

Open The Light

*For God, who commanded the light
to shine out of darkness,
hath shined in our hearts,
to give the light of the knowledge
of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.*
2 Corinthians 4:6

*Character Building
In A Relationship with God*

*He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out
of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. John 7:38*

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Study 13

Bible study is like dining on the tree of life. Enjoy the time you have in the Word of God each day. Pace your way through, taking the time to think about the things within.

Walking in God's Law

The 6th Commandment

Before opening God's word, say prayer asking God for the Holy Spirit to guide you and to bless you with understanding in the Name of our Blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Pray for the blessing of remembrance of His Word in a time of need and that you may meditate upon them throughout your days in the Name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Thou shalt not kill. Exodus 20:13 and Deuteronomy 5:17.

Meaning of the word kill

A primitive root; properly to *dash* in pieces, that is, *kill* (a human being), **especially to murder**: - **put to death**, kill, (man-) slay (-er), murder (-er).

(References from the Strong's Concordance)

Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man. Genesis 9:6 [See Genesis 1:26-27](#). "But if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, **Thou shalt do no murder**, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. " [Matthew 19:17-19](#).

To kill is to end a life, to cause death. "Thou shall not kill" does not mean that we can't defend ourselves. If the death of our attacker is the only way of escape and save yourself, or perhaps our family, that is the course we need to take. Nor are we a murderer if we accidentally kill someone, or in time of war, in the laws of war.

Yet there are times and events that cause death, and it is to a greater degree, premeditated, although not towards any person or individual. Take a drunk driver, or someone on drugs for instants; if they get into a car and drive, it is their responsibility, in their hands, to what happens if someone is killed. They made the choice to drink or use drugs, then drive, knowing how the effect of these substances changes their ability to do things safely. When they were sober, they made the choice to take these substances with a clear mind. Then they must accept the responsibility for what they do after that as well. It is not an accident, but murder. Because they selfishly believe they are in control and can drive, they just disobey the laws. They tend to trust themselves, although they are under the influence of these substances. They may have been under the influence throughout their life and got away with driving in that condition, so they believe they are above the laws and continue to drive. They may even believe they know better, or they just don't care, as they come first, in the here and now needs, with no thought or care for others.

Now, if you have a car accident, because you just hit a pothole on the road, and the tire blows, causing the car to cross over into the other side of the road killing the driver of the car coming the other way. You have no control over these kinds of accidents. If you take good care of your car mechanically and always make sure your tires are in good order and don't speed and drive safely including pulling over when tired, not using your mobile phone, it is out of your hands to what may happen in these kinds of situations. If you make a conscience decision not to look after your car for whatever reason, then it can be put onto you for any death resulting in an accident caused by the car due to mechanical failure that could have been avoided if you took good care of your car. However, things can go wrong even though you look after your car, this is an accident it's out of your hands.

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God's Word works in all aspects of our lives. We must understand that there are many things in life that we need to consider when making decisions. That's why we need to ask of God for guidance and His will and wisdom in our lives. Then we need to surrender ourselves and will, to God. "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left." Isaiah 30:21.

“Thou shall not kill” does not mean that we are not to kill animals in a time when it is in need to do so. Animals are not made in the image of God. “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.” Genesis 1:27. “Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.” Genesis 9:6. Animals are not temples of God where the Holy Spirit dwells in their hearts, like people. “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.” 1 Corinthians 3:16-17. However, we are not to kill an animal without a good reason. Killing clean animals for food, or killing any creatures for controlling numbers or pests, killing animals to protect others, or ourselves, from danger, or death, these are good reasons. However, killing for sport, or the fun of it, is not.

Look up and read Exodus 21:12-15; Numbers 35:9-34; Deuteronomy 19:1-6. You will see that the Lord knows that murder is murder, and an accident is an accident, defending is defending.

If a thief be found breaking up, and be smitten that he die, there shall no blood be shed for him. [Exodus 22:2](#).

And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. [Luke 12:39](#).

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: [John 10:10](#).

“Thou shalt not kill”. Exodus 20:13.

Is there more to this Commandment then killing someone, if so, what is it?

Look up and read Matthew 5:21-22; 1 John 2:9-11; 3:15-24; 4:20-21. Then answer the question above.

Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil. [Ephesians 4:26-27](#). Hate should be given to God. If you feel any bad ill towards anyone, please pray and talk to God about it. Give all these feelings of ill, envy, hatred, to God. Pray for those that you have these feelings towards, and yourself. Ask for forgiveness. “Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.” [Psalms 55:22](#). “But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: ...” [Matthew 5:44-45a](#).

