



***Christian? Soldier?  
Policeman?  
Carry Weapons?***

**Ex 20:13** “Thou shalt not **kill**” KJV

**Ex 20:13** “You shall not **murder**” NASB, NKJV, ESV

**Gen 9:6** “**By man** his blood shall be shed”

↑ “**murder**” - “1. The unlawful killing of one human being by another, especially with premeditated malice.” AHD [und. mine]

“**capital punishment**” - “the legally authorized killing of someone as punishment for a crime”  
OxfordDict [und. mine]

Why? **Gen 9:6** “For **in the image of God** He made man.”

“**kill**” ≠ “**kill**” ... murder!

## ***Unintentional* vs *Intentional* killing Num 35:9f**

**v11** cities of refuge if “kills a person **unintentionally**”  
NASB “**accidentally**” NKJV; “**without intent**” ESV

**vv22-23** “... without enmity... without lying in  
wait... not his enemy nor seeking his injury

**v16f...18** “But if ... he is a **murderer**; the **murderer**  
shall surely be put to death”

**v19...27** “The blood avenger himself shall put the  
murderer to death” ... “the blood avenger kills the  
manslayer, he **will not be guilty of blood**”

“**kill**” ≠ “**kill**”... murder!

## ***Self defense* vs *UNjustified* killing**

**Ex 22:2-3** “If the thief is caught while breaking in and is struck so that he dies, there will be **no bloodguiltiness** on his account. But if the sun has risen on him, there **will be bloodguiltiness** on his account. (**Jer 2:34**)

**Jn 10:10** “the thief comes only to steal, to kill, and destroy”

“**kill**” ≠ “**kill**”... murder!

## Observe

- The “**blood avenger**” was **not** guilty of **murder**.
- Those “who” exercised legitimate **capital punishment** were **not** guilty of **murder**.
- The man who killed **accidentally** was **not guilty of murder**.
- **Self defense** from a thief **not guilty of murder**.

“**kill**” ≠ “**kill**”... murder!

**Mt 5:38-42? “Do not resist...”turn to him the other [cheek] also”**

**“Eye for an eye...”? Ex 21:22-25 (22:9; 23:1-9); Lev 24:10-23; Dt 19:15-21 -  
Measure of civil punishment to be meted out, **NOT *personal vengeance***.**

**Mt 5:43-48!**

**Attitude behind murder = guilty!**

**Mt 5:21-22** ““You have heard that the ancients were told, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT **MURDER**' ...

**22** "But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be **guilty** before the court; and whoever says to his brother, 'You good-for-nothing,' shall be **guilty** before the supreme court; and whoever says, 'You fool,' shall be **guilty** enough to go into the fiery hell. (*contemptuous anger*)

**1Jn 3:15** “Everyone who hates his brother is a **murderer**; and you know that no **murderer** has eternal life abiding in him.



## *Attitude behind killing ...*

**1Ki 2:5** “shed the blood of war in peace”

Contemptuous anger, hatred (**Mt 5:21f; 1Jn 3:15**), “grudge” (**Gen 27:41; Mk 6:19**), envy (**Mt 27:18**), jealousy (**Gen 37:11...20**); *etc. can lead to actual murder. Beware! Jam 1:14-15*

**1Sam 16:7** “the Lord looks at the heart”!

**Rom 13:1-4** “he is God’s servant ...” **ESV** -  
in carrying out the purpose of “governing  
authorities” (civil authority)

**Police officers, constables, sheriff, etc.**

“ ... does not bear the **sword** [pistol] for  
nothing [in vain **ESV**]”

**Can be abused? Yes, and has been for  
centuries. Religious leaders? Parental  
authority? Financial stewards? etc. *Does not  
negate the right and need of their existence!***

**Ac 10:1-2** “Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian cohort” [“regiment” NKJV]

**Military leaders, soldiers, etc.**

**Lk 3:14** “What shall we do?”

**Can be oppressive, cruel? Yes, and has been for centuries. *Does not negate the right and need of their existence!***

**“What about....?” Joe...? Mary...? Me....?**

**Personal responsibility to examine self -**

**Lam 3:40; Hag 1:5; Lk 16:29; 1Co 11:28;  
2Co 13:5; Jam 1:22-24; etc.**

**Personal judgment by the Lord -**

**2Co 5:10; Rom 14:12**

**Even **murderers** can be *forgiven!***

**Ac 9:1...22:16; Ac 2:23...38**

