

General Topics :: Death penalty

Death penalty - posted by crusader (), on: 2007/10/21 7:32

This subject was brought up in conversation at work and one of my co-workers asked me which side of the fence do i sit as a christian. do i allow people to be judged by the law to death or do i opose it. I coundnt give an awnser because the only scripture examples for me at that time were the following.

1. when jesus was on the cross he had two people either side of him that were given the death penalty but jesus never i ntervened with their earthly punishment only their spiritual one.
2. Jesus intervenied for Mary magdaline an interesting factor in the judgement of mary magdaline is that she was caught in an adulturous affair which takes two people, Where was the partner of the accused?

were do we stand in this as spirit led christians?

Re: Death penalty, on: 2007/10/21 8:29

crusader said

Quote:
-----2. Jesus intervenied for Mary magdaline an interesting factor in the judgement of mary magdaline is that she was caught in an adult urous affair which takes two people, Where was the partner of the accused?

Hi crusader,

Do you have chapter and verse for your statement above, or has it been suggested by a preacher that the woman in Joh n 8 was this Mary? I ask because it is not in John 8 or anywhere else I've read.

The question of where the partner was, is part of John's meaning in his account, as when we read what Jesus said about t divorce in Matthew 5 and 19, He lays all the responsibility on the male. It has also been suggested (by some), that one of the Pharisees themselves, framed the woman, or at least was being *covered for* by his friends, when the woman was brought to Jesus.

Quote:
-----were do we stand in this as spirit led christians?

I believe that Jesus died for all the murderers from Cain to Barabbas and beyond, so I don't believe in the death penalty.

In years gone by, turning to Christ could save a person from the death penalty, and perhaps in that case, there were so me dubious 'conversions'. But more recently, it was grievous to my spirit that a woman who found Christ in prison (for b eing an accomplice to murder when she was a teenager), who had come to know the Lord while on death row, was finall y executed *anyway*, in Texas not many years ago. She had been married to the prison chaplin for some years also, so her death was a double tragedy - to say nothing of the loss of the dedicated prison minister whom she had become.

Personally, I can't understand the death penalty in any society calling itself Christian, but perhaps I also know it is unreali stic to expect *every* person to come to Christ in all true repentance.

Nevertheless, without being completely cynical about the whole judicial system, those who research and think objectivel y about those imprisoned, would say that around a third are not guilty of the crime for which they were convicted. It is ea sy to say, then, especially as DNA identification becomes more accurate, that at least some innocent men and women h ave died by the death penalty.

Therefore, one has to trust that God the Righteous Judge will put things in order one day, for ever.

Quote:

-----1. when jesus was on the cross he had two people either side of him that were given the death penalty but jesus never intervened with their earthly punishment only their spiritual one.

This is consistent with the way He upheld the Old Covenant in much of what He said to the Pharisees, but I don't believe He was unaware, even as He spoke to them, that He was moving towards altering forever the terms by which man could come to God, to know Him as 'Father' in a personal way.

Many times before His death, He had spoken in ways man had never heard, from being in the temple when He was twelve, right up to when He spoke to the thief dying beside Him.

It occurred to me on a few days ago - the courage of the Man, to walk along calling the disciples to follow Him, *knowing* they would all eventually be put to death for believing Him. Thus, being on the cross beside a dying man was something He saw in an eternal context, primarily.

We could, also, acknowledge His eternal agreement with His Father to become the lamb slain before the foundation of the world; *because* They knew that unless He had died and would die as *the Man*, there would be no reconciliation with God forever - no end to the separation which sin would introduce. This was foundational to all His thinking. Man's physical death was inevitable, but They could stop his *spiritual* death *remaining* 'inevitable'. And that's what They accomplished.

Even after His resurrection, Jesus was sharing things men had never heard before, when He met the disciples walking to Emmaus, and expounded the Old Testament scripture to them, concerning His death.

