

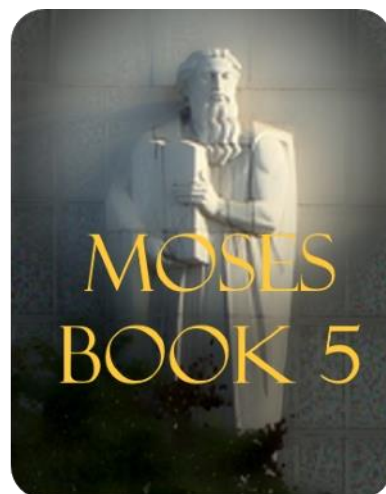
DEUTERONOMY 19 vs 1

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700 years later having rejected the 10 commands... as **Israel** prepared for Assyrian captivity, the Lord said: Though I wrote ten thousand, they are regarded as a strange thing -- **Hosea 8**; as **Judah** prepared for Babylonian captivity, He allowed them their onerous manmade traditions and said: So, I permitted them statutes that were not good, and judgments whereby they should not live -- **Ezekiel 20**.

But this is what Moses originally told the people of God regarding: **cities of refuge** – penitentiaries; when Israel lived according to the way God prescribed, they did not need prisons... in order that their people prosper and live long in the land they were to enter, first promised to Abraham.



¹ When the LORD your God cuts off the nations, whose land the Lord your God gives you, and you succeed them, and dwell in their cities, and in their houses;

² you will set aside three cities for yourself in the midst of your land / Moses already established 3 cities on the east side of the Jordan River; now they would add 3 more cities on the west side of the river, **which the Lord your God gives you to possess.**

³ You will prepare the roads for yourself / come rain or shine; summer or winter, every day the roads to the cities of refuge... were to be kept clear of any and all obstacles;

and divide into three parts the territory of your land, which the Lord your God gives you to inherit, that every manslayer may flee there.

And with the roads clear, Moses spells out who might need to get to a city of refuge.

⁴ Now this is the case of the manslayer, who will flee there, that he may live / he would live there until his case was resolved; or if it wasn't resolved, until the high priest died; which means the guy might live there the rest of his life:

whoever kills his neighbor unintentionally, whom he previously hated **not;**

⁵ as when a man goes into the forest with his neighbor to cut wood, and his hand swings the axe to cut down the tree, and the iron head slips from the handle, and strikes his neighbor, who dies; he will flee to one of those cities, and live:

⁶ lest the avenger of blood pursue the slayer in the heat of his anger, and because the way is long, overtakes him and slays him; whereas he was not deserving of death, since he had **not hated him previously** / the only one legally permitted to pursue and avenge had to be the nearest blood relative,

⁷ Wherefore I command you, saying, You will set aside three cities for yourself.

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⁸ And if the LORD your God enlarges your territory, as He pledged to your fathers, and gives you all the land which He promised to give to your fathers;

⁹ if you keep and do all these commandments, which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, to walk in His way; then you will add three more cities for yourself, beside these three:

¹⁰ so innocent blood is **not** shed in your land, which the LORD your God gives you for an inheritance, and blood guiltiness be on you.

¹¹ But if anyone who hates his neighbor and lies in wait for him; and rises up against him and strikes him, so that he dies, and flees to one of these cities:

¹² then the elders of his city will send and take him from there; and deliver him to the hand of the avenger of blood, that he may die.

¹³ You will **not** pity him, but you will purge the blood of the innocent from Israel, that it goes well with you.

¹⁴ You will **not** remove your neighbor's landmark / his boundary marker, which the ancients set, in your inheritance which you inherit in the land that the Lord your God gives you to possess.

¹⁵ A single witness will **not** rise up against a man for any iniquity or any sin he commits:

at the mouth of two or three witnesses, the matter will be established.

¹⁶ If a false witness rises against anyone to testify against him of a wrongdoing;

¹⁷ then both men who have the controversy, will stand before the Lord, before the priests and the judges, who will be in those days;

¹⁸ and the judges will make diligent investigation: and behold, if the witness is a false witness, and has falsely accused his brother;

¹⁹ then you will do to him, as he intended to do to his brother: so you will purge the evil from among you.

²⁰ And the rest will hear and fear; and will never again commit such evil among you.

²¹ And you will **not** show pity: life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.

[American Gospel – Christ Alone](#)