Matthew 5:21-22

"Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire."

How well do you understand what it means to be a murderer?

**True/False**

1. The command "Thou shalt not kill" means that no one should be put to death. (Read Romans 13:3-4.)
- God makes a distinction between murder and killing. He has given legal authority to government to kill those who violate His laws. Murder, on the other hand, is the unlawful destruction of the life of another person. The sixth commandment literally means, "Thou shalt not murder."
- What military leader in the Bible was guilty of murdering the enemy? (See II Samuel 3:22-30 and I Kings 2:5.)

2. The opposite of a redeemer is an avenger of blood. (Read Numbers 35:12 and Leviticus 25:25.)

3. In God's eyes the person who hates his brother is a murderer. (Read I John 3:15.)
- Murder is the ultimate expression of hatred. An individual who is hated ceases to exist as a person in the heart and mind of the one who hates him and becomes only an object to be despised and destroyed.
- Name two people in the Bible who ultimately murdered those whom they hated. (See Genesis 4:5-8 and II Samuel 13:22-29.)

4. Christians have a responsibility to be angry with evildoers. (Read Proverbs 8:13.)
- There is a "perfect hatred" which loves the sinner but hates the sin. To the degree that we hate sin, we have the capacity to love the sinner.
- What seven things does God say He hates? (See Proverbs 6:16-19.)

---

**My Redeemer**

1. I will sing of my Re-deem-er, And His won-drous love to me;  
2. I will tell the won-drous sto-ry, How my lost es-tate to save,  
3. I will praise my dear Re-deem-er, His tri - umph pow'rlI tell,  
4. I will sing of my Re-deem-er, And His heart-ly love to me;  

On the cru - el cross He suf-fered, From the curse to set me free.  
In His bound-less love and mer-cy, He the ran - som free-ly gav-  
How the vic - to - ry His gir - eith O - ver sin, and death, and hell,  
He from death to life hath bro't me, Son of God with Him to be.
"Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment."

"But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire."

By starting with a commandment which most listeners were sure they had kept and explaining how they had all broken it, Jesus brought about life-changing conviction.

The highest level of keeping the Law is hereby reestablished, because God looks on the heart and "... out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries ..." (Matthew 15:19).

**IT WAS SAID**
Greek: ἐχέκόλον (er-REH-thay)
INSIGHT: Five centuries of religious tradition from the scribes and rabbis.
- "It was said"—Tradition
- "It is written"—Scripture

**TO KILL**
Greek: φονεύω (faw-new-oh)
DEFINITION: To unlawfully slay another, to murder.

**JUDGMENT**
Greek: κρίνεις (KRIH-sis)
DEFINITION: In this context, a local court or tribunal.

**TO BE ANGRY**
Greek: ὀργίζω (or-GIDS-zoe)
DEFINITION: Feelings of rage and revenge in response to irritation.
INSIGHT: The Greek present tense indicates an ongoing, continuous condition.

**BROTHER**
Greek: δοῦλος (ah-dell-FOSS)
DEFINITION: From delphys, meaning "womb"; literally "relatives," but can include all people since all come from Eve's womb.

**RACA**
Greek: ῥάχα (hrah-KAH)
DEFINITION: Abusive name-calling, such as empty-headed, or numbskull.
INSIGHT: Raca attacks a person's mental abilities; fool attacks a person's heart and character.

**HELL FIRE**
Greek: γέεννα (GEH-en-nah)
DEFINITION: A place associated with defilement and corruption; literally, the valley of Hinnom.

How does history confirm Satan's hidden agenda in murder? Jesus identified Satan as "... a murderer from the beginning ..." (John 8:44). Satan's goal has been to destroy the Godly seed of Adam (Abel), the Redeemer (Christ), the sons of God (Christians), and those made in God's image (all people).

What should we learn from the world's first angry man? God explains why Cain's anger erupted in the murder of his brother: the guilt of Cain's evil deeds was exposed by Abel's righteous life. (See I John 3:12.)

How did righteous indignation bring judgment to a righteous man? Moses was outraged by the cruelty to his people. He slew a slave master and was separated from his people for forty years. (See Exodus 2:12.) Later he was incensed with the murmuring of God's people. He struck the rock and was kept from entering the Promised Land until after his death. (See Numbers 20:7-13.)

How did God protect those who committed accidental homicide?
How does a volcano illustrate the characteristics of anger?

The internal fire, uncontrollable eruption, and devastating destruction of a volcano have direct parallels to the life of an angry person.

Do Resource D.

How does the shedding of innocent blood hinder crops from growing?

Innocent blood shed through murder cries out from the ground and causes God’s judgment in the forms of drought, pestilence, and disease. (See II Chronicles 7:13 and Numbers 35:33-34.)

Do Resource E.

Why was Cain not killed after he murdered Abel?

In Genesis 9:6 God established that a murderer is to be put to death by men: “Whoso sheddeth man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed.”

The specific men appointed by God to carry out this judgment are civil authorities. (See Romans 13:4.) In the day of Cain there was no civil government.

Do Resource F.

What general was guilty of murder when he killed his enemy?

General Amasa killed General Joab’s brother during a time of war. In revenge, Joab killed Amasa in a time of peace. Joab was therefore guilty of murder. (See I Kings 2:5-6.)

Hippocrates 460?-377? B.C.

How does anger cause a person to be in danger of judgment?

If a man accidentally kills someone with whom he was previously angry, he should be judged as a murderer. (See Deuteronomy 19:5-6.)

Why is it true that everyone believes in “capital punishment”? Those who believe in capital punishment and those who do not both believe in killing. One group believes in killing the criminal, the other in killing innocent victims.

Do Resource G.

How have medical doctors who commit “legal abortion” become endangered by a higher judgment?

When men legalize what God condemns, God brings judgment upon them from unexpected sources. In 1973 the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortion. Now thousands of doctors are being forced from their practices by lawsuits and high medical malpractice insurance.

Those who legalized abortion by claiming that the unborn baby is not a person deny the personhood of Christ between His conception and His birth.

Why did God warn us not to let the sun go down upon our wrath?

The emotion of anger unleashes a host of signals throughout our bodies which, if not quickly brought under control, can develop into conditions such as high blood pressure, nerve disorders, muscle tension, aching teeth, back problems, bone ailments, and a host of other maladies.
How many of these questions can you answer before studying the resources?

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The wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

A well-meaning father continuously disciplined his children in anger, and they grew up feeling inferior, frustrated, and bitterly rebellious.

A husband became exasperated with his wife and angrily berated her. The resulting wounds so damaged the spirit of their marriage that it was not long before she left him.

An employee became angry when he was falsely accused, and he vented his wrath on the employer. The result was that he lost an excellent job, and it took him many months to find new employment.

Anger destroys relationships. Jesus revealed the extreme danger and the devastating destructiveness of man's wrath when He startled His disciples by making anger synonymous with murder.

The correlation between hatred and murder is also confirmed by the Apostle John: "Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer . . . " (I John 3:15).

In order to deal properly with anger, we must define it clearly and then follow Scriptural steps of action to overcome it.

**STEP 1**

**AGREE WITH GOD THAT WRATH IS WRONG.**

Anger is a signal. Wrath is sin.

**What is anger?**

Anger is a signal that something is wrong. Anger is to the spirit of a person what pain is to the body. Thus, anger in itself is not wrong. In fact, it can be a valuable alarm system when properly understood and dealt with.

Anger is the immediate emotional reaction to a real or supposed infringement upon personal rights. The word anger comes from the Latin root anno, which literally means "to choke or to strangle." Another English word derived from this same root is anguish, which denotes distress of spirit, mind, or body.

**How does anger become wrath?**

Prolonged anger turns into wrath. When anger is not recognized and properly disposed of, it spreads like a cancer throughout the body, rapidly becoming wrath. Wrath is intense and sustained anger. The Greek words for wrath and anger include ᾤσθος, (thoo-MOSS), ὀργή (or-GAY), and παροργίσμος (pah-roar-giss-MOSS).

ᾤσθος comes from the root ὀργίζω, which means "to breathe hard or to blow smoke." It is significant that ὀργίζω is never translated as "anger."

A distinction between anger and wrath is made in Ephesians 4:26-27: "Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil."

The initial emotion of anger is not sin, but if the anger is expressed or allowed to continue and deepen into wrath, it becomes sin, and Satan is then given a foothold.

**Where in Scripture does God say wrath is wrong?**

God condemns wrath in the following verses:

- "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these . . . wrath . . . " (Galatians 5:19-20).
"Let all... wrath... be put away from you..." (Ephesians 4:31).
"For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God" (James 1:20).

**What words describe the development of wrath?**

The following words are arranged to describe the levels of intensity as anger becomes wrath.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description:</th>
<th>Intensity of anger:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indignant</td>
<td>Immediate reaction toward one who offends another's personal standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incensed</td>
<td>Immediate reaction toward one who offends group standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furious</td>
<td>Explosive reaction toward an offender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enraged</td>
<td>Strong, explosive, and sustained reaction toward an offender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resentful</td>
<td>Continuing reaction harboring ill will toward an offender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bitter</td>
<td>Painful remembrance of an offense with intense ill will toward an offender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vengeful</td>
<td>Desire to personally punish an offender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acrimonious</td>
<td>Initiation of revenge with abusive language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hateful</td>
<td>Personal commitment to see an offender suffer or be destroyed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malicious</td>
<td>Initiation of actions to bring suffering and destruction to an offender</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PROJECT**

After learning the above definitions, fill in the blanks in the following narrative with the most precise words.