Re: - posted by ThePilgrim, on: 2007/10/21 12:09

The answer to the Death Penalty is beyond theology and sword fencing. It is not enough to form a principle out of the silence of Christ. This is not only stupid, it is dangerous

The world is watching our "Christianity"!

Would Christ flick the switch on the Electric Chair?
Would the Son of God pull the lever at the gallows?
Would the Lamb of God push the string of poison into the vein?

Ask the poor, ask the unbelieving, ask those who are not theologically impaired!
The answer will be a resounding NO!

They are watching, they are waiting to see the body of Christ behave like the head!

The story of the teenager murdered by the religious right wing only forces the Spirit of revival further away.

Thank you for that heartbreaking story. I am sure that that woman will sit closer to Christ in His Kingdom than those who stood on their own "sound doctrines" to justify another murder.

Before He comes, please let us for one hour, bow our heads in shame.

Re: Death penalty - posted by enid, on: 2007/10/21 12:48

It would be profitable for us all to cast aside our opinions and to let scripture speak on the matter.

Opinion can be based on emotions, feelings, instead of being founded upon the truth of God's word.

The 'death penalty' was God's idea.

Let's look at Genesis 9v5-6, 'Surely for your lifeblood I will demand a reckoning, from the hand of every beast I will require it, and from the hand of every man's brother I will require the life of man.'

Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed, for in the image of God He made man'

Also, as we know, Exodus 20v13, 'You shall not murder'

In Romans 13v9, the command to not murder is repeated.

As I have read in an article concerning the death penalty it says, 'man did not invent the death penalty, so man has no right to abandon it.

Whether man abandon's it or not is not man's decision, but God's.

When, in scripture, did God abandon/revoke the death penalty?

In Acts 25v11, Paul says, 'For if I am an offender, or have committed anything deserving of death, I do not object to dying...'

Also, in 1 Samuel 15, King Saul is supposed to destroy the Amalekites, but spares Agag and some of the cattle.

It was up to the man of God, Samuel, to kill Agag, at God's command.

Saul was wrong to spare Agag, Samuel obeyed God by killing Agag.

We are very much like Agag, who said, 'Surely the bitterness of death' is past.

In God's eyes, it wasn't.

Remember, we all have to die anyhow, it is just a matter of whether we spend eternity in heaven or hell.

A murderer could go to heaven, as did Moses, and someone who has never murdered, could end up in hell, all names withheld.

God bless.

Also, we need to remember, this nation murders the innocent unborn daily, whilst feeding and clothing murderers.

Re: - posted by theopenlife, on: 2007/10/21 15:32

Enid, thank you for your thoughtful response and many verses.

Pilgrim, you said,

Quote:
-----Would Christ flick the switch on the Electric Chair? Would the Son of God pull the lever at the gallows? Would the Lamb of God push the syringe of poison into the vein?

I am concerned about an imbalance being represented in such a statement.

At the final judgment, is it not Christ who orders the eternal sentence upon unbelievers.

"And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."

All judgment has been committed to Christ. Do not mistake the patience of Christ in this hour of calling with an unwillingness on his part to demonstrate wrath on all wickedness.

Christ is THE GOD who ordered the Old Testament executions and even the Canaan genocide. It was His Spirit that killed Ananias and Sapphira. And He does not change.

Grace in Christ is entirely conditional. One must be in Christ to lay claim to even enough grace to have one more breath.

God does not always exact His judgment immediately, such as when He spared David for murder, but unless God make the exception known, does it not seem reasonable for the civil powers to follow the regular demonstration of God's wise laws?

Re: - posted by pastorfrin, on: 2007/10/21 16:51

Humm,

Strange how we choose to enforce the death penalty, why not follow all the commandments and put all those who break them, to death. After all, this is what the Lord God commanded. How many of us would then be left alive?

Exodus 21:12

He that smiteth a man, so that he die, shall be surely put to death.

Exodus 21:15-17

And he that smiteth his father, or his mother, shall be surely put to death.

