

We Bring the Sacrifice

Jeremiah 33:11 “... Praise the **LORD** of hosts: for the **LORD** is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: and of them that shall bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the LORD. ...”

**We Bring the
sacrifice of praise,
into the house of the Lord.**

**We Bring the
sacrifice of praise,
into the house of the Lord.**

**And we offer up to you,
the sacrifice of thanksgiving.**

**And we offer up to you,
the sacrifices of praise.**

Give Thanks

Give thanks

With a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because

He's given

Jesus Christ His Son

Give thanks

With a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because

He's given

Jesus Christ His Son

And now let the weak say

I am strong

Let the poor say

I am rich

Because of what

The Lord has done for us

And now let the weak say

I am strong

Let the poor say

I am rich

Because of what

The Lord has done for us

He Keeps Me Singing

There's within my heart a melody

Jesus whispers sweet and low

Fear not I am with thee

peace be still

In all of life's ebb and flow

Jesus Jesus Jesus

Sweetest name I know

Fills my ev'ry longing

Keeps me singing as I go

**All my life was wrecked
by sin and strife**

Discord filled my life with pain

Jesus swept across the broken strings

**Stirred the slumb'ring
chords again**

Jesus Jesus Jesus
Sweetest name I know
Fills my ev'ry longing
Keeps me singing as I go

**Feasting on the riches
of His grace**

**Resting 'neath His
shelt'ring wing**

**Always looking on
His smiling face**

That is why I shout and sing

Jesus Jesus Jesus
Sweetest name I know
Fills my ev'ry longing
Keeps me singing as I go

**Tho' sometimes He leads
thro' waters deep**

Trials fall across my way

**Tho' sometimes the path
seems rough and steep**

See His footprints all the way

Jesus Jesus Jesus

Sweetest name I know

Fills my ev'ry longing

Keeps me singing as I go

Soon He's coming back

to welcome me

Far beyond the starry sky

I shall wing my flight

to worlds unknown

I shall reign with Him on high

Jesus Jesus Jesus
Sweetest name I know
Fills my ev'ry longing
Keeps me singing as I go

WORSHIP THE LORD IN HIS WORD

Journey Into Success

How To be a Success in God's Eyes

**TEXT: Joshua 20:1-6; &
Numbers 35:11-24;**

Joshua 20:1 “Then the Lord said to
Joshua, 2 “Say to the people of Israel,
‘Appoint the cities of refuge, of which
I spoke to you through Moses, 3 that
the manslayer who strikes any person
without intent or unknowingly may
flee there. They shall be for you a

refuge from the avenger of blood. 4 He shall flee to one of these cities and shall stand at the entrance of the gate of the city and explain his case to the elders of that city. Then they shall take him into the city and give him a place, and he shall remain with them. 5 And if the avenger of blood pursues him, they shall not give up the manslayer into his hand, because he struck his neighbor

unknowingly, and did not hate him in the past. 6 And he shall remain in that city until he has stood before the congregation for judgment, until the death of him who is high priest at the time. Then the manslayer may return to his own town and his own home, to the town from which he fled.' ”

Numbers 35:11-24 “11 then you shall select cities to be cities of refuge for you, that the manslayer who kills any person without intent may flee there. 12 The cities shall be for you a refuge from the avenger, that the manslayer may not die until he stands before the congregation for judgment. 13 And the cities that you give shall be your six cities of refuge. 14 You shall give three

cities beyond the Jordan, and three cities in the land of Canaan, to be cities of refuge. 15 These six cities shall be for refuge for the people of Israel, and for the stranger and for the sojourner among them, that anyone who kills any person without intent may flee there. 16 “But if he struck him down with an iron object, so that he died, he is a murderer. The murderer shall be put to

death. 17 And if he struck him down with a stone tool that could cause death, and he died, he is a murderer. The murderer shall be put to death.

18 Or if he struck him down with a wooden tool that could cause death, and he died, he is a murderer. The murderer shall be put to death.

