



THE FEAR OF GOD AND INNOCENT BLOOD

A LOOK AT JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS IN GENESIS.

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I have been preaching through Genesis for the last two years. Many excellent sermons along the way. You can check them out at YouTube at our channel titled Mercy Seat Christian Church.

In Genesis 42, Joseph's brothers are standing before him as he is now second in command in all of Egypt. In verse 18, Joseph tells his brothers to follow his instruction, and they will live *"for I fear God."*

Notice that Joseph says this as a magistrate – as a government official. Joseph wanted to assure his brothers that he was a just man who ruled in the fear of the Lord.

Matthew Henry says of Joseph's statement "for I fear God":

"Note, With those that fear God we have reason to expect fair dealing. The fear of God will be a check upon those that are in power, to restrain them from abusing their power to oppression and tyranny."

But his brothers were still feeling uneasy. Why? Because they had bloodguilt.

Verses 21 through 22 read:

"Then they said to one another, 'We are truly guilty concerning our brother, for we saw the anguish of his soul when he pleaded with us, and we would not hear; therefore this distress has come upon us. And Reuben answered them, saying, 'Did I not speak to you, saying, 'Do not sin against the boy'; and you would not listen? Therefore behold, his blood is now required of us.' But they did not know that Joseph understood them, for he spoke to them through an interpreter."

They were feeling the guilt of the innocent blood they had shed of Joseph (not realizing it was Joseph standing before them). Innocent blood was a matter understood by Joseph's brothers and all Hebrews. Innocent blood is a theme found throughout Scripture.

We first see it with Cain slaying Abel. His blood cried out from the ground. When someone kills someone unjustly – in other words, not in self-defense or defense of others – they procure what the bible declares as *bloodguilt*.

When someone kills someone, the blood of the one who killed him is to be shed – through execution. As the Lord declares in Gen. 9:6

“Whoever sheds man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God He [God] made them.”

Deuteronomy 21 gives the procedure to follow if the murderer is unknown – and after the process is given, verse nine concludes by saying *“So you shall put away the guilt of innocent blood from among you.”*

One example of innocent blood and bloodguilt in our day is abortion - when it comes to abortion we are talking about innocent blood being shed.

We’re talking about bloodguilt.

God will bring His judgment for all this shedding of innocent blood in America. It may not come on Friday, but it will come. Even Thomas Jefferson uttered this fact when he said *“I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that his justice cannot sleep forever.”*

Someone must be responsible for the shedding of innocent blood. The Jews demonstrated they knew this even when it came to Christ. Pilate said he did not think Jesus was guilty of anything, *“What wrong has he done?”* and the Jews cried out *“His blood be upon our heads!”*

When it comes to the slaughter of the preborn, we cannot say – *“Our hands have not shed this blood, nor have our eyes seen it!”* as Dueteronomy 21 speaks of.

ALL Americans know this killing, this shedding of innocent blood, is taking place.

Every day. Week after week; month after month; year after year – for over 50 years now. And we have tolerated it. We have accommodated ourselves to it.

Why do we at Missionaries to the Preborn show the signs – the large photographs of the murdered preborn?

To inform people that abortion is truly the brutal murder of an actual person; to inform the people that they have bloodguilt; that the righteous judgment of God is upon our nation. Our photographs stand as a haunting indictment upon this nation that we have impugned God’s law, and He will bring retribution. He will establish justice.

This whole nation’s hands are covered in blood. ALL OF US have bloodguilt as Americans.

Innocent blood is a terrible thing for which the Scriptures are repeatedly clear.

God judges nations. America is awash in it.

As it says in Isaiah 1:15:

*“When you spread out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you;
Even though you make many prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood.”*

May we take action on behalf of these little ones in our nation. May we call the Church in America and the inhabitants of this nation to repentance for the indifference to their slaughter.

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He and his wife, Clara, have eleven children and 38 grandchildren and reside in the Milwaukee, Wisconsin area. To hear sermons by Pastor Trewhella, go to the Mercy Seat Christian Church channel at YouTube.com.

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