Cain illustrated the relationship between anger and murder when he killed Abel.

Cain worked hard to bring his offering of fruit and vegetables to the Lord. Therefore, when the Lord rejected it, he became ___(1)___ toward God. Cain's reaction toward God certainly must have caused his parents to be ___(2)___ toward him.

When God rejected his offering, Cain became ___(3)___. However, when he realized that God had rejected not only his offering but also himself, he became ___(4)___. It was then God said to Cain, "Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?"

The fact that God accepted Abel's offering caused Cain to be ___(5)___ toward his brother. With a ___(6)___ heart, Cain talked with Abel about their offerings.

As Abel tried to reason with his brother, Cain developed a ___(7)___ spirit toward him and responded with an ___(8)___ attitude. As the days passed, Cain grew more ___(9)___ toward both God and Abel.

Finally, in the heat of ___(10)___ intent, Cain slew his brother.

(Story taken from Genesis 4)
STEP 2

**DO NOT MAKE FRIENDS WITH AN ANGRY PERSON.**

"Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go" (Proverbs 22:24).

There are two powerful reasons that God warns us to avoid close friendships with angry people.

1. **We will become like them.**

   "Lest thou learn his ways, and get a snare to thy soul" (Proverbs 22:25).

2. **We are not able to help them.**

   "A man of great wrath shall suffer punishment; for if thou deliver him, yet thou must do it again" (Proverbs 19:19).

**PROJECT**

List the names of your three closest friends. Does each one demonstrate an understanding of how to deal Scripturally with his or her anger?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

An angry finger of blame was pointed before the facts were fully learned.

Recall the last instance in which your anger was the result of not having all the facts. Did you humble yourself and ask forgiveness when you learned the rest of the story?

STEP 4

**BE SLOW TO SPEAK.**

"...Let every man be... slow to speak, slow to wrath" (James 1:19).

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and by the words we speak we will be condemned or justified. (See Matthew 12:36–37.) It is therefore essential that our words be few and well-chosen.
When a person is angry, he will usually not be able to answer without communicating wrath or an acrimonious spirit. For this reason, God gives the following practical guidelines.

• Do not be in a hurry to answer.
  "He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding: but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly" (Proverbs 14:29).

• Answer with a quiet tone of voice.
  "A soft answer turneth away wrath..." (Proverbs 15:1).

• Avoid inflammatory words.
  "...Grievous words stir up anger" (Proverbs 15:1).

• Return blessing for cursing.
  "Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not" (Romans 12:14).

• Choose motivating words.
  "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers" (Ephesians 4:29).

**PROJECT**

A father received an official notice that he was to appear for jury duty in the U.S. District Court. He realized that this was the very week of an important training seminar that he and his wife were looking forward to attending. He struggled with anger and then began to write an appeal letter.

### How a father was slow to speak in writing an appeal letter

"As I began to write, I tried to employ the principles and follow the guidelines in the booklet *How to Make an Appeal*.

"Even with this help, however, I poured out quite a bit of accusation, judgments, demands, and excuses on the paper. Then I realized I was much more concerned with the outcome of my appeal than with what God wanted to accomplish through it.

"At first I quickly skipped over page eight, in which you encourage us to 'balance our expectations before an appeal is made.' But then I went back and listed all the benefits I could think of if my appeal were accepted and an equal number of benefits if my appeal were rejected.

An objective viewpoint is essential to remove traces of anger in a communication.

"I presented about sixteen drafts of the letter to my wife for her evaluation. It took that many revisions for me to remove the various poorly camouflaged barbs and replace them with words reflecting right attitudes and motives.

"Many of the barbs were not camouflaged; I was just too blind to see them. We worked together all weekend so that we could have a letter of appeal ready to hand-deliver to the clerk on Monday morning the moment his office opened.
While I was waiting for the clerk, another man informed me that 'no one gets out of jury duty.' At last the clerk arrived.

When he began reading my three typewritten pages, he blurted out, 'You know, you're a whale of a writer! What do you do for a living?' As the father watched the eyes of the circuit court clerk, he discerned that the clerk decided to grant his request after reading only the first part of his letter. Here is part of the final draft of the father's letter which the clerk read:

Dear Sir,

Thank you for the generous advance notice of my duty to serve as a trial juror in a U.S. District Court. I received my summons on Friday, June 20, 1986, to report for jury duty on Monday, July 21, 1986. As a previous juror, I have had very positive experiences with the operations of the Tulsa County District Court. The thirty days' planning time that you have provided with the advance notice of this summons is another demonstration of your effort and that of the Court to be courteous and efficient in the management of its juror pool.

The instructions on the summons directed me to notify you immediately in writing upon the observation of any difficulty that I might foresee in fulfilling my obligation to report for jury duty at the appointed time. I have identified some difficulty and have therefore prepared this letter.

Can you list at least three practical steps that this father took to avoid anger in his appeal letter?

1. Write down each item that the employee said had been offensive.
2. Defend himself in no way.
3. Ask quiet questions to clarify what the employee meant and ask for at least one illustration of each blind spot.
4. Allow the employee to finish telling all that was on his mind.
5. Get alone with the Lord after the session and review the complaints.
6. Ask forgiveness for offenses.
7. Take steps to correct blind spots which had been shared.

Each conference originally scheduled for half an hour took a full day. These sessions cleared the air of past offenses and gave direction toward avoiding future anger.

One who speaks in anger is often unaware of the emotionally charged words which he uses.

nervous and very hesitant to point out the employer's blind spots.

However, the employer had purposed ahead of time to do the following things:

1. Write down each item that the employee said had been offensive.
2. Defend himself in no way.
3. Ask quiet questions to clarify what the employee meant and ask for at least one illustration of each blind spot.
4. Allow the employee to finish telling all that was on his mind.
5. Get alone with the Lord after the session and review the complaints.
6. Ask forgiveness for offenses.
7. Take steps to correct blind spots which had been shared.

Each conference originally scheduled for half an hour took a full day. These sessions cleared the air of past offenses and gave direction toward avoiding future anger.

**STEP 5**

GIVE HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE.

"A gift in secret pacifieth anger: and a reward in the bosom strong wrath" (Proverbs 21:14).

The president of a very successful real estate company was asked by a magazine to write his
story. At his next sales meeting he stood before his employees and held up the magazine.

Then he announced, "My success story has been written up in this magazine, and I have a copy for each one of you. If you would like more copies, just let me know, and I will get them for you."

An angry reaction immediately spread through the entire group. Many of his key salesmen turned to each other and said, "Who does he think made him successful? We are the ones who brought in the sales!"

Soon after the president's announcement, his top leaders quit and formed their own companies. As a result, financial pressures mounted for the president, and in an attempt to divert foreclosures he illegally co-mingled funds.

The Securities and Exchange Commission convicted him. In a few months his company was out of business, and he was in jail.

In contrast, the president of another real estate company came to the end of a profitable year and was going to write himself a large bonus check. Then he had this thought, "Why don't you divide that check up and give some of the profits to each of the men who helped you become successful?"

At first he tried to push away the idea, but it persisted. Finally, he had the secretary make out the checks, and he went to each of the men, personally thanking them and handing them the unexpected bonus.

He discovered that his profit-sharing removed pressures which would have resulted in angry reactions toward him and the company.

**PROJECT**

**Learn how to deflect praise.**

When someone gives us praise, it is easy to receive it on the assumption that we deserve it. However, every achievement in our lives is made possible by the work of God and others on our behalf. The way we receive praise must reflect our recognition of this fact. Notice the following examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Praise</th>
<th>Deflecting praise</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You are a marvelous pianist.</td>
<td>I have a patient teacher and persistent parents to thank.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You were the star of the game today.</td>
<td>That's nice of you to say. Any game is a team effort. Without the others my efforts would have been useless.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That is really a handsome tie you are wearing.</td>
<td>Thank you; my wife picked it out for me.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That was a very good testimony you gave.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You have very beautiful hair.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How did you learn to be so smart?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STEP 6**

**DO NOT LET THE SUN GO DOWN UPON YOUR WRATH.**

When was the last time you went to bed angry?

"...Let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil" (Ephesians 4:26–27).
What are the consequences of allowing the sun to go down upon your wrath?

Anger is a signal that someone has violated another’s personal rights. When anger is not quickly and properly responded to, it gives Satan an opportunity to produce inward and outward destruction. A sequence of such destruction is given in Ephesians 4:31:

“Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice.”

1. BITTERNESS—From the word for bite, with the original meaning of “sharp, biting, cutting, and harsh.”

A Scriptural warning against bitterness is found in Hebrews 12:15. We are to be alert to anyone resisting the grace of God, “...Lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled.”

2. INDIGNATION—From the Latin indigare, meaning “fierce anger and hatred.”

Judas became indignant when Mary poured a pound of very expensive ointment on Jesus’ feet. He expressed his indignation by saying, “Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief...” (John 12:5–6).

3. WRATH—From the Old English wraeth, meaning “to turn or twist from that which is right and proper.” The word describes a change of nature. Wrath is the turning from thoughts of good to thoughts of evil.

God describes wrath as being cruel. (See Proverbs 27:4.)