And he that stealeth a man, and selleth him, or if he be found in his hand, he shall surely be put to death.

And he that curseth his father, or his mother, shall surely be put to death.

Exodus 21:29

But if the ox were wont to push with his horn in time past, and it hath been testified to his owner, and he hath not kept him in, but that he hath killed a man or a woman; the ox shall be stoned, and his owner also shall be put to death.

Exodus 22:19

Whosoever lieth with a beast shall surely be put to death.

Exodus 31:14-15

Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death.

Exodus 35:2

Six days shall work be done, but on the seventh day there shall be to you an holy day, a sabbath of rest to the Lord: whosoever doeth work therein shall be put to death.

Leviticus 19:20

And whosoever lieth carnally with a woman, that is a bondmaid, betrothed to an husband, and not at all redeemed, nor freedom given her; she shall be scourged; they shall not be put to death, because she was not free.

Leviticus 20:2

Again, thou shalt say to the children of Israel, Whosoever he be of the children of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn in Israel, that giveth any of his seed unto Molech; he shall surely be put to death: the people of the land shall stone him with stones.

Leviticus 20:9-13

For every one that curseth his father or his mother shall be surely put to death: he hath cursed his father or his mother; his blood shall be upon him.

And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death. And the man that lieth with his father's wife hath uncovered his father's nakedness: both of them shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them. And if a man lie with his daughter in law, both of them shall surely be put to death: they have wrought confusion; their blood shall be upon them. If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

Leviticus 20:15-16

And if a man lie with a beast, he shall surely be put to death: and ye shall slay the beast. And if a woman approach unto any beast, and lie down thereto, thou shalt kill the woman, and the beast: they shall surely be put to death; their blood

d shall be upon them.

Leviticus 20:27

A man also or woman that hath a familiar spirit, or that is a wizard, shall surely be put to death: they shall stone them with stones: their blood shall be upon them.

Leviticus 24:16-17

And he that blasphemeth the name of the Lord, he shall surely be put to death, and all the congregation shall certainly stone him: as well the stranger, as he that is born in the land, when he blasphemeth the name of the Lord, shall be put to death.

And he that killeth any man shall surely be put to death.

Leviticus 24:21

And he that killeth a beast, he shall restore it: and he that killeth a man, he shall be put to death.

Leviticus 27:29

None devoted, which shall be devoted of men, shall be redeemed; but shall surely be put to death.

Numbers 1:51

And when the tabernacle setteth forward, the Levites shall take it down: and when the tabernacle is to be pitched, the Levites shall set it up: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.

Numbers 3:10

And thou shalt appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall wait on their priest's office: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.

Numbers 3:38

But those that encamp before the tabernacle toward the east, even before the tabernacle of the congregation eastward, shall be Moses, and Aaron and his sons, keeping the charge of the sanctuary for the charge of the children of Israel; and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.

Numbers 15:35

And the Lord said unto Moses, The man shall be surely put to death: all the congregation shall stone him with stones without the camp.

Numbers 18:7

Therefore thou and thy sons with thee shall keep your priest's office for every thing of the altar, and within the vail; and ye shall serve: I have given your priest's office unto you as a service of gift: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.

Numbers 35:16-18

And if he smite him with an instrument of iron, so that he die, he is a murderer: the murderer shall surely be put to death. And if he smite him with throwing a stone, wherewith he may die, and he die, he is a murderer: the murderer shall surely be put to death. Or if he smite him with an hand weapon of wood, wherewith he may die, and he die, he is a murderer: the murderer shall surely be put to death.

Numbers 35:21

Or in enmity smite him with his hand, that he die: he that smote him shall surely be put to death; for he is a murderer: the revenger of blood shall slay the murderer, when he meeteth him.

Numbers 35:30-31

Whoso killeth any person, the murderer shall be put to death by the mouth of witnesses: but one witness shall not testify against any person to cause him to die. Moreover ye shall take no satisfaction for the life of a murderer, which is guilty of death: but he shall be surely put to death.