19 The avenger of blood shall himself put the murderer to death; when he

meets him, he shall put him to death.
20 And if he pushed him out of hatred
or hurled something at him, lying in
wait, so that he died, 21 or in enmity
struck him down with his hand, so that
he died, then he who struck the blow
shall be put to death. He is a murderer.
The avenger of blood shall put the
murderer to death when he meets him.
22 “But if he pushed him suddenly

without enmity, or hurled anything on him without lying in wait 23 or used a stone that could cause death, and without seeing him dropped it on him, so that he died, though he was not his enemy and did not seek his harm, 24 then the congregation shall judge between the manslayer and the avenger of blood, in accordance with these rules.”

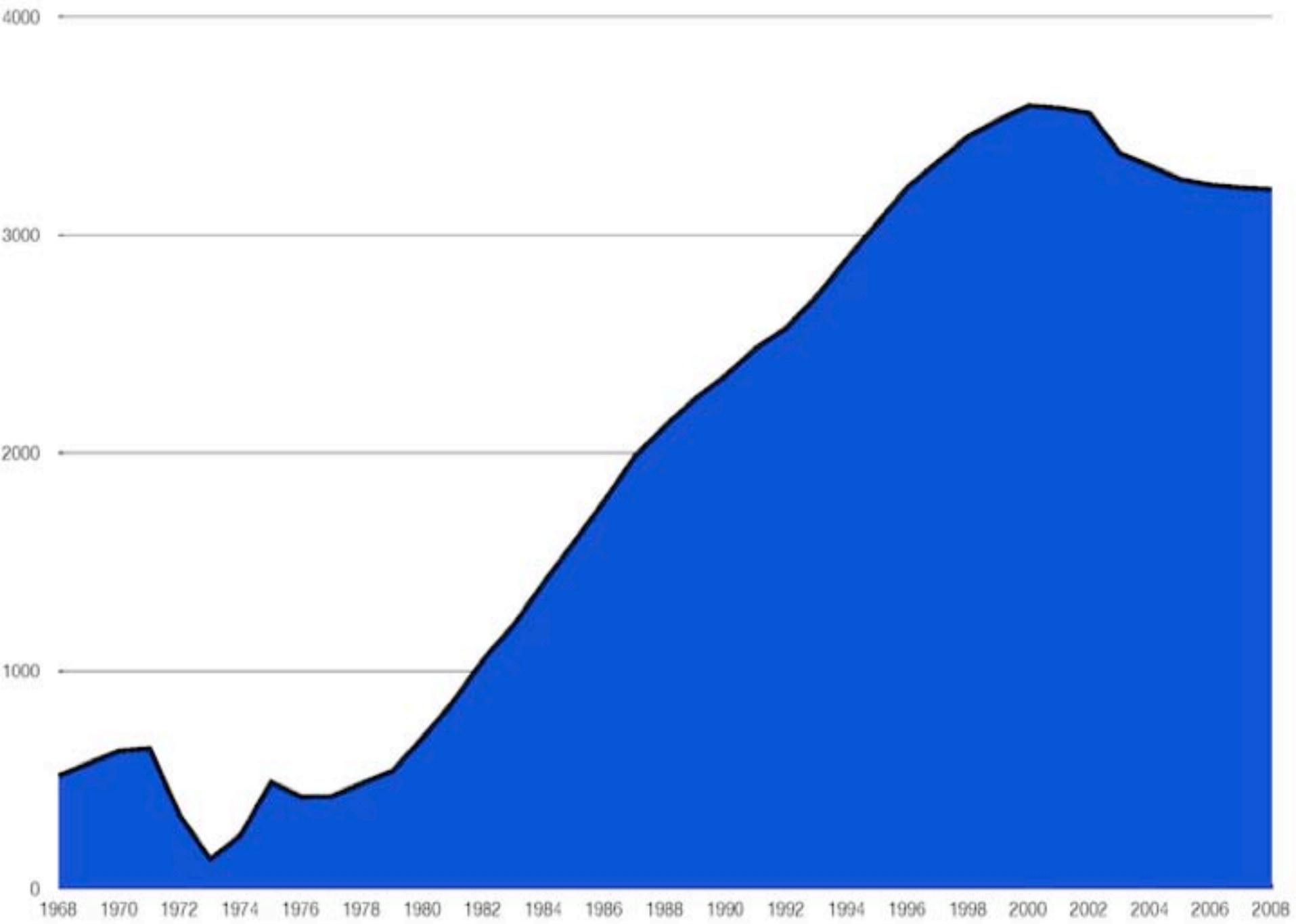
Introduction:

I. PREMEDITATED MURDER

Exodus 21:12 "He that smiteth a man, so that he die, shall be surely put to death."

**Total Number of Death Row
Inmates as of October 1, 2012:
3,146**

Death Row Inmate Population By Year



There are very strong opinions as to the merit of capital punishment, with many people fanatically opposed to any form of capital punishment.

Even the Supreme Court ruled that it was in direct violation of the Constitution, supporting the argument that it was “cruel and unusual punishment.”

However, since capital punishment was abolished in the 1970's by this court action, many states have reinstated capital punishment by the will of the people.

Genesis 9:6 "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man."

Since the death penalty was restored in California in 1978, death row has held 724 condemned inmates, with a total of 10 executions and has not had an execution in past seven years.

During that period, 12 committed suicide, 3 were killed by other inmates, and 38 have died of other causes.

The average length of time inmates are on death row is 14 years, 8 month. (Bureau of Justice Statistics)

INCARCERATION RATE PER 100,000

OECD, 2009



The U.S. incarceration rate on December 31, 2009 was 760 inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents, or 0.76%.

The USA also has the highest total documented prison and jail population in the world.

A c c o r d i n g t o t h e U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS): "In 2008, over 7.3 million people were on probation in jail

or prison, or on parole at year-end 3.2% of all U.S. adult residents or 1 in every 31 adults."