4. CLAMOR—From the Latin clamare, meaning “to cry out; to bellow; to thunder; to shout with furious animosity; to give a loud outcry.”

The clamor which grows out of wrath can easily turn into mob action. The loud cry of clamor was demonstrated during the trial of Jesus, the trial of Stephen, and the trial of Paul.

5. EVIL SPEAKING—The Greek word for evil speaking is βλασφημία (blass-fay-ME-ah), from which we get the word blasphemy. It indicates the vilification of a person’s character. In a war between nations a soldier can die with dignity, but in a verbal war there is a death of character which can be more destructive than physical death.

Evil speaking begins with the attitudes expressed in the word raca, which means “worthless one.”

How can saying “raca” endanger a person “in the council” or highest court?

Angry words produce libelous statements which can be tried all the way to the Supreme Court. No man can tame the tongue, because it reveals what is in the heart. (See James 3:8.)

“...By thy words thou shalt be condemned” (Matthew 12:37).

How does saying “thou fool” put us in danger of “hell fire”?

Bitterly condemning a person as a hopeless fool and thereby wishing upon him the torments of hell is to begin to experience the same torments oneself, i.e., rejecting God’s authority, spiritual darkness, separation, and physical pain. “For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged...” (Matthew 7:2).

6. MALICE—From the Latin malitia, from which we also get the word malignant. It describes the desire to harm others or to see others suffer and be destroyed.

Malice is related to wickedness in 1 Corinthians 5:8. It is one of those sins which produces various types of lust.

“For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another” (Titus 3:3).
PROJECT

Can you define the ultimate manifestations of anger?

Which of the following words would best describe the action of Catherine de' Medici when she vented her hatred against the Christians of France?

☐ A slaying—the murder of one
☐ A slaughter—the murder of a large number
☐ A massacre—murdering indiscriminately
☐ An assassination—murdering a celebrity
☐ An annihilation—complete destruction
☐ An abortion—murdering an unborn person

This grisly killing in 1573 is known as the St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre. Was it a massacre?

On September 6, 1901, was President William McKinley annihilated or assassinated?

Use the etymology of words to learn how to overcome anger.

1. BE CALM.
Calm comes from the Greek word καλός (KOW-mah), which refers to the heat of the day. Eventually, in the Old French, the word became calme, which means “peaceful time when laborers rest.” A calm person is one who takes time during the heat to “rest” and reevaluate.

2. BE PLEASANT.
Pleasant comes from the French word plaisant, which came from the Latin root placare, meaning “to satisfy or bring contentment.” A pleasant person is one who brings contentment to relationships.

3. BE AMIABLE.
Amiable comes from the Latin root amo, meaning “love,” and is thus related to the Latin word amicus, meaning “friend.” An amiable person is one who attracts others into friendship.

4. BE AGREEABLE.
Agreeable comes from the Latin root for agree, gratia, which means “to grant favor to.” An agreeable person is one who shows favor to another by conforming to his desires.

5. BE SYMPATHETIC.
Sympathetic is built by adding the prefix syn, meaning “with,” to the Greek root πάθος (PAH-thoss), meaning “suffering” or “feeling.” A sympathetic person is one who suffers with another.

6. BE KIND.
Kind comes from the Saxon word kin, which referred to one’s kindred. A kind person is one who treats others like family.

7. BE TENDER.
Tender comes from the Latin root tendo, which literally means “to stretch.” A tender person is one whose heart is stretched into sensitivity to notice and meet the needs of others.

8. BE FRIENDLY.
Friendly comes from the Saxon word freond, which came from frigan, meaning “to free.” A friendly person is one whose spirit is free.

Date completed ____________ Evaluation ______________
HOW CAN AN UNDERSTANDING OF "HELL FIRE" STOP US FROM CALLING ANYONE A FOOL?

The Greek word Jesus used for "hell fire" brought vivid pictures of horror to the minds of His hearers.

The inward motivations and consequences of murder were identified by Christ in Matthew 5:22: "... Whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Rac a, shall be in danger of the council [the 'supreme court' of the Sanhedrin]: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire."

WHAT IS THE GREEK WORD FOR "HELL FIRE"?

The word which Jesus used for "hell fire" is γέεννα (GEH-en-nah). The word is actually a transliteration of the Hebrew word, טופ (toph) (guy-HIN-nome) which appears in Joshua 15:8 and 18:16. It is the name given to a deep ravine near Jerusalem.

WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF "GEHENNA"?

Gehenna, or the valley of Hinnom, is located south of Jerusalem and became the chief burying ground of the city's inhabitants.

From being a burying place for the dead, the valley of Hinnom became a place of shock and horror when the people began to worship the god Molech and to sacrifice their sons and daughters there (See II Kings 16:3 and 21:6).

This desecration of life took place in a part of the valley called Tophet. Tophet received its name from the sound of the drums (toph means "drum"), used by the Molech-worshipers in order to drown out the cries of the children who were being sacrificed.
WHY IS THE GREEK WORD "GEHENNA" A TERM FOR ULTIMATE JUDGMENT?

God was aware of the inherent tendency of sinful man to despise life and to turn to the worship of other gods in order to justify the destruction of life. Based on this awareness, God commanded His people:

"... 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. And I will set my face against that man, and will cut him off from among his people; because he hath given of his seed unto Molech, to defile my sanctuary, and to profane my holy name" (Leviticus 20:2-3).

God's powerful warning applied not only to the one who destroyed life; it also extended to the people of the land if they refused to bring the destroyer to judgment.

"And if the people of the land do any ways hide their eyes from the man, when he giveth of his seed unto Molech, and kill him not: Then I will set my face against that man, and against his family, and will cut him off, and all that go a-whoring after him, to commit whoredom with Molech, from among their people" (Leviticus 20:4-5).

During the reigns of Ahaz and Manasseh the nation of Israel began murdering their children in the valley of Hinnom. (See II Kings 16:3 and 21:6.)

God judged this abominable wickedness by filling the valley with dead and decaying corpses at the hand of invading armies. Later the valley became a place of continual fires as dead animals, corpses of criminals, and refuse were burned.

This destruction was predicted by the prophets:

"... Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, the which whosoever heareth, his ears shall tingle" (Jeremiah 19:3).

"... They shall bury them in Tophet, till there be no place to bury" (Jeremiah 19:11).

"And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcases of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh" (Isaiah 66:24).

Thus, by associating Hinnom with the ultimate abomination of man on the one hand and the ultimate judgment of God on the other, "Gehenna" became an appropriate earthly type of the place of God's eternal misery and torment "where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched" (Mark 9:44).

The valley of Hinnom was filled with dead and decaying carcases when God brought judgment to the nation of Israel.

HOW DOES THE JUDGMENT OF GEHENNA RELATE TO THE ULTIMATE JUDGMENT OF HELL?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Senses</th>
<th>Gehenna</th>
<th>Eternal Judgment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Touch</td>
<td>Burning</td>
<td>Eternal fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Taste</td>
<td>Pollution</td>
<td>Continual thirst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Hearing</td>
<td>Drums and cries</td>
<td>Wailing and gnashing of teeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Sight</td>
<td>Death and decay</td>
<td>Eternal torment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Smell</td>
<td>Foul odor</td>
<td>Burning sulfur</td>
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</table>

HOW IS CALLING A PERSON A FOOL RELATED TO THE TORMENTS OF HELL FIRE?

God is the Creator of life, and Satan is the destroyer of life. (See John 8:44.) Anyone who despises the life of another despises God. Who made that person in His own image? (See Genesis 9:6.) To call a person a fool is to show utter contempt for him. Using the word "fool" is the external expression of the inward act of cutting him off. By cutting a person off, we become murderers in God's eyes, and instead of experiencing God's blessing, we receive His judgment.

PROJECT

Grasp the seriousness of anger by looking up verses on hell, lake of fire, and torment.

Date completed ___________ Evaluation ___________
If a manslayer reached a city of refuge before his avenger did, he could find safety under precise provisions of the Law.

It is significant that Jesus began His discussion of the spirit of the Law with the sixth commandment: "Thou shalt not kill." It is also significant that He focused on the root causes of murder—anger, disrespect, and slander.

When God gave His Law, He sought to establish a man’s motivation for killing. This fact is demonstrated by God’s instructions to establish six cities of refuge throughout the land of Palestine.

The functions of these cities portray in a beautiful way the justice and mercy of God. They also throw significant light on the words of Jesus, "... Whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. . . ."

Today, when law enforcement officials need assistance, avengers of blood cooperate with them. One example is a group of mothers who have banded together to work with law enforcement officials to prosecute drunk drivers who endanger their sons’ and daughters’ lives.

In American courts, the accused is assumed "innocent until proven guilty." This assumption offers the same protection which the cities of refuge provided in Israel. God’s Law ensures objective consideration for anyone accused of a crime.
CITIES OF REFUGE WERE EASILY ACCESSIBLE TO ALL CITIZENS.

Conveniently located cities were chosen throughout the land of Canaan. Individuals who had slain a man accidentally could flee to these cities.

God determined the number and the location of these cities. "Ye shall give three cities on this side Jordan, and three cities shall ye give in the land of Canaan, which shall be cities of refuge" (Numbers 35:14).

The purpose of locating cities throughout the land was to ensure that one who accidentally killed another could easily reach a place of safety and receive a proper trial before the avenger overtook him.