"Thou shalt not kill." {PP 308.4}

All acts of injustice that tend to shorten life; the spirit of hatred and revenge, or the indulgence of any passion that leads to injurious acts toward others, or causes us even to wish them harm (for "whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer"); a selfish neglect of caring for the needy or

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suffering; all self-indulgence or unnecessary deprivation or excessive labor that tends to injure health--all these are, to a greater or less degree, violations of the sixth commandment. {PP 308.5} EGW

Remember to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in Jesus name each time you study God's word. At the start and end of your study, pray.

Please read Ecclesiastes 3:1-15.

Loving your enemies does not mean you let them kill you and your family. Self-defense is not vengeance, nor is it, like vengeance, premeditated. Self-defense is something you do to stop your attacker from killing you or your loved ones. However, if there is a reason you may feel like you should revenge yourself, please do not take that path; otherwise, you end up taking a place that does not belong to us, because vengeance belongs to God. The Holy scriptures says, "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." [Romans 12:19](#). However, self-defense is not vengeance. And vengeance is not allowing the law to take place for the crime someone committed. The criminal being arrested for the crimes they commit is punishment, that is the law of the land, and it is also under the laws of God. The law may take the criminal through the courts. Although the courts can be used for vengeance, As God fearing children of God, we should never use the courts for vengeance. To help us know and have a clear understanding, we should pray and ask of God for wisdom. It is the wisdom in the scriptures, guided by the Spirit of God, through Christ Jesus, that gives us clear understanding of the Word of God that helps us discern the difference of right and wrong, while walking in the Will of God.

Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." [Romans 12:19](#).

It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. [Hebrews 10:31](#)

Say not, I will do so to him as he hath done to me: I will render to the man according to his work. [Proverbs 24:29](#).

Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the LORD, and he shall save thee. [Proverbs 20:22](#).

If a thief be found breaking up, and be smitten that he die, there shall no blood be shed for him. [Exodus 22:2](#).

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: [John 10:10](#).

Vengeance

the act of or desire for taking revenge; retributive punishment

Revenge -Noun

the act of retaliating for wrongs or injury received; vengeance. something done as a means of vengeance.

the desire to take vengeance or retaliate.

Verb (transitive)

to inflict equivalent injury or damage for (injury received); retaliate in return for.

to take vengeance for (oneself or another); avenge.

Self-defense

(law) the right to defend one's person, family, or property against attack or threat of attack by the use of no more force than is reasonable.

(References from the, Collins online Dictionary)

We need not to live in fear, for Jesus said, "fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him (God) which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." [Matthew 10:28](#).

And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye

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shall fear: Fear him ([God](#)), which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. [Luke12:4-5](#).

Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved. [Psalms 55:22](#).

Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. [Psalms 51:9-12](#).

Is there any eternal hope for someone who has deliberately killed a person and has done wickedness?

Read the following and then answer the question.

[Ezekiel 18:20-32](#).

[1Timothy 1:5-17](#).

[Always remember](#) “Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.” [James 4:17](#). [Also remember](#) “For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief.” [Proverbs 24:16](#). “But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? All his righteousness that he hath done shall not be mentioned: in his trespass that

he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, in them shall he die.” [Ezekiel 18:24](#).

God knows all things including the hearts of man. You cannot hide your heart from God. That's why it's best to give your heart to God and He will renew your heart by giving you a clean heart.

Then hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou, even thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men;) [1 Kings 8:39](#).

Then hear thou from heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and render unto every man according unto all his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou only knowest the hearts of the children of men:) [2 Chronicles 6:30](#).

Read the following scriptures.

[1 Samuel 16:7](#).

[1 Chronicles 28:9](#).

[Jeremiah 17:9-10; 18:1-6](#).

[Matthew 15:19](#).

[Mark 7:21-23](#).

We have hope in “the LORD'S mercies.”

Read [Lamentations 3:21-26, 40-41, 55-58](#).

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; [Who will have all men to be saved](#), and [to come unto the knowledge of the truth](#). For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man [Christ Jesus](#); [Who gave himself a ransom for all](#), to be testified in due time.

[1 Timothy 2:3-6](#).

But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw

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nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. [James 4:6-8](#).

Look up and read the following readings regarding different type of murder in the Bible.

For each of the following readings write down what was the reason for the killing/murder? Example Hatred, envy, revenge, cover ups, defending and so on. And write who was involved in the act of murder.