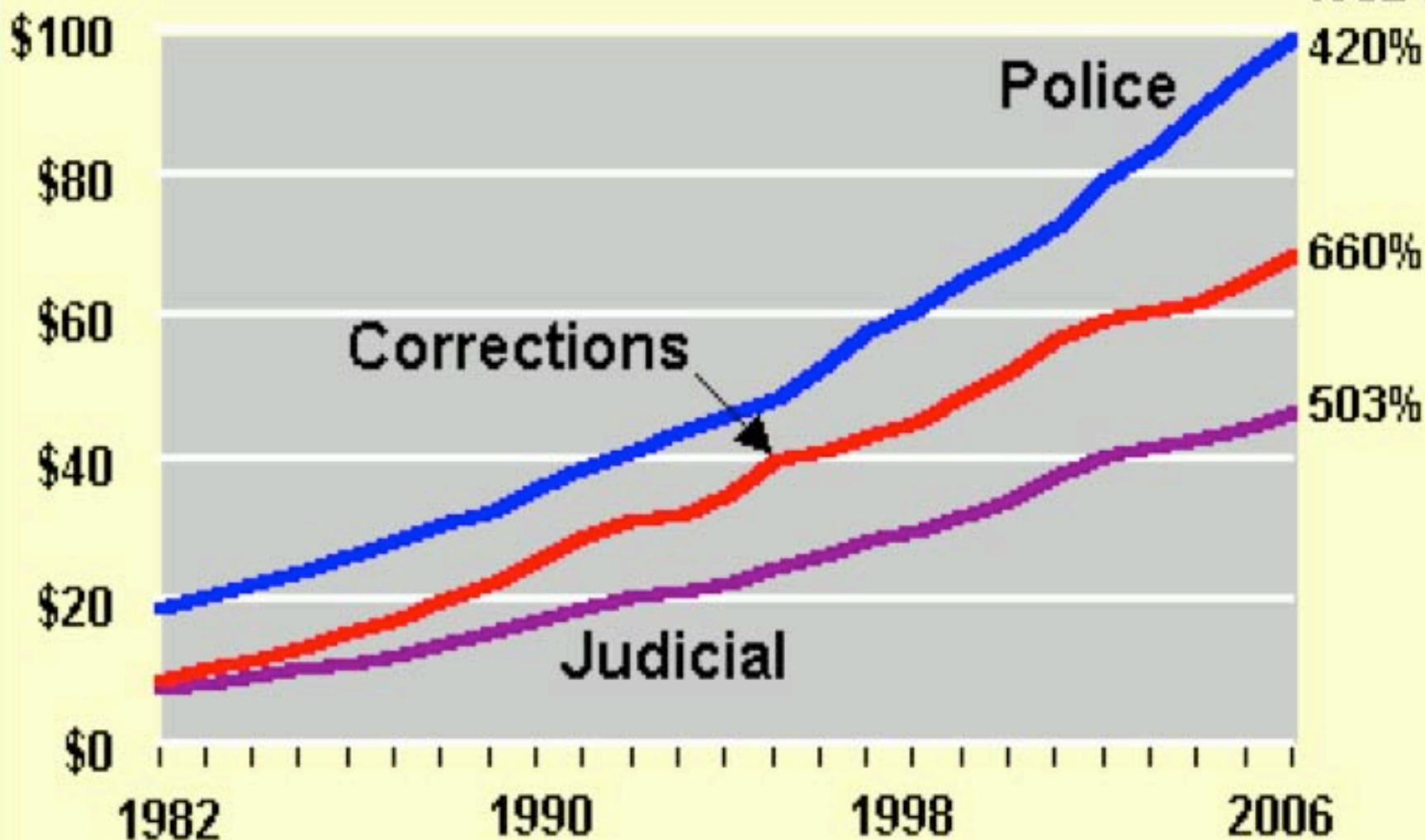
2,304,115 were incarcerated in U.S. prisons and jails in 2008.

The nationwide bill for incarceration is conservatively estimated at \$42 billion annually (see AOUSC, May, 2004).

Direct expenditure by criminal justice function, 1982-2006

Billions

Percent change
1982-2006



How can this possibly be construed as a deterrent?

Something is drastically wrong with the entire legal mechanism.

Romans 13:3-4 “For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his

approval, 4 for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.”

Not everything from the OT should apply, but certainly the OT provides the basis for the most just and humane system of law.

Murderers, rapists, and kidnappers should be put to death; thieves should be made to pay back what they owe.

None of these should be locked up indefinitely.

The prison system is based on the wrong premises.

Cages are for animals, not men.

Cages should be used for men only on a temporary basis; it is a loser when it is used as a form of punishment.

Ecclesiastes 8:11 “Because the sentence against an evil deed is not executed speedily, the heart of the children of man is fully set to do evil.”

II. INVOLUNARY MANSLAUGHTER

Exodus 21:13 "And if a man lie not in wait, but God deliver him into his hand; then I will appoint thee a place whither he shall flee."