THE CITIES OF REFUGE

The cities of refuge which God selected were not only accessible to all of His people, but their names foreshadowed the redeeming work of Christ.

- **Kedesh**
  The word *kedesh* means "holiness." This city pictures Christ's role as a holy refuge for sinners. (See I Peter 1:15-21.)

- **Shechem**
  The word *shechem* means "shoulder." Shechem beautifully illustrates Christ's willingness to die on the cross and His ability to bear the burdens of others. (See I Peter 5:7.)

- **Kirjath-arba (Hebron)**
  The word *kirjath-arba* means "friendship" and "communion." As the great High Priest, Christ offered Himself once for all to reestablish individual fellowship with His Father. (See Hebrews 4:14-16.)

- **Bezer**
  The word *bezer* means "stronghold." Bezer represents refuge of security in a spiritual wilderness. (See John 10:28.)

- **Ramoth-gilead**
  The word *ramoth* means "to exalt." By humbling Himself on the cross, Christ became an exalted refuge for sinners. (See Philippians 2:8-11.)

- **Golan**
  The word *golan* means "to exult." Christ is the joyful and exultant conqueror over all of the forces of evil. (See I Corinthians 15:54-57.)

CITIES OF REFUGE WERE INHABITED AND MANAGED BY THE LEVITES.

God gave Levites the responsibility of instructing the entire nation in His Law. Therefore, it is most appropriate that one who killed another should be under the Levites' jurisdiction.

The Levites were trained in the Law, and they received the tithes from the nation. Their livelihood, then, depended upon the nation's keeping God's Law. Therefore, they were the ones best suited to determine the guilt or innocence of a manslayer.
"At that time the Lord separated the tribe of Levi, to bear the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister unto him, and to bless in his name, unto this day. "Wherefore Levi hath no part nor inheritance with his brethren; the Lord is his inheritance, according as the Lord thy God promised him" (Deuteronomy 10:8-9).

God appointed the Levites to maintain Godly standards throughout the nation of Israel.

4 ENTRANCE INTO THE CITIES OF REFUGE WAS AVAILABLE TO ANY INDIVIDUAL AT ANY TIME.

"These six cities shall be a refuge, both for the children of Israel, and for the stranger, and for the sojourner among them: that every one that killeth any person unawares may flee thither" (Numbers 35:15).

The cities of refuge were required to maintain readiness for any manslayer who would flee to them for safety. When he arrived at the city, a manslayer was to stand before the elders in the gates and state his cause. The elders would then receive him into the city and give him a dwelling place. If an avenger of blood appeared, the elders would not turn the manslayer over to him but would bring him before the congregation for judgment. (See Joshua 20:3-6.)

5 WILLFUL MURDERERS WERE NOT GIVEN CONTINUED PROTECTION IN A CITY OF REFUGE.

Only those who had accidentally killed another person were allowed to remain in a city of refuge. Those who were guilty of premeditated murder were taken out of the city and put to death.

A trial to determine guilt or innocence was to follow carefully prescribed rules. First, the instrument of death was identified and evaluated. If the object was one that was normally used for violence, it became circumstantial evidence that the user intended to kill his victim.

"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 35:16-18).

A case study is given to amplify this point:

"And this is the case of the slayer, which shall flee thither, that he may live: Whoso killeth his neighbour ignorantly, whom he hated not in time past; As when a man goeth into the wood with his neighbour to hew wood, and his hand fetcheth a stroke with the axe 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" (Deuteronomy 19:4-5).

Second, the attitude and intention of the manslayer was examined. If a man was angry with another person and accidentally killed him, he was accused of murder because he had a motive for doing it.

There was also a legal procedure by which an avenger could secure the extradition of a murderer for punishment.

"But if any man hate his neighbour, and lie in wait for him, and rise up against him, and smite him mortally that he die, and fleeth into one of these cities: Then the elders of his city shall send and fetch him thence, and deliver him into the hand of the avenger of blood, that he may die. Thine eye shall not pity him, but thou shalt put away the guilt of innocent blood from Israel, that it may go well with thee" (Deuteronomy 19:11-13).
6 THE MANSLAYER MUST REMAIN IN THE CITY OF REFUGE UNTIL THE DEATH OF THE HIGH PRIEST.

Even when the elders of Israel determined that a slaying was accidental, innocent blood had been shed. God’s justice demands that atonement must be made for the shedding of blood; otherwise, a curse will be upon the land. However, God in His mercy provided a substitute sacrifice for the manslayer.

“And the congregation shall deliver the slayer out of the hand of the revenger of blood, and the congregation shall restore him to the city of his refuge, whither he was fled: and he shall abide in it unto the death of the high priest, which was anointed with the holy oil” (Numbers 35:25).

This requirement of remaining in the city of refuge would separate a manslayer from friends and relatives, but not from his immediate family or others who chose to come and live with him in the city.

If a manslayer left the city, he exposed himself to death at the hands of the avenger of blood.

“But if the slayer shall at any time come without the border of the city of his refuge, whither he was fled;

“And the revenger of blood find him without the borders of the city of his refuge, and the revenger of blood kill the slayer; he shall not be guilty of blood:

“Because he should have remained in the city of his refuge until the death of the high priest: but after the death of the high priest the slayer shall return into the land of his possession” (Numbers 35:26–28).

How did significant events in the cities of refuge amplify God’s warning against anger?

During the days of Gideon, a woman whom Gideon took as his concubine lived in Shechem. Their son, Abimelech, was despised and rejected by Gideon’s other sons. In revenge, Abimelech led the men of Shechem in killing all of his seventy brothers, afterward proclaiming himself king.

Shechem, with Mount Gerizim

However, God caused the men of Shechem to turn against Abimelech, and his blood was shed in a resulting battle. (See Judges 9.)

Hebron, located in the hill country

Hebron was one of the highest cities in Palestine and served as David’s first capital. However, it also was the site of Absalom’s rebellion.

Absalom’s older brother defiled his sister, and Absalom became the avenger of blood. However, he failed to bring the matter before the elders. Instead, he took matters into his own hands and murdered his older brother. When David rejected him, Absalom’s anger smoldered, and he later turned the nation against his father in rebellion. God used an oak tree and darts from the hand of Joab to bring Absalom to the just reward of his murder. (See II Samuel 18:9–17.)

PROJECT 1

How did Solomon use the concept of the cities of refuge to bring Shimei to a proper punishment? (See I Kings 2:36–46.)

PROJECT 2

Name at least three analogies between one who fled to a city of refuge and one who comes to Christ.

Date completed ___________ Evaluation ___________

History Resource C Booklet 21
HOW DO ACTIVE VOLCANOES ILLUSTRATE THE DESTRUCTIVE WORK OF ANGER?

Paricutin was active from 1943 to 1952. During that time it built a cinder cone 1,345 feet high.

A study of the significant analogies between volcanoes and anger clearly reveals the need to conquer our anger.

EVENTUALLY THE STRESSES IN A RIFT ZONE BREAK AND PULL APART THE EARTH'S CRUST ALONG HUNDREDS OF FRAC TURE POINTS. HOT MOLTEN ROCK CALLED MAGMA RISES FROM DEEP BENEATH THE EARTH THROUGH THESE FRAC TURES AND CREATES A STRING OF VOLCANOES ALONG THE RIFT ZONE.

IN A SUBDUCTION ZONE, THE TREMENDOUS COM PRENSION FORCES ON THE EARTH'S CRUST GENERATE PRESSURES AND TEMPERATURES WHICH ARE SO HIGH THAT THEY LITERALLY MELT PORTIONS OF THE CRUST. MAGMA RISES TO FORM CHAMBERS NEAR THE EARTH'S SURFACE WHICH ARE CAPABLE OF FUELING THE VOLCANOES ALONG THE SUBDUCTION ZONE FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS BEFORE COOLING.

Most magma is found from fifty to one hundred miles below the earth's surface, but in rift zones, where the crust has been stretched, magma chambers may be found fifteen to fifty miles from the surface.

As magma is driven up through cracks and fissures by intense heat and pressure, it actually melts its way through the last few miles, mixing with water, air, and other gases dissolved in melting rocks, until it settles into chambers within two miles of the surface.
The hot magma continuously boils until the rock layer directly above the magma chamber melts and seeps to the bottom of the chamber as the boiling magma rises to the next rock layer. In this way, magma keeps rising until it erupts through the earth’s surface. After it erupts, surface magma is called lava, and it varies in consistency from that of thick syrup to that of milk.

A magma chamber melts its way to the surface.

Although we do not know exactly what factors cause a volcano to erupt, we do know for certain that God designed volcanoes as awesome spectacles to display His power and to remind sinners of His coming judgment.

2 Volcanoes and anger both manifest themselves in different forms.

Volcanoes form different shapes of cones, depending on how they erupt. The cones of composite volcanoes, which are the most common kind, consist of alternating layers of ash, cinders, and lava. Volcanoes with cones of mostly lava are called shield volcanoes, and those with cones of ash and cinders are known as cinder volcanoes.

Types of Volcanic Cones

- Cinder cone
- Shield cone
- Composite cone

3 Warning signs usually precede both volcanic and anger eruptions, but the severity and time of their eruption are still uncertain.

Because of the complex and erratic behavior of volcanoes, scientists cannot predict exactly when, how frequently, or how severely a volcano will erupt, even with the most sophisticated equipment. However, they can usually tell that it will probably erupt because the volcano starts pouring out puffs of smoke, the magnitude and frequency of earthquakes in the area increases, bulges grow on the side of the cone, or domes rise out of the crater.