Deut. 13:5

And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn you away from the Lord your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust the

Lead me out of the way which the Lord thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee.

Deut. 17:6

At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; but at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death.

Deut. 21:22

And if a man have committed a sin worthy of death, and he be to be put to death, and thou hang him on a tree:

Deut. 24:16

The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin.

Joshua 1:18

Whosoever he be that doth rebel against thy commandment, and will not hearken unto thy words in all that thou commandest him, he shall be put to death: only be strong and of a good courage.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/10/21 17:12

Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

bro Frin you said:

Quote:

-----Strange how we choose to enforce the death penalty, why not follow all the commandments and put all those who break them, to death. After all, this is what the Lord God commanded. How many of us would then be left alive?

maybe not many, in the end though, the wages of sin is death both natural and eternal (hellfire)As far as God is concerned you take a life, you lose yours at some point. i have no problem with the death penalty as long as it is exercised within the confines of the laws of the land. if anyone Christian or not has an issue with it, they should take it up with their local representative and see about having the law changed.

bro frin you brought up a lot of instances in which death would be the punishment, the scripture doesn't contain many instances of people being guilty of some of those things. for example, we don't hear of people committing bestiality, perhaps because death was the punishment for it. That death was the penalty for these things you mentioned, for example the things of the temple that only the Levites should handle them speaks of how serious God was about His things and that they be kept Holy unto Him according to His plan. There weren't any instances i can think of in which a foreigner ever served in the Temple of God now were they?

even if these laws are violated and the perpetrator isn't put to death by the people, God will so do at the end of that person's life. We tend not to think of death in those terms, as in the wages of sin is death.

you may not like the idea of the death penalty and if so, get with your local rep and others who feel that way and see about getting that law repealed. for me the death penalty is a reminder of what awaits the sinner who doesn't repent, except that his death is eternal and there is nobody on that death row who is there by mistake...

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: - posted by pastorfrin, on: 2007/10/21 20:00

IRONMAN,

I simply asked a question and this is more of an accusation than an answer, but I will answer yours from the scripture I posted.

Quote:

-----bro frin you brought up a lot of instances in which death would be the punishment, the scripture doesn't contain many instances of people being guilty of some of those things. for example, we don't hear of people committing bestiality, perhaps because death was the punishment for it. That death was the penalty for these things you mentioned, for example the things of the temple that only the Levites should handle them speaks of how serious God was about His things and that they be kept Holy unto Him according to His plan. There weren't any instances i can think of in which a foreigner ever served in the Temple of God now were they?

Seems you must have missed these:

Leviticus 20:9-13

For every one that curseth his father or his mother shall be surely put to death: he hath cursed his father or his mother ; his blood shall be upon him.

And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death. And the man that lieth with his father's wife hath uncovered his father's nakedness: both of them shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them. And if a man lie with his daughter in law, both of them shall surely be put to death: they have wrought confusion; their blood shall be upon them. If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

It may have worked for bestiality (which is much more common than you may believe) but it is very evident it failed for the sins listed above.

Anyone who is without sin, have some rocks?

Re: not accusing you of anything bro...not throwing rocks either - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/10/21 20:46

