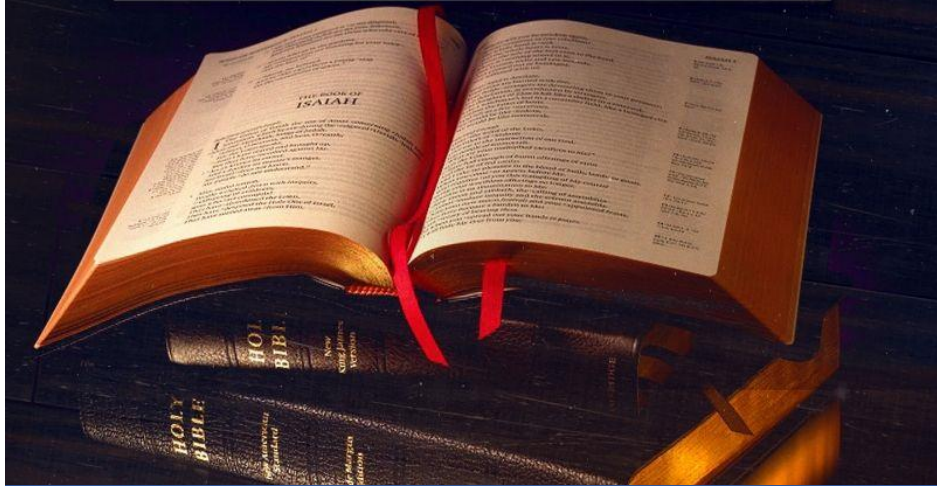


MAKING SENSE OF THE BIBLE



When Moses saw that the people were running wild (for Aaron had let them run wild, to the derision of their enemies), then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, "Who is on the Lord's side? Come to me!" And all the sons of Levi gathered around him. He said to them, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'Put your sword on your side, each of you! Go back and forth from gate to gate throughout the camp, and each of you kill your brother, your friend, and your neighbor.'" The sons of Levi did as Moses commanded, and about three thousand of the people fell on that day. Moses said, "Today you have ordained yourselves for the service of the Lord, each one at the cost of a son or a brother, and so have brought a blessing on yourselves this day."

Exodus 32:25-29
NRSV

"Violence and God in the Bible"

September 15, 2019

*The Word of God is **Jesus Christ**, and the words of the Bible tell us about that Word. Therefore when we study the words of the Bible we always look behind, in, and through those words for God's Word – Jesus Christ.*

With difficult scriptures we have at least **three options**: 1. _____ it.
2. _____ accept it. 3. _____ it by the life and work of Jesus.

This is my commandment, that you _____ one another... John 15:12-13

The *greatest commandment*: _____ God & _____ others. Mt. 22:37-40

Jesus does not _____ those who disagree with him. Luke 9:51-56

Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. John 14:9

The Death Penalty in the Old Testament:

1. _____ to a god other than Yahweh. Exodus 22:20

2. Persistent _____ of a child. Deuteronomy 21:18-21

3. A _____ who hits or curses his or her parents. Exodus 21:15, 17

4. _____ on the Sabbath. Exodus 35:2

5. Sex with a _____ person who is not your spouse. Leviticus. 20:10

6. Premarital _____ and male homosexual sex. Deut. 22, Lev. 20:13

War in the Old Testament:

The ancient Near East portrayed their gods as _____.

The violent pictures of God in the Old Testament tell us more about the people who lived in the time these passages were written than they tell us about God. – Rev. Adam Hamilton

Jesus, Paul, Context, and the Military in the New Testament

Jesus performs a _____ for a non-Jewish military officer. Mt. 8:5-13

Paul's teaching on the **Christian** and the **State** is in Romans 12:9-13:1.

Christians have no right to _____, but the state does. Respect it.

Living Testimony: Mike Thompson, John Bartoli, Matt Thien

A prayer for our leaders and for ourselves from Romans 12:2.

Action Step: Today, make a list of people you don't _____ and are likely to see this week. Every morning, _____ for each of these people by name. Write down what happens. You might be surprised.