Two factors determine what type of eruption a volcano will have: the amount of gases dissolved in the magma, and the viscosity of the magma.

Magma usually contains large amounts of dissolved gases such as water vapor, sulfur dioxide...
(SO₂), carbon dioxide (CO₂), and nitrogen gas (N₂). As magma rises to the earth’s surface, these dissolved gases separate from the magma and form tiny bubbles within it, increasing the pressure up to 500 times.

**Types of Eruptions**

**LOW GAS LOW SILICA**

Lava flows freely without explosive force—very little ash

Effusive-type shield volcano

**HIGH GAS LOW SILICA**

Fire fountains leap hundreds of feet into the air

**LOW GAS HIGH SILICA**

Thick lava builds a large dome—little damage to surrounding area

Strombolian-type composite volcano

**HIGH GAS HIGH SILICA**

Violent explosions send ash into the air—likely to blow its top completely off

Péleean-type cinder cone volcano

The silica content in magma determines its viscosity, which refers to how freely a liquid flows. Low silica magma can flow freely through cracks and fissures, but high silica magma, which has the consistency of tar, often forms tight plugs which bottle up pressure.
Volcanoes and anger both have devastating effects.

Volcanoes are the most destructive of all natural phenomena. Even small eruptions are 500 times more powerful than the 20 kiloton atomic bomb which destroyed Hiroshima.

A single eruption can produce winds of hurricane force and throw boulders several miles with enough force to blast through stone walls more than three feet thick. The lava itself reaches temperatures of more than 2,000°F and ignites wood instantly.

At 11 seconds past 8:32 a.m. on May 18, 1980, Mount St. Helens blew without warning. An earthquake of 5.1 magnitude on the Richter scale apparently caused the mountain's north face to slide down its side. This “popped the cork” which had held back tons of pressurized magma and water. The water boiled instantly upon contact with the air, sending an explosion of steam laterally from St. Helens. Seconds later, the magma column exploded vertically, sending a cloud of ash 17,000 feet into the air, and flattening more than 200 square miles of timber.

Sixty people, 5,000 deer, 200 bear, 1,500 elk, and countless birds and small game lost their lives.

As lava flows, it destroys whatever is in its way.

Erupting volcanoes and anger both result in darkness.

Also on May 18, at about 8:35 a.m., a series of sonic booms shook the city of Seattle, 100 miles north of Mount St. Helens, shattering glass and
rattling loose shutters. Then dust fell—as much as 15,000 pounds of it on the average roof.

Thick clouds of the volcanic ash completely covered the brilliant morning sun, filtered and swirled down heavily on all of southeast Washington and northern Idaho, and settled less heavily on parts of Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri. Environmentalists say that some of the ash will remain in the atmosphere for years.

In less than one minute, Mount St. Helens was totally transformed. Three thousand feet of her north peak was blown into dust, and the deep blue sky, dazzling white snow, and vibrant green pines were covered by a dull gray blanket of dust. Beautiful Mount St. Helens now looked like a stark moonscape without color or life. People remarked that it looked as if the end of the world had come.

The dust cloud from a volcanic eruption may reach heights of more than twenty miles and contain more than 4,000,000,000 tons of ash (enough to cover the entire globe), much of which will remain in the atmosphere for more than five years! At the site of the eruption, the dust may be so dense that it completely obliterates the sunlight for weeks.

Volcanic dust clouds are usually so dense that dust particles constantly collide with one another, creating great friction. As a result of this friction, massive positive and negative charges build up within the dust clouds. Finally, they release electrical energy in the form of huge, darting bolts of lightning, which are often so bright that they are visible at midday. A volcanic dust cloud releases as much electrical energy as a major thunderstorm.

Volcanic lightning caused by the collision of dust particles

6 Volcanoes and anger both bring coldness.

The dust cloud from a volcanic eruption may filter out enough sunlight to reduce the overall temperature of the earth, even far from the eruption site. Following a tremendous volcanic eruption in Iceland in June of 1783, Benjamin Franklin wrote: "During several of the summer months of the year 1783, when the effect of the sun’s rays to heat the earth in these northern regions should have been greatest, there existed a constant fog over all Europe and parts of North America. This fog was of a permanent nature; it was dry, and the rays of the sun seemed to have little effect in dissipating it as they easily do a moist fog rising from water. They were, indeed, rendered so faint in passing through it that, when collected in the focus of a burning glass they would scarcely kindle brown paper. Of course their summer effect in heating the earth was exceedingly diminished. Hence the surface was nearly frozen. Hence the snow remained on it unmelted, and received continual addition."

7 Erupting volcanoes and anger cause most damage to those in close proximity.

One of the greatest dangers of volcanoes comes from the mud slides which often accompany them. During an eruption, water and steam from the crater lake located on a previously inactive volcano often combine with volcanic dust to form boiling mud which is similar in consistency and color to thin cement. The mud flows over the rim of the volcano and down the mountain with tremendous momentum, wiping out anything in its path.

Of course another obvious danger of volcanoes is the red-hot lava which spews from them. The word lava means "to wash away" in Italian. Red-hot lava can flow at speeds of up to fifty
feet per second. Scientists have clocked some lava flows in Hawaii at 25 miles per hour—much faster than a man can run!

8 Volcanoes and anger both cause long-term as well as immediate consequences.

The volcanic mud eventually flows to areas of lowest elevation, usually streams and rivers, and settles, plugging them from bank to bank. Wherever the thick volcanic mud settles, it plugs up the land's natural drainage system and causes major flooding problems for years.

A church buried up to its steeple

When a volcano erupts, exploding steam instantly pulverizes volcanic rock into extremely fine dust particles, many of which measure less than 1/250 of an inch in diameter. This fine dust enters the tiny alveoli of the lungs and suffocates victims.

An eruption such as this one may spew ash into the atmosphere for fifteen to twenty years.

9 Volcanoes and anger leave behind hard reminders of past eruptions.

In California's Sierra Nevada mountains stands a tall pile of six-sided columns called the Devil's Post Pile. Similar formations are found in northern Ireland and the Canary Islands. One in Wyoming, called Devil's Tower, was made the first United States National Monument in 1906.

Devil's Tower, Wyoming

For years, scientists believed that these formations were the remains of extinct volcanoes whose exteriors had eroded, leaving only the hardened magma core. However, in 1902, when the erupted volcano Mount Pelée, which killed 38,000 people, began to cool, it lifted a 500-foot thick tower of the six-sided columns 1,020 feet into the air in less than two months. Scientists then realized that lava "fingers" crystallize into symmetrical, six-sided columns when they cool.

As volcanic fingers cool, they crystallize into perfectly symmetrical six-sided columns.

10 Volcanoes and anger usually erupt again and again in the same areas.

The earth has several major rings of volcanic activity. One runs roughly down the eastern coast of Asia. Another follows the western coast of North
and South America. A third runs from Europe, down through Jerusalem, and southward through eastern Africa. The fourth and fifth major active volcanic ranges lie on the floors of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

These five volcanic ranges coincide with areas of major earthquake activity, because the same internal stresses which cause volcanoes also cause earthquakes.

11 **Volcanoes and anger both continue to erupt until they consume themselves.**

A volcano erupts until it literally “runs out of gas.” Without the pressure created by dissolved gases, the magma column drops back down into the earth and extinguishes the volcano. At other times, the peak of the volcano grows so tall that it can no longer support itself, and it collapses, sealing off the main vent like a cork. Sometimes this leaves a large crater at the top of the volcano which fills with rainwater and becomes a lake. The sticky magma in older volcanoes often seals the main vent so tightly that all the lava and ash flows are cut off. The volcano then lies dormant until the pressure builds up enough to blow out the plug, forming a huge crater.

12 **The energy that volcanoes and anger both expend when they erupt can be used for beneficial purposes.**

Iceland, New Zealand, Japan, and other communities of people who live in volcanic regions tap the incredible energy of a volcano to provide heat and energy through geothermal power plants. The Mayacamus Mountains north of San Francisco produce more than 900,000 kilowatts of electricity through the 200 steam wells and 15 generating plants located there.

13 **God can create beauty from the tragic results of both volcanoes and anger.**

At some point in history, the peak of Mount Mazama, a volcano in Oregon, either collapsed or blew off in an eruption and formed a crater, called a caldera, about 6 miles across at its widest point and almost 2,000 feet deep. The crater, cooled and filled with rainwater, is now beautiful Crater Lake, a popular tourist spot.

**PROJECT**

Using your concordance, see if you can find a verse about anger or wrath to confirm and amplify each of the points in this resource.

*Date completed __________________ Evaluation ___________________
How do mathematical sets accurately identify murderers?

If you were filing this picture, under how many different categories could you place it? Each of those categories is really a set.

Sets are a part of our everyday lives. If you have a collection of something, you have a set. Something is common to all the things in your collection. Perhaps all the things in your collection are small metal cars and trucks. That would be the description of your set. To list the members of your set, you would have to write down the name of each toy truck and car that you have.

When you get out your collection and divide it into two groups, cars and trucks, you are forming subsets. When you finish playing and put the cars and trucks back, you form the union of the two subsets, cars and trucks. If you choose only the red cars and red trucks to play with, what you have is the intersection of the two subsets, cars and trucks that happen to be red.