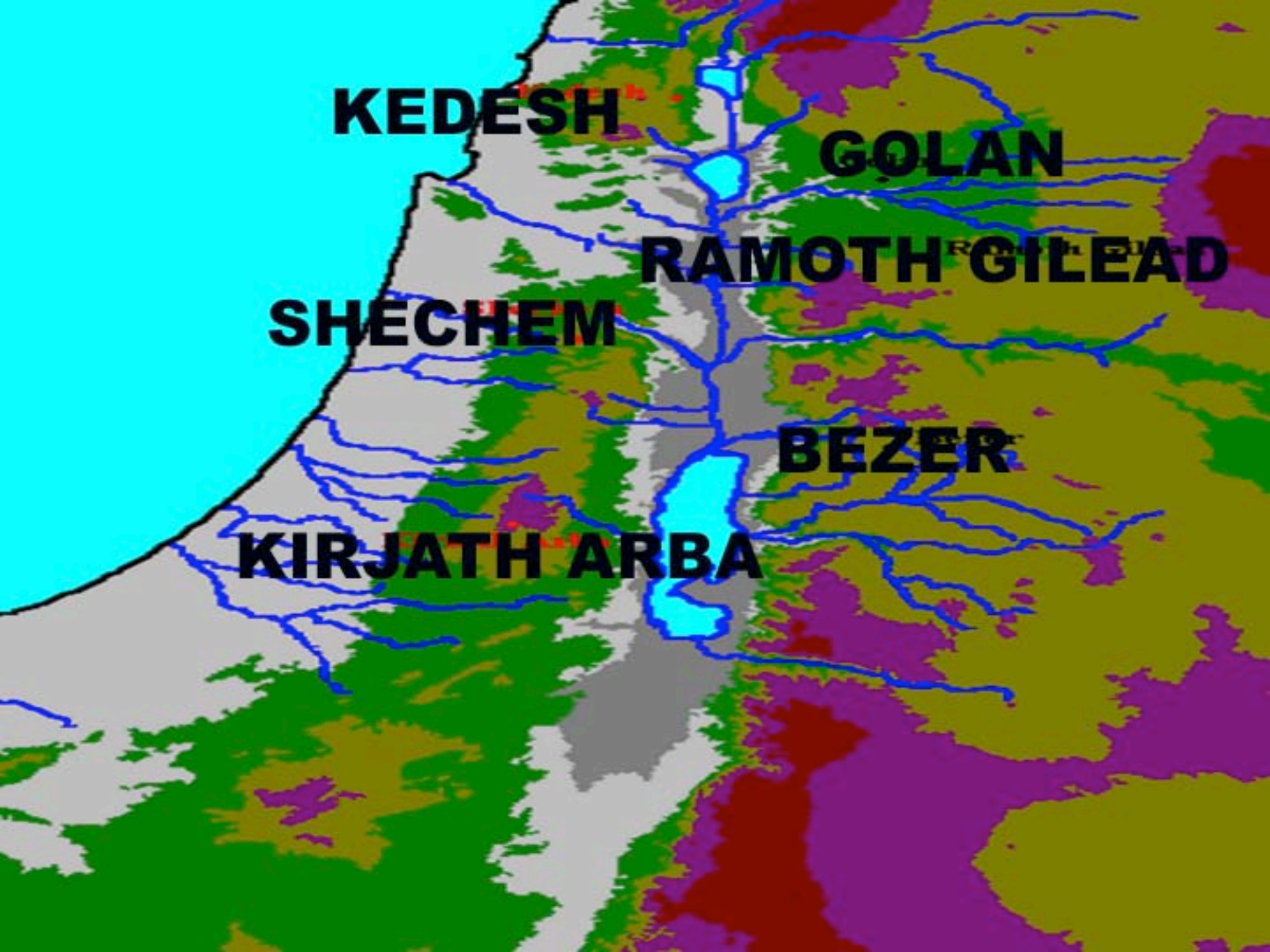
Deuteronomy 19:5 "As when a man goeth into the wood with his neighbour to hew wood, and his hand fetcheth a stroke with the ax to cut down the tree, and the head slippeth from the helve, and lighteth upon his neighbour, that he die; he shall flee unto one of those cities, and live:"

III. ASYLUM in the City Of Refuge:

Joshua 20:4 "And when he that doth flee unto one of those cities shall stand at the entering of the gate of the city, and shall declare his cause in the ears of the elders of that city, they shall take him into the city unto them, and give him a place, that he may dwell among them."

