(Proverbs 6:16-19)

# INTRODUCTION - "HANDS THAT SHED INNOCENT BLOOD" (Exodus 20:13) "YOU SHALL NOT MURDER"

- "Hands" a figure of speech to identify "you:" individuals; people; "All 'hands' on deck."
- "That shed" take away a life; kill; murder; homicide; violence.

  (Genesis 9:6) "Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed;

  for in the image of God He made man."

(1 Chronicles 22:7-8) " ... David ... because you have shed much blood ... " (Romans 3:15) "Their feet are swift to shed blood" quote from (Isaiah 59:7)

- "Innocent blood" free from guilt; has not offended God; one is living a moral life.

  (1 Sam. 19:4-5) "Why then will you sin against innocent blood, to kill David without a cause?"

  (2 Kings 24:3-4) "Manasseh ... because of the innocent blood that he had shed"

  (Matthew 27:3-4) "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood"
- "Blood" (Leviticus 17:11) "For the life of the flesh is in the blood ... for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul" (v14) "... its blood sustains its life" (Deuteronomy 12:23-25; Romans 3:24-25 and 5:8-9)

## 1. LIST OF FAMILIAR "SHED BLOOD" STORIES IN THE BIBLE

(Gen. 4:8) Cain kills Abel. (Exodus 1:15-16) Egypt's king kills newborn sons. (1 Kings 21:7-13) Jezebel arranges Naboth's death. (Mark 6:24-28) Herodias asks for the head of John the Baptist. (Acts 2:23, 3:14-15) Israel kills Jesus. (Acts 12:1-2) Herod kills James the brother of John.

# 2. KINDS OF "SHED BLOOD" IN THE LAW OF MOSES

- 1) PREMEDITATED (Ex. 21:14) "if a man acts with premeditation against ... "

  (Ex. 21:12-27) describes other laws concerning violence.

  (Numbers 35:16-21) describes the "avenger of blood" puts to death the murderer.
- 2) JUSTIFIABLE / SELF-DEFENSE (Ex. 22:1-2) "no guilt for his bloodshed"
- 3) ACCIDENTAL (Ex. 21:12-13) "... however, if he did not lie in wait ... "

(Numbers 35:9 – 34) introduces us to the "6 cities of refuge." (Deut. 4:41-43 and 19:1-13) added information about the cities of refuge. (Joshua 20:1-9) Joshua appoints the 6 cities of refuge in the land.

4) JUDICIAL / LAW - ones who carry out a judgment or penalty.

(Exodus 21:12-13; Leviticus 20:1-2, 24:10-17; Deut. 17:8-13) the violator is brought before the congregation, or Moses, or the priests, and "shall die." Designed to be a deterrent: (Deut. 17:13) "... the people shall hear and fear ... "

(1 Peter 2:13-14; John 19:6-7, v10-11; Acts 25:10-11; Romans 13:1-7)

#### CHILDREN ARE "INNOCENT BLOOD"

#### Before birth, they are children.

(Genesis 25:21-22) "Now Isaac pleaded with the Lord for his wife, for she was barren, and the Lord granted his plea, and Rebekah his wife conceived. **But the children** (Esau and Jacob) **struggled together within her;** and she said, If all is well, why am I like this? So she went to inquire of the Lord. The Lord said to her, Two nations are in your womb ... "

(Jeremiah 1:4-5) "Then the word of the Lord came to me, saying: Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; **before you were born** I sanctified you, I ordained you a prophet to the nations"

(Luke 1:41) "And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb ... "

### After birth, they remain innocent children.

- (Jeremiah 2:34) "Also on your skirts is found the blood of the lives of the poor innocents" (19:4) is a reference to the Valley of the Son of Hinnon: "and have filled this place with **the blood of the innocents"** (v5) "they have built the high places of Baal, **to burn their sons with fire** for burnt offerings to Baal ... "
- (Psalm 106:36-38) "They served their idols, which became a snare to them.

  They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons,

  and shed innocent blood, and the blood of their sons and daughters,
  whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land was polluted with blood"
- (Ezekiel 16:20-21) "Moreover you took your sons and your daughters, whom you bore to Me, and these you sacrificed to them to be devoured. Were your acts of harlotry a small matter, that you have slain My children and offered them up to them by causing them to pass through the fire?"
  - (28:15) "You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you"
- (Deut. 1:37-39) "The Lord was also angry with me for your sakes, saying,
  Even you shall not go in there. Joshua the son of Nun, who stands before you,
  he shall go in there. Encourage him, for he shall cause Israel to inherit it.
  Moreover your little ones and your children, who you say will be victims,
  who today have no knowledge of good and evil, they shall go in there;
  to them I will give it, and they shall possess it."