When you learned to add, even if your teacher did not use the word set, he used the idea of union of sets to help you add. What do you get when you add three apples and two apples? Five apples.

What you have is the union of $A = \{\text{three apples}\}$ and $B = \{\text{two apples}\}$.

$A = \{\text{apple, apple, apple}\}$

$B = \{\text{apple, apple, apple}\}$

$A + B = \{\text{apple, apple, apple, apple, apple, apple}\}$

When you learned to multiply, you used sets again. How many apples do you have if you have three sets (groups) of two apples each?

$3 \times 2 = 6$

Division also uses the idea of sets. How many sets of 4 are there in 12 apples? How many sets of 3 in 9 apples?

$9 \div 3 = 3$

In geometry (the study of the properties of triangles, squares, circles, and more), the idea of sets is used to describe certain geometric figures. For example, what kind of figure is formed by the set of points which are all 3 inches from one fixed point? The answer is a circle, with the fixed point as the center and a radius of 3 inches.

To figure this out for yourself, take a sheet of paper that is at least 6 inches wide and 6 inches long. Place a point in the center. Measure 3 inches from that point in 8 different places. Then draw a curved line through those 8 points. (The mathematical word for a set of points used in this way is locus.)
In algebra, many equations have more than one answer or solution. The group of answers that solve the equation is called a solution set, and each number in the solution set is a correct answer to the problem.

\[
\begin{align*}
x^2 + 2x - 8 &= 0 \\
(x + 4)(x - 2) &= 0 \\
x &= 2, -4 \\
solution set &= \{2, -4\}
\end{align*}
\]

Sets are used abstractly in higher mathematics. That is, the elements of the sets cannot be listed. Sets are concepts, not tangible objects. This is the study of math theory.

Do you have to know sets in order to understand math? Probably not, but an understanding of the basic ideas of sets can help to give new insights to things you may not have understood before.

Our God is the God of all knowledge. There is much in our world we do not understand. Yet, as He gives us opportunity, we constantly seek greater understanding, not for our glory, but for a greater knowledge of Him.

**WHAT ARE SETS?**

We use the idea of sets every day. It is one way we have of grouping or organizing our thinking. Mathematicians also use sets to organize their ideas about mathematics. The way mathematicians use sets is exactly the same way that we use sets.

**SET:** A group or collection of objects that share a common property.

**MEMBER or ELEMENT:** The name given to the objects in the set.

A mathematical set is a group or collection of objects that share a common property. It is usually named with a capital letter.

What name would you give to the set of the following objects—flour, salt, baking soda, butter, eggs, brown sugar, white sugar, vanilla, and chocolate chips? They are the set of ingredients for making chocolate chip cookies. This set could be named C.

The objects in the set are called the members of the set, or the set's elements. The members, or elements, of the set C, the set of ingredients for chocolate chip cookies, are flour, salt, baking soda, butter, eggs, brown sugar, white sugar, vanilla, and chocolate chips.

Think of some things in your house that come in sets. For breakfast this morning, you ate your food from plates that came from a set of dishes. You ate with a fork or spoon from a set of silverware and chewed with your set of teeth. Do you have a set of blocks? Does anyone you know have a set of golf clubs?

**How many things do you see in this picture which come in sets?**

Many things can be described as part of a set. What would be the set of objects that you use to get ready for bed? This set would probably include a toothbrush, toothpaste, a comb or brush, soap to wash your face, and a towel to dry yourself. What would be the set of objects in one of the drawers in your kitchen?

In math, sets are usually given a name by assigning a capital letter, but in everyday life, we usually name a set by naming the property that the elements have in common.
Math Symbols for Sets

- $\in$ is an element of
- $\notin$ is not an element of
- $\emptyset$ the set whose elements are
- $\{}$ empty set, or null set

If two sets have exactly the same members, then they are called equal sets. If $A = \{\text{Matthew, Mark, Luke, John}\}$ and $B = \{\text{the four Gospels}\}$, then sets $A$ and $B$ are equal. If $C = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ and $D = \{4, 3, 2, 1\}$, then $C = D$, since the members are the same, even though the order in which they are named is different.

### HOW TO REFER TO A SET

1. Describe the property that the members have in common, or
2. List the members of the set.

In math, sets are referred to in two ways—either by describing the members or by listing each member. The set $A = \{\text{Matthew, Mark, Luke, John}\}$ is an example of a set whose members are described. The set $B = \{\text{the four Gospels}\}$ is an example of a set whose members are listed. The set $C = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ and $D = \{4, 3, 2, 1\}$, then $C = D$, since the members are the same, even though the order in which they are named is different.

Since the members of sets $A$ and $B$ in the example above are the same, sets $A$ and $B$ are equal. What is also true of sets $C$ and $D$?

### PRACTICE PROBLEMS

List the members of the following sets:

1. $D = \{\text{whole numbers less than ten}\}$
2. $E = \{\text{three words that begin with T}\}$
3. $F = \{\text{days of the week}\}$
4. $G = \{\text{people in your house who are ten feet tall}\}$
5. $H = \{\text{the sons of Jacob}\}$

Describe the following sets:

6. $I = \{\text{summer, winter, fall, spring}\}$
7. $J = \{\text{oak, pine, maple, birch}\}$
8. $K = \{a, e, i, o, u\}$
9. $L = \{\text{Moses, David, Isaiah, Job}\}$
10. $M = \{\text{Ruth, Eve, Sarah, Hannah}\}$

Answer the following questions, using the sets listed above:

11. Is $4 \in D$?
12. Is Tuesday $\in E$?
13. What other set is Tuesday an element of?
14. How many members are $\in G$? What do you call a set with that many members?
15. July $\in F$. True or false?
**WHAT ARE SUBSETS?**

We use the idea of subsets as often as we use the idea of sets.

**SUBSETS:** A set is called a subset of another set if every member of the first set is also a member of the second set.

Every book in the New Testament is also a book of the Bible. This makes the set of books in the New Testament a subset of the set of books in the Bible. If

\[ B = \{ \text{the books in the Bible} \} \]

and

\[ N = \{ \text{the books in the New Testament} \} \]

then every member of \( N \) is also a member of \( B \). That means that \( N \) is a subset of \( B \).

If \( L = \{1,2,3,4,5,6,7\} \) and \( M = \{1,2,3\} \), then \( M \) is a subset of \( L \), since every member of \( M \) is also a member of \( L \).

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**Math Symbols for Subsets**

\( \subseteq \) is a subset of, or is contained in

\( \subset \) is not a subset of, or is not contained in

A set is called a subset of another set if every member of the first set is also a member of the second set. Mathematicians use the symbol \( \subseteq \) to indicate a subset. The math sentence \( G \subseteq P \) means "the set \( G \) is a subset of the set \( P \)," or "the set \( G \) is contained in the set \( P \)." (One way to remember what this symbol means is to think of it as a capital \( C \), the first letter in the word contained.) If \( G \) is not a subset of \( P \), it is written \( G \nsubseteq P \).

Mathematicians often use pictures of rectangles and circles to show the relationship between two or more sets. These pictures are called Venn diagrams or Euler’s circles after the names of the two men (John Venn and Leonhard Euler [Ol-ler]) who first used them. For example, inside circle \( B \) is the set of books of the Bible and inside circle \( N \) is the set of books of just the New Testament.

**PRACTICE PROBLEMS**

Use these three sets to answer practice questions 1–8.

\[ A = \{ \text{all flavors of ice cream} \} \]

\[ B = \{ \text{all whole numbers less than 50} \} \]

\[ C = \{ \text{all four-legged animals} \} \]

True or false:

1. \( D = \{ \text{strawberry, chocolate, peanut butter} \} \subseteq A \)
2. \( E = \{ \text{butter pecan, dirt, mint} \} \subseteq A \)
3. \( F = \{1,2,5,7,10\} \subseteq B \)
4. \( G = \{2,4,6,9,47,51\} \subseteq B \)
5. \( H = \{\frac{1}{2},\frac{3}{2},\frac{4}{3}\} \subseteq B \)
6. \( I = \{ \text{dogs, cats, horses} \} \subseteq C \)
7. \( J = \{ \text{chickens, robins, parrots} \} \subseteq C \)
8. \( K = \{ \text{cows, sheep, goats, hens} \} \subseteq C \)
9. Match each subset below (A–G) with the proper set (H–M). Write a math sentence that shows the relationship between the two sets.

- A = {2, 4, 6, 8}
- B = {pigs, cows, goats}
- C = {Jerusalem, Nazareth}
- D = {b, r, g, e, u, m, a, h}
- E = {Isaiah, Elisha}
- F = {Los Angeles, Chicago, Miami}
- G = {James, John, Peter}
- H = {Jesus' disciples}
- I = {even numbers}
- J = {barnyard animals}
- K = {cities of the U.S.}
- L = {letters in the word hamburger}
- M = {Old Testament prophets}
- N = {cities where Jesus traveled}

10. Draw a Venn diagram for any three of the sets and subsets in problem 9.

WHAT IS THE UNION OF SETS?

UNION OF SETS: The union of two sets is a third set formed by combining the elements of the first two sets.

In the marriage covenant, two "sets" are joined to form a new identity or third "set."