bro Frin

Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

i wasn't accusing you of anything, i was trying to best answer your question as i could. i didn't mean at all to come off as accusing you of anything and i apologize.it seems to me that the threat of death (like you said) worked against bestiality, a few people might have been killed over that and that put people on notice.i wasn't talking about bestiality in our time but in those days.i am not so naive as to believe there is no bestiality going on though, i like you believe it does go on .also there are no instances of foreigners ever entering the temple except in a situation in which Israel was Judged, so the Israelites took that seriously enough to keep foreigners out...even when Judgment was upon them.now the matter of the temple being defiled and the worship of idols being instituted is a different thing than having a foreigner serve the True God as the Levites did which is why i said there is no instance of foreigners serving God in the temple as the Levites did. i didn't go down the whole list you mentioned, i just touched on the a few. however you did bring up the ones which seem not to have worked for us, at least in this day such as adultery, homosexuality and so on. perhaps death would be a deterrent but it isn't likely that such things would be criminalized now to warrant such a punishment. i don't think that the threat of death itself has failed us concerning the above sins but probably the execution of the punishment. if death was given out for instances of adultery, more people would probably think twice about it. a law is as good as the degree to which it is enforced, if it isn't, then it keeps getting broken. i think after a time God's people grew lax and in some cases misused the law and it stopped having the desired effect. anyhow at the end of the day, God executes Judgment in death.

and like i said, you may not like the idea of the death penalty (and some people don't and these are the ones i was addressing directly so that statement applies if you don't like the idea if not don't worry about it) and this isn't a slight or anything like that but i am taking into consideration that others may not feel as i do on this and i have no issue with that. for those who don't like the law, there are ways to work to get it changed and those means should be used to that end.

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: not accusing you of anything bro...not throwing rocks either - posted by pastorfrin, on: 2007/10/21 21:24

Brother Ironman,

Not a problem brother, forgive me for being over sensitive. I guess my whole point is we could kill all who have sinned and then who would kill us, and then we seem to be very selective on the sins we choose to punish in such severity. Is that because so many are guilty and thus there is a lack of those able to throw the stones?

Yes in the end the Lord Jesus Christ will judge and His will be just. In the meantime I will trust the Lord's way of destroying the works of the devil.

1 John 3:7-9 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

Romans 13 does apply with punishment as well as with war, but I, (and of course this is my take on scripture), believe Christians should not take part in it.

In His Love
pastorfrin

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/10/21 22:03

bro Frin

Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

perhaps our slackness in enforcing law maybe to protect ourselves as we may well be guilty and thus subject to the punishment! all the same God would surely give us the recompense for our iniquity if we don't repent!

as for Christians in war, i would say let each man follow whatever God has decreed and find this out in prayer. Some are to bear the sword and others not according to what God desires. you believe fervently that you ought not take part in it and that's fine and i don't doubt that is God putting you where He wants you to be regarding that matter.

i had wanted to be a naval aviator at one time but God evidently had other plans and that never materialized. i don't see myself in the military unless God has it in mind and hasn't revealed it to me as yet.

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: Death penalty - posted by Tears_of_joy, on: 2007/10/21 22:14

Brethren, what you think of this testimony, could we get something from it, in the light of this subject:

(http://www.godtube.com/view_video.php?viewkey6cfc29378e24829cddba&page&viewtype&category)

Son of Sam/Son of hope - Part 1

(http://www.godtube.com/view_video.php?viewkey197d28aaf795711fc8f6&page&viewtype&category) Son of Sam/Son of hope - Part 2

(http://www.godtube.com/view_video.php?viewkeycd1adab3a44996fd6b97&page&viewtype&category) Son of Sam/Son of hope - Part 3

His site: www.forgivenforlife.com/

Re: - posted by ThePilgrim, on: 2007/10/23 13:00

Thank you for your patience.
Please let me reply.

Those who claim to be: "concerned about an imbalance being represented in my statement." Could it be that you are more concerned for doctrine than Christ himself. This is a very emotive debate and one that we should not seek to be merely doctrinal correct.

It is conceded that Christ is the God of all Judgement, and that he will destroy the wicked.
It is conceded that He is the Law giver!

But the question of life is not a book of facts, figures or doctrines.
What does the law represent?
What do the great doctrines of the scriptures represent?
Are they not there as revelations regarding the nature of Christ?
And was the revelation of Christ complete in the Old Testament?
When Phillip asked to see the Father, Christ said "Don't you know me Philip"

He is saying to Philip, all you need to know about God, the way He behaves, the way He ministers, the way He loves is seen, and can only be known in Me.