Joshua 20:7-9 "And they appointed Kedesh in Galilee in mount Naphtali, and Shechem in mount Ephraim, and Kirjatharba, which is Hebron, in the mountain of Judah. 8 And on the other side Jordan by Jericho eastward, they assigned Bezer in the wilderness upon the plain out of the tribe of Reuben, and Ramoth in Gilead out of the tribe of Gad, and

Golan in Bashan out of the tribe of Manasseh. 9 These were the cities appointed for all the children of Israel, and for the stranger that sojourneth among them, that whosoever killeth any person, and whosoever might flee thither, and not die by the hand of the avenger of blood, until he stood before the congregation."



KEDESH

GOLAN

RAMOTH GILEAD

SHECHEM

BEZER

KIRJATH ARBA

These cities of refuge reveal three things that will enable us to be successful in God's sight.

A. They Reveal Availability

1. Equal Access

a. Deuteronomy 30:14 "But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it."

b. Joshua 20:9 "These were the cities appointed for all the children of Israel, and for the stranger that sojourneth among them, that whosoever killeth any person at unawares might flee thither, and not

die by the hand of the avenger of blood, until he stood before the congregation."

2. No Preferential Treatment

(a). Acts 10:34-35 "Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: 35 But in every nation he that feareth him, and

worketh righteousness, is accepted with him."

(b). Matthew 5:45 "That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust."

(c). Romans 10:13 "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

In regard to the universal availability of salvation, Charles Haddon Spurgeon compared it to leaving a will. He said if you were leaving a will to a loved one, you would not try to list all the items, such as land, house, money, etc. If you tried to list

everything, you might leave something out. Instead, you would say, “And all my worldly goods I leave to. . . .”

In the same way, God does not list all the people to whom He offers salvation because some might be left off any list.

God simply says, For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved (Romans 10:13, KJV, emphasis added), making it clear salvation in Christ is available to all.

The cities of refuge reveal availability and...

B. They Reveal Responsibility

Deuteronomy 19:2-3 "Thou shalt separate three cities for thee in the midst of thy land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee to possess it. 3 Thou shalt prepare thee a way, and divide the coasts of thy land, which the LORD thy God giveth thee to inherit, into three parts, that every slayer may flee thither."

REFUGE

This illustrates our responsibility to make the way to Christ clear and accessible to the lost!

BUILD

JESUS

BRIDGES

FRIENDSHIP

LOST

SAVED

Acts 1:8 "... and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

**The cities of refuge reveal
availability, responsibility, and ...**

C. They Reveal Accountability

**If you accidentally killed a person
and did not flee to the city of
refuge, there was no other
provision by which you could be
saved:**

John 3:18 "He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

Acts 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

Conclusion:

Being a success in God's eyes is not about how much money we have or how many people know our name, but how often we have influenced people to flee to Christ as a refuge from the penalty of sin.

REMEMBER

The cities (U) of refuge reveal

AVAILABILITY

RESPONSIBILITY

ACCOUNTABILITY

What can you begin doing this week to become more successful in God's eyes?

**BE A BRIDGE
BUILDER FOR THE
LORD**



Invitation

Standing On The Promises

**Standing on the promises
Of Christ my King
Thro' eternal ages
Let His praises ring
Glory in the highest
I will shout and sing
Standing on the
promises of God**

Standing standing
Standing on the promises
Of God my Savior
Standing standing
I'm standing on
The promises of God

**Standing on the promises
That cannot fail
When the howling storms
Of doubt and fear assail
By the living Word of God
I shall prevail
Standing on the promises
of God**

Standing standing
Standing on the promises
Of God my Savior
Standing standing
I'm standing on
The promises of God

**Standing on the promises
Of Christ the Lord
Bound to Him eternally
By love's strong cord
Overcoming daily with
The Spirit's sword
Standing on the promises
of God**

Standing standing
Standing on the promises
Of God my Savior
Standing standing
I'm standing on
The promises of God

Standing on the promises

I cannot fall

List'ning every moment

To the Spirit's call

Resting in my Savior

As my all in all

Standing on the promises

of God

Standing standing
Standing on the promises
Of God my Savior
Standing standing
I'm standing on
The promises of God

PRAYER TIME