When you form the union of a set of two apples and a set of three apples, you get a third set of five apples. The third set has all the members of the first two sets. The union of the Old Testament books and the New Testament books is the Bible. The union of the set {1, 2, 3, 4, 5} and the set {6, 7, 8, 9, 10} is a third set, the set {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10}.

Math Symbol for Union

\[ U \] the union of

The symbol \( U \) means "union," and the math sentence \( A \cup B \) is read, "the union of sets A and B," or "A union B." An easy way to remember what this symbol means is to think of it as a capital U, the first letter in the word union.

Venn diagrams are also used to illustrate union. This rectangle shows the union of the set \( O = \{ \text{the books of the Old Testament} \} \) and \( N = \{ \text{the books of the New Testament} \} \). The left side of the rectangle is the set \( O \). The right side of the rectangle is the set \( N \). The shaded portion of the rectangle shows \( O \cup N \) (the union of sets \( O \) and \( N \)). What is another name for the set formed by \( O \cup N \)?

\[ O = \{ \text{the books of the} \} \quad N = \{ \text{the books of the} \} \]

\[ \text{Old Testament} \quad \text{New Testament} \]

PRACTICE PROBLEMS

Describe the set formed by the union of each pair of sets.

1. \( A = \{ \text{all the men and boys in your house} \} \)
   \( B = \{ \text{all the women and girls in your house} \} \)
2. \( V = \{ \text{all the odd numbers} \} \)
   \( W = \{ \text{all the even numbers} \} \)
3. \( S = \{ \text{Father, Son} \} \)
   \( T = \{ \text{Holy Ghost} \} \)

Write the set formed by the union of two sets:

\( A = \{ 3, 4, 5 \} \)
\( B = \{ 2, 4, 6, 8 \} \)
\( C = \{ a, e, i, o, u \} \)

4. \( A \cup B = \{ 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 \} \)
5. \( A \cup C = \{ 3, 4, 5, 9, 10 \} \)
6. \( B \cup C = \{ 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 \} \)

(Note: If an element is a member of both sets, it is not necessary to write it twice in the union of the two sets.)

WHAT IS THE INTERSECTION OF SETS?

INTERSECTION OF SETS: The intersection of two sets is a third set that contains only those members that are common to the first two sets.
Carol enjoys math, piano, and baking. Susan likes Spanish, running, and baking. What do they both enjoy? Baking. The intersection of the set of things that Carol enjoys and the set of things that Susan likes is the element baking.

The intersection of two sets is formed by selecting only those elements that are members of both sets. What is the intersection of $A = \{2, 4, 6, 8\}$ and $B = \{1, 3, 6, 8\}$? The set $\{6, 8\}$.

**Math Symbol for Intersection**

$\cap$ the intersection of

**Effective intersections demand yielding to proper procedures and regulations.**

The symbol $\cap$ means intersection. The math sentence "$A \cap B$" is read, "the intersection of sets A and B," or, "A intersect B."

If $A = \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$ and $B = \{a, e, i\}$, then $A \cap B = \{a, e\}$. If $D = \{\text{the letters in the word seven}\}$ and $E = \{\text{the letters in the word eight}\}$, then $D \cap E = \{e\}$, since that is the only letter that is a member of both of the original sets. If there is no element that is a member of both of the original sets, then the intersection is $\emptyset$, the null or empty set.

Venn diagrams are also used to show the intersection of two sets. If $C = \{\text{the letters in the word wisdom}\}$, and $D = \{\text{the letters in the word knowledge}\}$, then the shaded area of the two circles shows $C \cap D$.

The intersection of sets is also used to organize information. An employer searching for someone who is at least twenty-five years old and who has four years' experience is looking for someone in the intersection of the set of applicants at least twenty-five years old and the set of applicants with four years' experience.

**PRACTICE PROBLEMS**

List in problems 1–3 the members of the intersection of the following sets.

- $X = \{m, a, t, h\}$
- $Y = \{s, t, u, d, y\}$
- $Z = \{s, u, b, e, t\}$

1. $X \cap Y$  
2. $X \cap Z$  
3. $Y \cap Z$

4. Draw a Venn diagram for problems 1–3.

5. List the members of the intersection of the set of the books of the Bible with the set of women's names.

**HOW CAN SETS DEFINE THE FOOLISHNESS OF THE PHARISEES?**

In Matthew 5:21, Jesus said, "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment." The set Jesus is talking about in this verse is the set of all people.

Jesus describes a subset of people in this verse—people who kill. The Venn diagram to show...
the relationship of the set of all people to the subset of those who kill would look like this:

![Venn diagram of Pharisee, set of all people, and set of those who kill]

Where did the Pharisee put himself in this diagram? He was in the set of all people, but not in the subset of those who kill. He was very proud of himself for this virtue.

But Jesus went on to describe another group of people, those who are angry without cause. The subset of people who kill would intersect with this group. The Venn diagram now looks like this:

![Venn diagram of Pharisee, set of all people, set of those worthy of judgment, set of those angry without cause, and set of those who kill]

What does Jesus say in Matthew 5:22 about the group of those who kill and the group of those angry without cause? Both are worthy of judgment! Both groups are inside the set of people who are worthy of judgment, and the set of people worthy of judgment is inside the set of all people. The Venn diagram now looks like this:

![Venn diagram of Pharisee, set of all people, set of those worthy of judgment, set of those angry without cause, and set of those who kill]

Where can the foolish Pharisee put himself now, unless he admits that he, too, has sinned and is worthy of judgment?

**PROJECT**

Jesus told Nicodemus, "... Ye must be born again" (John 3:7).

Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews and a member of the Sanhedrin, came to Jesus by night to ask for an explanation of the way a man could enter Heaven. Read about the message Jesus gave Nicodemus in John 3. Diagram the truths Jesus taught using the language of sets and Venn diagrams.

How many truths in Matthew 5:1–20 can you illustrate with Venn diagrams and the language of sets?

*Date completed __________________ Evaluation ____________________

Authority through Accuracy E  Booklet 21
HOW DID CHRIST REAFFIRM THE REAL INTENT OF THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT?

On August 24, 1572, the Duke of Guyse was killed by a mob. Which person in the above illustration of the event is guilty of the murder?

GOD'S DEFINITION OF MURDER:

"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.

"...But if he thrust him suddenly without enmity, or have cast upon him any thing without laying of wait, Or with any stone, wherewith a man may die, seeing him not, and cast it upon him, that he die, and was not his enemy, neither sought his harm:

"...The congregation shall restore him to the city of his refuge, whither he was fled: and he shall abide in it unto the death of the high priest..." (Numbers 35:16-18, 22-23, 25).

MAN'S DEFINITION OF MURDER:

Black's Law Dictionary designates the killing of one person by another as one of the following:

Murder

"The unlawful killing of a human being by another with malice aforethought, either expressed or implied."

Homicide

"The term 'homicide' [homo: man, cide: kill] is neutral; while it describes the act [of killing], it pronounces no moral or legal judgment upon it."

Justifiable homicide

The intentional killing of another person "without any evil design, and under such circumstances of necessity or duty as render the act proper"; i.e., when a police officer in the line of duty kills a criminal, or when the sentence of death is carried out upon a murderer, or when a person who is being criminally attacked exercises self-defense.

Excusable homicide

"The killing of a human being, either by misadventure or in self-defense... The name itself imparts some fault, error, or omission... The law excuses it from the guilt of felony, though in strictness it judges it deserving of some little degree of punishment."

Felony homicide

"The wrongful killing of a human being... without justification or excuse in law, of which offense there are two degrees, manslaughter and murder."

Criminal homicide

"Criminal homicide constitutes murder when it is committed purposely or knowingly; or it is committed recklessly under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the value of human life."
Negligent homicide

"Criminal homicide constitutes negligent homicide when it is committed negligently."

Reckless homicide

The willful and wanton neglect of the consequences of an act which has resulted in a death.

Vehicular homicide

"The killing of a human being by the operation of an automobile, airplane, motorboat, or other motor vehicle in a manner which creates an unreasonable risk of injury to the person or property of another and which constitutes a material deviation from the standard of care which a reasonable person would observe under the same circumstances."

God created man with a will and gave him freedom to make independent choices with that will. He desires, above all, that every person come to realize that he cannot make decisions which are truly wise, using only his finite reasoning.

God designed His Law to show us our inadequacy and, therefore, our need for His wisdom. God's Law holds us responsible for every choice we make and does not shield us from the consequences of our choices. If a person chooses to take liquor so that his judgment is impaired, and as a result injures or kills another, God holds him guilty and responsible for the consequences.

If a person is killed in an accident caused by a drunk driver, could the driver, under God's Law, escape the death penalty?

UPON WHAT PRINCIPLE IS GOD'S LAW ON MURDER BASED?

THE PRINCIPLE OF RESPONSIBILITY

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad" (II Corinthians 5:10).

Under God's Law even an ox is responsible for its actions.

"If an ox gore a man or a woman, that they die: then the ox shall be surely stoned, and his flesh shall not be eaten; but the owner of the ox shall be quit. "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 21:28–29).

Because an ox has a will of its own, by God's Law, it was held responsible for its own actions. A car, however, has no will. According to this principle, if a car tire blows out, causing someone to die, the driver would be guilty of shedding innocent blood, but he would not be punished by death.

If, however, the driver knew that his tires were threadbare, he would be guilty of murder, and under God's Law should be punished by death, because he knew that the threadbare tires presented a danger to others.
UPON WHAT PRESCRIPTION ARE MAN'S LAWS ON MURDER BASED?