The ideals regarding the death penalty can only be understood in light of the MAN CHRIST JESUS, because we on both sides of the argument can offer conclusive "prooftexts" to enforce our own religious stands. However, the new creation is compelled to think in light of this man from Nazareth, the one who preached hell to the religious hypocrite and mercy to those still bearing the scent of their sin.

Please let us examine all "truths" in the simple light of what we know to be true in our great God and Savior.

If a condemned and guilty man is to die at the hands of the state, then let him die. However, let the hand that brings death, not be the hand of Christ in His body.

Greater Love Hath No Man.....you know the rest.

The Pilgrim

Re: Death penalty - posted by narrowpath, on: 2007/10/23 13:49

Dear Crusader,

All passages in the OT refer to theocratic Israel and cannot quite be applied to gentile governments.

In Ro 13:4 says

4For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.

This passage acknowledges the right of the pagan and idolatrous Roman Empire to execute judgement including capital punishment as God's servant or proxy.

I believe that this is true for today and is extended to all governments, regardless to what degree they are opposed to God's will.

narrowpath

Re: - posted by BenWilliams (), on: 2007/10/23 18:22

I saw this thread, and I had a couple of thoughts about it.

1. God says that He has set up the governments.

That does not excuse a nation, or say that God ordains every law, but it is just a thought.

2. I have never been completely for or against the death penalty.

While it is the responsibility of the government to intervene, whether they are Christian or not, I have wondered what the government should do should it become a Christian government.

3. Lastly, I'm from Texas, where we execute the most people.

I believe that the punishment should fit the crime.

If you steal, you should pay for what you stole.

If you kill, how is it justice to let you live?

This may sound a bit strange, but if my state would institute public whippings, or floggings for crime, then perhaps I would lean less towards a death penalty, and more towards that type of penalty and imprisonment.

We must remember that God himself has judged people with death in the new testament for lying.

Re: - posted by ThePilgrim, on: 2007/10/24 12:51

Ben Williams wrote:

I believe that the punishment should fit the crime.

If you steal, you should pay for what you stole.

If you kill, how is it justice to let you live?

Ben, life does not exist because of what you believe. Life does not exist because of what you do. Life is the gift of God. This subject is not about what we believe or what we would do. The crux of the matter is this. Should a Born Again Christian minister the death penalty? Could you by proxy execute a person for their crime against God?

Think about it? What would Jesus say to the thief today? What would He say to the Murderer? What would He say to the Adulterer? What would He say to you?

Where would our theology be if Saul of Tarsus had got his just deserts?

Where would we be if we received our true deserts in this life.

Please detach this subject from final judgement. This is about the ministration of Christ in this earth. The only testimony they will have of Him today is what they get from His body. How sick we are when men can claim to be for the penalty of death and still claim knowledge of Christ.

What happens in the Texas jailhouse is no different to what happened out in the field in Genesis 4.

I hope that God will teach me the meaning mercy. And if He does, this I know, that others will benefit from what God has done in my undeserving heart.

God bless us all

The Pilgrim

Re:, on: 2007/10/24 13:10

Scripture repeatedly allows for civil authorities to carry out the death penalty as a part of civil justice. Jesus did not change, alter or make it obsolete in any way, shape or form.

Many people come to this discussion and say things like "I cant see Jesus condemning someone to the death penalty!" ...yet they **choose to ignore** the story of the sheep and the goats that Christ told Himself, and how He himself will seperate the sheep from the goats... and He Himself will cast the goats into eternal death.

If that isnt a death penalty... I dont know what is.

The penalty is godly, scriptural... and not up for debate if you truly know how to divide the Word of Truth. But too many believers believe in a "pollyanny" Jesus, which is not based on reality or truth.

God has ordained governmental authority to carry out justice. Yes, it has been abused, and still is today. Yet that doesnt change the fact that it is the way God Himself set things up. Dont like it? Sue God.