[Genesis 4:1-16](#).

[Exodus 1:15-22](#).

[Exodus 2:11-15](#); must read [Acts 7:22-29](#) also

[2 Samuel 11:1-12:25](#)

[2 Samuel 13:1-39](#)

[Acts 6:8-8:4](#)

[John 7:1-30](#); [Matthew 26:1-5, 36-27:54](#)

[Acts 9](#).

There are many wars in the Bible and many people died. But is killing in time of war linked to “Thou shall not kill”?

War is not a beautiful thing; it is extremely violent and ugly. However, most times it is of necessity to go to war, even when you yourself don’t want to. War, in a lot of ways is self-defense from other parties that tries to control, takeover, have their way, in an unjust way. Think of the Second World War, if our country did not fight because of the “Thou shall not kill” commandment, we today would be under the rule of evil dictators who believe that they were more superior to any other people or race and anyone that was not of their superiority was to be killed and wiped out. This was also for those that did not fit the bill in their own race.

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Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 tells us that there is “A time to kill” “A time to cast away stones” “a time of war”. Read all of Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 again.

The Commandment “Thou shall not kill” is regarding murder. Premeditated acts of murder, whether for revenge, or in the doing of an evil act, even in times of war when killings become murder when done outside the laws of war. Yes, even in time of war there are laws each side should abide by. If anyone that breaks the laws of war are then prosecuted for war crimes. War is all through the scriptures and murder is too, we need to understand when the time to kill is or we will be killed and those that have come upon us will be living and you will not be, nor your children or family.

Look up and read 1 Samuel chapter 17, then answer the following questions.

Was this “a time to kill” or should the Israelites have let the Philistines take them captive or kill them?

Did you notice that God was with the Israelites?

God said “For I am the LORD, I change not;” [Malachi 3:6](#). “My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips. [Psalms 89:34](#). Also see [Hebrews 13:8](#).

These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, **and hands that shed innocent blood**, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to

mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren. [Proverbs 6:16-19](#).

Clearly there is a time for war, a time to kill, a time to defend; therefore, don’t allow defending yourself or others to be lost in the misunderstanding with The Commandment “Thou shall not kill”. Yet, never allow oneself to be found as a murderer, guilty of evil, nor involved in any crime, breaking the laws of God or the laws of the land.

Killing someone spiritually.

Read Deuteronomy 13:3-11 and answer the following.

How serious is the act of trying to take someone spiritually away from God? With the children of Israel, if someone tried to take any of them away from God, to serve other gods, where they to let it happen?

Back then God laid the punishment down to keep order in the fear/reverence to Him. For us today we have His Word to keep order in the fear/reverence of God. “But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” [2 Timothy 3:14-17](#). “Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.” [Romans 12:19](#). “And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him (God), which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.” [Luke 12:4-5](#).

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Fear

to frighten, that is, (passively) to be alarmed; by analogy to be in awe of, that is, revere: - be (+ sore) afraid, fear (exceedingly), reverence.

(References from the Strong's Concordance)

Read Galatians 5:13-26, then answer the following questions.

In what ways can we kill someone spiritually?

In what way are we to treat one another?

Read the following, then answer the question.

1 Corinthians 6:1-8.

James 4:1 and 11.

Note Matthew 15:19. John 8:39-47.

Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD. Leviticus 19:18

Think of those people around you who see what you do and hear what you say. If we do what we have just read in 1 Corinthians 6:1-8 and in James 4:1

and 11, how could we be killing someone spiritually who witness these things?

Also note 1 Timothy 6:4-10, Titus 3:3.

We may not think about it that deeply, however our hearts may kill the hearts of others spiritually who are around us, seeing our choices in a supposedly relationship with God. We say we love God, yet our hearts may be witnessing something completely different to those around us. This is why it is so important to give all to the LORD our God in prayer. Asking God for Jesus, our author and finisher of our faith, to work within our hearts that we may be a witness for Him, to those around us. Note Hebrews 5:9 and 12:2.

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. James 1:19-20.

Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. Proverbs 3:3-8.

Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all

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understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. [Philippians 4:4-8.](#)

That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen. [Ephesians 3:17-21.](#)

In closing your study time with God today, Pray; I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart. Psalm 40:8. And ask God to guide you always to seek His will in all that you plain to do, and to walk in His will throughout your life in Christ Jesus. Remember to pray for others and then your need, as we should let our “requests be made known unto God.” Philippians 4:6. “In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.” Proverbs 3:6. Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen. 1Timothy 1:17.