



Addressing

CHURCH SECURITY

SELF-DEFENSE & THE CHURCH

WITH THE RECENT CHURCH MURDERS, WHAT CAN WE DO?



INTRODUCTION

- **RECENT KILLINGS IN TEXAS – 26 KILLED, 20 WOUNDED**
- **MUCH DISCUSSION ABOUT HOW TO MAKE THE CHURCH SAFE DURING WORSHIP**
- **LOCK DOORS? HIRE SECURITY GUARDS? PATROL THE PARKING LOT? METAL DETECTORS?**

INTRODUCTION

- **THESE ARE REAL CONCERNS FOR CHURCHES**
- **THERE IS A LOT OF DISCUSSION ON THIS TOPIC WITH PREACHERS**
- **HOME BREAK IN – CAN YOU KILL TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY?**
- **CAN YOU CHASE HIM DOWN THE STREET, TACKLE AND KILL HIM?**
- **WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH?**

PERSONAL VENGEANCE / REVENGE

- **ROMANS 12:17** REPAY NO ONE EVIL FOR EVIL. PROVIDE THINGS HONEST IN THE SIGHT OF ALL MEN. 18 IF */T/*POSSIBLE, AS FAR AS */SIN* YOU, BEING IN PEACE WITH ALL MEN.
- **MATTHEW 5:38-39** YOU HAVE HEARD THAT IT WAS SAID, "AN EYE FOR AN EYE, AND A TOOTH FOR A TOOTH." 39 BUT I SAY TO YOU, DO NOT RESIST EVIL. BUT WHOEVER SHALL STRIKE YOU ON YOUR RIGHT CHEEK, TURN THE OTHER TO HIM ALSO.

PERSONAL VENGEANCE / REVENGE

- **PROVERBS 24:29 DO NOT SAY, I WILL DO SO TO HIM AS HE HAS DONE TO ME; I WILL GIVE TO THE MAN ACCORDING TO HIS WORK.**
- **1 PETER 3:9 NEVER GIVE BACK EVIL FOR EVIL, OR REVILING FOR REVILING, BUT ON THE CONTRARY, *GIVING* BLESSING, KNOWING THAT YOU ARE CALLED TO THIS SO THAT YOU MIGHT INHERIT BLESSING.**

SELF-DEFENSE / PROTECTION

- **LUKE 11:21 WHEN THE STRONG MAN, FULLY ARMED, GUARDS HIS DWELLING, HIS GOODS ARE IN PEACE.**
- **1 TIMOTHY 5:8 BUT IF ANYONE DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR *H/S*OWN, AND ESPECIALLY *H/S*FAMILY, HE HAS DENIED THE FAITH AND IS WORSE THAN AN INFIDEL.**

SELF-DEFENSE / PROTECTION

- **LUKE 22:36 AND HE SAID TO THEM, BUT NOW, HE WHO HAS A PURSE, LET HIM TAKE /IT, AND LIKewise *H/*SWALLET. AND HE WHO HAS NO SWORD, LET HIM SELL HIS GARMENT AND BUY ONE.**
- **PROVERBS 25:26 A RIGHTEOUS MAN FALLING DOWN BEFORE THE WICKED */S* *LIKEA* TROUBLED FOUNTAIN AND A ROTTEN SPRING.**
- **PSALM 82:4 DELIVER THE POOR AND NEEDY; SAVE *THEM*OUT OF THE HAND OF THE WICKED.**

SELF-DEFENSE / PROTECTION

- **MARK 3:27 NO ONE CAN ENTER INTO A STRONG ONE'S HOUSE AND PLUNDER HIS GOODS, EXCEPT HE FIRST BINDS THE STRONG MAN. AND THEN HE WILL PLUNDER HIS HOUSE.**
- **ESTHER 8:11 IN *THEM* THE KING GRANTED THE JEWS IN EVERY CITY TO GATHER THEMSELVES, AND TO STAND FOR THEIR LIFE, TO DESTROY, TO KILL AND TO CAUSE TO PERISH, ALL THE POWER OF THE PEOPLE AND PROVINCE WHO DESIRED TO ATTACK THEM, LITTLE ONES AND WOMEN, AND *TO TAKE* WHAT THEY OWNED FOR A PRIZE,**

SELF-DEFENSE / PROTECTION

- **EXODUS 22:2 IF A THIEF IS FOUND BREAKING IN, AND IS STRUCK SO THAT HE DIES, NO BLOOD *SHALL BESHED* FOR HIM.**
- **BIBLE HEROES –**
 - **SEVERAL JUDGES KILLED TO DEFEND AND FREE ISRAEL**
 - **DAVID KILLED GOLIATH**

NO CONTRADICTION

- **SELF-DEFENSE = PROTECTION FROM DANGER**
 - **CHURCH OF CHRIST MEMBER HEARD GUNFIRE AND SHOT THE KILLER IN THE LEG AND ABDOMEN**
 - **HE RAN TO HIS CAR AND SPED AWAY**

NO CONTRADICTION

- **SELF-DEFENSE = PROTECTION FROM DANGER**
- **VENGEANCE = ANGER AFTER THE CRISIS, DANGER IS OVER**
 - **ONCE THE DANGER IS OVER – STOP**
 - **DO NOT CHASE HIM DOWN THE STREET AND SHOOT HIM AS HE FLEES**

DUTY TO PROTECT

- **SOME OF THE PASSAGES SHOW IT IS OUR DUTY TO PROTECT OTHERS**
- **PROVERBS 25:26 A RIGHTEOUS MAN FALLING DOWN BEFORE THE WICKED *IS LIKE* A TROUBLED FOUNTAIN AND A ROTTEN SPRING.**
- **PSALM 82:4 DELIVER THE POOR AND NEEDY; SAVE *THEM* OUT OF THE HAND OF THE WICKED.**

CONCLUSION

- **THE BIBLE TEACHES BOTH:**
- **1 - DO NOT SEEK PERSONAL REVENGE**
- **2 - WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO PROTECT OURSELVES, OTHERS,
AND PROPERTY**