Personally... I believe in the death penalty for child molesters/rapists. Thats a step further than most pro death penalty people go.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/10/24 13:23

Quote:
-----Think about it? What would Jesus say to the thief today? What would He say to the Murderer? What would He say to the Adulterer?

I can tell you exactly what He will say if they do not repent and leave their sins behind...

Matthew 25:41 *Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels*

Revelation 21:8 *But the fearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the **second death**.*

Sounds like a death penalty to me. And those are the words of Jesus.

death penalty = justice

God is a just God. Only an unjust God would let sin go unpunished. It's because of God's justice that He must deliver the penalty of eternal death on those who reject Him.

His mercy is what allows us who believe to escape death.

Most believers today only want to believe in the merciful God, and pretend the God of justice doesnt exist. Thats wrong.. thats not the God of the Bible.

And since Jesus IS God... you see what I am saying?

God is love, God is mercy, God is patient. **BUT** God is also justice, God is fear inspiring, God is not to be toyed with.

We have to accept the total personality of who God is, or we are not believing in the God of the Bible... we're believing in a fairy tale God that some Hollywood movie has deceived us into believing. Kinda like the God of that TV show "Touched By An Angel"... what a piece of deception that show was.

Krispy

Re: - posted by ThePilgrim, on: 2007/10/24 13:44

Krispy said:

God has ordained governmental authority to carry out justice. Yes, it has been abused, and still is today. Yet that doesn't change the fact that it is the way God Himself set things up. Don't like it? Sue God.

Personally... I believe in the death penalty for child molesters/rapists. That's a step further than most pro death penalty people go.

Well Krispy, it seems you are more interested in vengeance than mercy.

He does not ordain Government, he allows them to exist.
Christ said His Kingdom was not of this world!

You believe in death penalty for certain crimes. God says that all sin brings death.

Again, what you are doing, sheep and goats, is confusing the Last Judgement with the actual work and nature of Christ in this world today. His work is to minister mercy...for all men.

What did that Angel say: Peace and GOODWILL to ALL men.

Hey why stop at molesters and murderers? Why don't we fry bigots too.

Sue God...I don't think so!

What is it that defines Christians...Oh yes...They Will Know You Are My Disciples For The Love You Have...One For Another.

Hey! Wasn't that a commandment or something he gave us.

Please read the early post regarding that young girl murdered by your government...and has that death made us more...or less like Christ.

Krispy...time to break those strongholds.

The Pilgrim

Re:, on: 2007/10/24 14:39

Quote:

-----Well Krispy, it seems you are more interested in vengeance than mercy.

Here you are judging my thoughts and my motives... basically what's in my heart. How can you do that? Are you God? I didn't give any reason for why I believe that about child molesters/rapists... so you are assuming things about me that are false.

Quote:

-----He does not ordain Government, he allows them to exist.

Really? Now I have to question how well you know and understand scripture.

Rom 13:1-4 *Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are **ordained of God**. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the **ordinance of God**: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.*

I think that says it all...

Quote:

-----You believe in death penalty for certain crimes. God say that all sin brings death.

Yes, in the end all sinners who have not repented and accepted Christ's sacrifice will meet eternal death. But as far as here in this life, there is a distinction between crimes and punishment. A simple read thru of Leviticus, Deuteronomy & Numbers will show you that.

Quote:

-----Again, what you are doing, sheep and goats, is confusing the Last Judgement with the actual work and nature of Christ in this world today. His work is to minister mercy...for all men.

No, I'm not confusing anything. I responded to your statement that Jesus would not condemn a criminal to death... but that's not true. He in fact does! You're just trying to play games with my words, and with God's word.

Quote:

-----Hey why stop at molesters and murderers? Why don't we fry bigots too.

This doesn't even deserve an answer.

Quote:

-----What is it that defines Christians...Oh yes...They Will Know You Are My Disciples For The Love You Have...One For Another.

