserve death Therefore three cities
<p>⁸ "Now if the LORD your God enlarges your territory, as He swore to your fathers, and gives you the land which He promised to give to your fathers, ⁹ "and if you keep all these commandments and do them, which I command you today, to love the LORD your God and to walk always in His ways, then you shall add three more cities for yourself besides these three, ¹⁰ "lest innocent blood be shed in the midst of your land which the LORD your God is giving you <i>as</i> an inheritance, and <i>thus</i> guilt of bloodshed be upon you.</p>	<p>3. God Commands _____ Cities to be Established</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> If God enlarges their territory: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As He promised As the people obey They are to add three more cities So that innocent blood will not be shed
<p>¹¹ " But if anyone hates his neighbor, lies in wait for him, rises against him and strikes him mortally, so that he dies, and he flees to one of these cities, ¹² "then the elders of his city shall send and bring him from there, and deliver him over to the hand of the avenger of blood, that he may die. ¹³ "Your eye shall not pity him, but you shall put away <i>the guilt of</i> innocent blood from Israel, that it may go well with you. ¹⁴ " You shall not remove your neighbor's landmark, which the men of old have set, in your inheritance which you will inherit in the land that the LORD your God is giving you to possess.</p>	<p>4. How to Deal with a _____ Man</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> If someone: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hates their neighbor Lies in wait for him Strikes him so he dies Flees to one of these cities He will be delivered to the avenger of blood to be executed However, his inheritance will not be taken away from his family

¹⁶ "If a false witness rises against any man to testify against him of wrongdoing, ¹⁷ "then both men in the controversy shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges who serve in those days. ¹⁸ "And the judges shall make careful inquiry, and indeed, *if* the witness *is* a false witness, who has testified falsely against his brother, ¹⁹ "then you shall do to him as he thought to have done to his brother; so you shall put away the evil from among you. ²⁰ "And those who remain shall hear and fear, and hereafter they shall not again commit such evil among you. ²¹ "Your eye shall not pity: life *shall be* for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.

5. How to Deal with a _____ Witness

- a. If a false witness arises – then both men in the controversy will stand before the judge
- b. The judges will make careful inquiry
- c. If the witness is false, the punishment for the crime which he accused the other man will be done to him.
- d. This is to put away evil in the land – people will not do these things for fear of the punishment.
- e. God command the people not to show pity, but to do what is right.

Why does God require a death penalty?

Genesis 9:5-6 ⁵ "Surely for your lifeblood I will demand *a reckoning*; from the hand of every beast I will require it, and from the hand of man. From the hand of every man's brother I will require the life of man. ⁶ "Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man.

This command in Deuteronomy is a more lenient punishment for someone who kills someone else accidentally. Now, a person's intent plays a role in how they are judged.

Matthew 5:21-22 ²¹ " 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.' ²² "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.

What about "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth?"

Matthew 5:38-42 ³⁸ " You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' ³⁹ "But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. ⁴⁰ "If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have *your* cloak also. ⁴¹ "And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two. ⁴² "Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.

The civil penalty in Israel for murder was either to be exiled to a city of refuge for those who kill someone unintentionally or death for those who murder someone intentionally. However, as Christians, we are not to personally take vengeance and we are to show mercy to those around us, even to our own hurt.