

The Third Abomination

“There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him:
haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and **hands that shed innocent blood,**”
- *Proverbs 6:16-17 (ESV)*

The Slippery Serpent: Pride, Lies, Murder

John 8:44 – (44) You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

First Blood

Genesis 4:5, 8 – (5) but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. ... (8) Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him.

Genesis 4:10-12 – (10) And the Lord said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to me from the ground. (11) And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. (12) When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.”

Exodus 20:13 – (13) You shall not murder.

Exodus 21:14 – (14) ... if a man willfully attacks another to kill him by cunning, you shall take him from my altar, that he may die.

A Bloody Nation

2 Kings 21:16 – (16) Moreover, Manasseh shed very much innocent blood, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another, besides the sin that he made Judah to sin so that they did what was evil in the sight of the Lord.

2 Kings 24:3-4 – (3) Surely this came upon Judah at the command of the Lord, to remove them out of his sight, for the sins of Manasseh, according to all that he had done, (4) and also for the innocent blood that he had shed. For he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood, and the Lord would not pardon.

Psalms 106:38, 40 – “(38) they poured out innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land was polluted with blood. ... (40) Then the anger of the Lord was kindled against his people, and he abhorred his heritage;

Our Bloody Nation

Exodus 21:22-23 – (22) When men strive together and hit a pregnant woman, so that her children come out, but there is no harm, the one who hit her shall surely be fined, as the woman’s

husband shall impose on him, and he shall pay as the judges determine. (23) But if there is harm, then you shall pay life for life,

Psalm 94:20-21 – (20) Can wicked rulers be allied with you, those who frame injustice by statute? (21) They band together against the life of the righteous and condemn the innocent to death.

Matthew 6:33 – “(33) But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Unacceptable Violence and Oppression

Genesis 6:13 – (13) And God said to Noah, “I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth.”

Genesis 42:21-22 – (21) Then they said to one another, “In truth we are guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the distress of his soul, when he begged us and we did not listen. That is why this distress has come upon us.” (22) And Reuben answered them, “Did I not tell you not to sin against the boy? But you did not listen. So now there comes a reckoning for his blood.”

Jeremiah 22:17– (17) But you have eyes and heart only for your dishonest gain, for shedding innocent blood, and for practicing oppression and violence.

Genesis 15:13, 16 – (13) Then the Lord said to Abram, “Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. ... (16) And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.”

Repentance or Reckoning

Jeremiah 7:5-7 – (5) For if you truly amend your ways and your deeds, if you truly execute justice one with another, (6) if you do not oppress the sojourner, the fatherless, or the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own harm, (7) then I will let you dwell in this place, in the land that I gave of old to your fathers forever.

Luke 13:34 – (34) O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!

Shedding of THE Innocent Blood

Matthew 27:24-25 – “(24) So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” (25) And all the people answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!”

1 Timothy 1:15 – (15) The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.

Romans 5:8 – (8) but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

(All Bible references are ESV unless otherwise noted)