OK... this is a true statement, and one that I agree with 100%. No problem. However, God is love. Right? Is God the same yesterday, today and forever? Yes. Then you agree that God has **always** been love. But according to YOUR definition of love, justice should not be meat out. So how can God be a God of love, yet in Exodus he killed an entire family in the desert for the sin of one man?

See... this is a lot more complex than "Jesus loves everybody... buy the world a coke."

Quote:

-----Krispy...time to brake those strongholds.

No, brother... it's time to base our perception on the character of God (Jesus) on *scripture*, and not Veggie Tales. Veggie Tales is fine for 4 year olds, but there comes a time when we must mature and dig a little deeper for the truth.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/10/24 16:54

By the way, Pilgrim... welcome to SI. (saying it like that made me feel like John Wayne!)

Krispy

Re: - posted by crusader (), on: 2007/10/24 19:20

there is a world view about punishment and then there is Gods view. Most of us know what the world view is because it's pushed into our faces every day and i believe whole heartedly that we must as true born again, spiritual christians always seek the answers through God and wash of the influences of this world.

There is a worldly law and spiritual law with penalties given to both. God implemented these laws because of the wickedness of mans heart. When we become born again God says that we are no longer condemned under the law because of our repentance and God will intervene in our lives as he sees fit (cause he can judge our spirit as well as the body).

watching any body die is a terrible thing and i have shed many, many tears for these people. but a worst thing then dying on this earth is never coming into the knowledge of Jesus christ in our lives and the punishment that awaits them at the point of death.

The God i know is a God that is fair and just but i also fear him because i know that he is a God that stands by his word 100% i have suffered many times by the hands of this world because of my unrepentive heart but this has only driven me closer to the lord and a deeper relationship.

Our responsibility as christians should be to witness to the sinful hearts about God not trying to change the system. The death penalty does have a purpose just like any other penalty for breaking the law.

i have to leave it there i have to go to work but i will try to qualify further.

:o

Re:, on: 2007/10/25 18:04

Quote:

BenWilliams wrote:

I have never been completely for or against the death penalty.

Hi Ben

I suppose I have similar views to you on this subject.

Some thoughts so far:

As soon as the UK abolished the death penalty the number of murders began to increase sharply.

Nations have to have some means of keeping wrongdoing in check.

God instituted the Law of Moses to restrain the sin of the nation. While Israel is a special case in that sense, all nations need some way of making sure that their citizens keep the laws of that nation.

The death penalty is the ultimate deterrent.

It doesn't ensure absolute justice - there have been terrible mistakes, where an innocent person was executed. But does that mean the death penalty should be banned completely?

Physical death isn't the worst thing that can happen to a person, as others have said. And sometimes fear of death can drive even the worst of criminals to find God.

Rulers, whether they acknowledge Him or not, are answerable to God for how they rule. Failing to impose suitable punishment for those who sin against society (though we are all sinners, some sins affect the whole of society) may be as wrong in God's sight as unjust punishment of the innocent.

A Biblical example is in 1Kings 20, where king Ahab was merciful to an enemy king and let him live (my emphasis):

38 So the prophet ... waited for the king by the way, and disguised himself with ashes upon his face.

39 And as the king passed by, he cried unto the king: and he said, Thy servant went out into the midst of the battle; and, behold, a man turned aside, and brought a man unto me, and said, Keep this man: if by any means he be missing, then shall thy life be for his life, or else thou shalt pay a talent of silver.

40 And as thy servant was busy here and there, he was gone. And the king of Israel said unto him, So shall thy judgment be; thyself hast decided it.

41 And he hasted, and took the ashes away from his face; and the king of Israel discerned him that he was of the prophets.

42 And he said unto him, ***Thus saith the LORD, Because thou hast let go out of thy hand a man whom I appointed to utter destruction, therefore thy life shall go for his life, and thy people for his people.***

In Hlm

Jeannette