The humanists who write our present-day murder laws do so on the presumption that the criminal is only a victim of his environment. This presumption implies that the criminal is not responsible for his actions. He should, therefore, be rehabilitated rather than punished.

"Since society as a whole sways and controls every individual's environment," humanists reason, "then carrying out a premise to its logical conclusion, the blame for crime must ultimately rest on society, and society, therefore, must assume the burden and responsibility for it."

The result of their thinking? The responsibility for crime shifts from criminals to everyone, and finally, to no one.

HOW DOES THE CONCEPT OF MENS FREE DISTORT GOD'S INTENDED JUSTICE?

Mens rea (mēnz ˈrē-ə) literally means "guilty mind." The term refers to a criminal's mental state at the precise moment he commits a crime. Mens rea divides every crime into two components: the physical act of the crime and the mental intent of the crime.

A judge or jury operating under mens rea determines a defendant's guilt only when the prosecution has clearly proven both the criminal act and the criminal intent, which is the "deliberate doing of that which the law declares to be a crime."

Neither component alone is sufficient for conviction. Mens rea requires that both be proved in order to establish a defendant's guilt.

To prove a defendant guilty of burglary, the prosecuting attorney must prove that the defendant broke into another's dwelling with the intent of burglarizing that dwelling. To prove that a defendant is guilty of murder, the prosecution must prove that the defendant slew another person with malicious forethought.

HOW DOES MENS REA ALLOW MURDERERS TO EVADE CONVICTIONS?

Mens rea has given rise to the temporary insanity plea, which means that at the moment of the crime, the person did not intend to murder. If this lack of intent is proven, a person convicted of murder can be released.

HOW DOES MENS REA DESTROY THE INTENT OF THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT?

The spirit of the sixth commandment, "Thou shalt not kill," contains two basic implications: the negative aspect is "do not do violence to any person," meaning by violence, "that which would be abhorrent to any rational person." The positive implication of the law is "to protect the life of another."

Thus, if you were to see a criminal in the act of a crime, it would be your responsibility to do all you could to stop the criminal and protect the victim. You might call law enforcement officers, attempt to hinder the criminal, or perform a citizen's arrest.

Evidence of breaking into a house at night constitutes intent for a burglary in court.

We are responsible to assist an enemy's donkey if it is in distress.

Expanding on the principle of protecting our neighbor's life, the Bible states that we should also protect our enemy's property:
"If thou meet thine enemy's ox or his ass going astray, thou shalt surely bring it back to him again. "If thou see the ass of him that hateth thee lying under his burden, and wouldest forbear to help him, thou shalt surely help with him." (Exodus 23:4-5).

John Calvin understood that to completely fulfill the spirit of the commandment, "thou shalt not kill," one needs to protect the lives of persons who are in jeopardy.

The following is an excerpt from his commentaries on the last four books of Moses:

"Besides, another principle is also to be remembered, that in negative precepts [thou shalt not], as they are called, the opposite affirmation is also to be understood; else it would not be by any means consistent, that a person would satisfy God's Law by merely abstaining from doing injury to others.

"Suppose, for example, that one of a cowardly disposition, and not daring to assail even a child, should not move a finger to injure his neighbours, would he therefore have discharged the duties of humanity as regards the Sixth Commandment?

"Nay, natural common sense demands more than that we should abstain from wrong-doing. And, not to say more on this point, it will plainly appear from the summary of the Second Table, that God not only forbids us to be murderers, but also prescribes that every one should study faithfully to defend the life of his neighbour, and practically to declare that it is dear to him; for in that summary no mere negative phrase is used, but the words expressly set forth that our neighbours are to be loved.

"It is unquestionable, then, that of those whom God there commands to be loved, He here commends their lives to our care. There are, consequently, two parts in the Commandment,—first that we should not vex, or oppress, or be at enmity with any; and, secondly, that we should not only live at peace with men, without exciting quarrels, but also should aid, as far as we can, the miserable who are unjustly oppressed, and should endeavor to resist the wicked, lest they should injure men as they list."

HOW DOES GOD CONFIRM THE REAL MEANING OF THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT?

Jesus clarified the true intent of the passage, "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment" when He expounded, "... Whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. ..." 1 John 3:15 states: "Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer. ..."

God translates "loving a neighbor" into providing a railing around the roof of a house, since the houses in that day had flat roofs which were used for domestic chores, conversing, and entertainment. "When thou buildest a new house, then thou shalt make a battlement for thy roof, that thou bring not blood upon thine house, if any man fall from thence" (Deuteronomy 22:8).

The Scaffold Act of our day is in harmony with the case law of Scripture.

A practical application of the sixth commandment to a home builder today might be to make sure that safety precautions are established for each of his laborers. These would include proper scaffolding, hard hats, and well-maintained equipment.

HOW DOES A MAN JEOPARDIZE HIS OWN LIFE BY A LACK OF LOVE?

Whereas present-day law focuses on a murderer's specific intent at the time he commits the crime, God focuses on his attitudes.

According to Old Testament Law, if a man held a grudge against or was angry with his neighbor and at a future time accidentally killed him, the slayer was held guilty of the murder. Man cannot see the heart and thus cannot determine whether the slaying was truly an accident or not.
God illustrated this law in Deuteronomy 19:4–5. In this example, one of two men chopping wood in the forest was accidentally slain by the other. This law certainly motivated people to clear up offenses with one another and to visibly demonstrate love!

**HOW DOES GOD ESTABLISH PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SHEDDING OF INNOCENT BLOOD?**

Sometimes a man kills another person by accident. God still requires atonement for shed blood. In the Old Testament days, an accidental manslayer could flee to a city of refuge where he was judged. If convicted of hate or malice toward the one he had slain, the manslayer was put to death in accordance with Deuteronomy 19:4–5. If he were proven innocent of premeditated murder, he had to live in the city until the death of the high priest. Thus the death of the high priest atoned for the blood that was shed. (See Numbers 35:25.)

Scripture also establishes explicit legal guidelines for capital punishment and warns that capital punishment is a requirement, rather than an option:

"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. . . . So ye shall not pollute the land wherein ye are: for blood it defileth the land: and the land cannot be cleansed of the blood that is shed therein, but by the blood of him that shed it." (Numbers 35:30–31, 33).

"He that smiteth a man, so that he die, shall be surely put to death. . . . If a man come presumptuously upon his neighbour, to slay him with guile; thou shalt take him from mine altar, that he may die." (Exodus 21:12, 14).

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

"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" (Romans 13:3–4).

When the Israelites followed God's Law, they did not need prisons. Murderers were immediately put to death, and accidental manslayers lived in cities of refuge. Thieves repaid fourfold or were sold as bondservants.

**WHAT IS GOD'S RESPONSE TO THOSE WHO SAY CAPITAL PUNISHMENT DOES NOT DETER CRIME?**

God confirms again and again in Scripture that the death penalty deters crime: "And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear, and fear" (Deuteronomy 21:21).

"... So shalt thou put the evil away from among you. . . . And thine eye shall not pity; but life shall go for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot" (Deuteronomy 19:19, 21).

Ask yourself, "If capital punishment does not deter crime, why do criminals fear it more than any other penalty? Why does almost every criminal sentenced to death appeal for life imprisonment?"

Life is irrefutably the murderer's most valuable possession.

"The professional law enforcement officer is convinced from experience that the hardened criminal has been and is deterred from killing based on the prospect of the death penalty."

J. Edgar Hoover
Director of the F.B.I.
1924–1972

J. Edgar Hoover
PROJECT 1
DO THE FOLLOWING CRIMES REQUIRE THE DEATH PENALTY UNDER GOD'S LAW?

YES NO

☐ ☐ Murder (Exodus 21:12-13)
☐ ☐ Cursing parents (Exodus 21:17)
☐ ☐ Kidnapping (Exodus 21:16)
☐ ☐ Adultery (Leviticus 20:10-21)
☐ ☐ Incest (Leviticus 20:11-12)
☐ ☐ Bestiality (Exodus 22:19)
☐ ☐ Homosexuality (Leviticus 20:13)
☐ ☐ Rape (Deuteronomy 22:23-27)
☐ ☐ Witchcraft (Exodus 22:18)
☐ ☐ Rebellious son (Deuteronomy 21:18-21)
☐ ☐ Blasphemy (Leviticus 24:11-14)
☐ ☐ Contempt of court (Deuteronomy 17:8-13)

PROJECT 2
USE PRISON STATISTICS TO CONFIRM THE VALUE OF THE DEATH PENALTY.

In the 1972 landmark case, Furman vs. Georgia, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the death penalty as applied in various states had often been used in an arbitrary and capricious manner, thereby violating the Eighth Amendment, which guarantees against cruel and unusual punishment. All of the more than 600 persons then living on death row had their capital sentences removed. However, the numbers began to build up again as many states moved quickly to revise their capital punishment laws.

In 1977, the first execution in a decade was carried out in Utah. Two more executions followed in 1979 (one each in Florida and Nevada), one in 1981 (Indiana), and two in 1982 (Virginia and Texas). In 1983, five executions were carried out.

Number of prisoners on death row 1955–1986

Executions 1950–1986

Date completed: [Student's Date]

Evaluation: [Student's Evaluation]
How does medical research confirm the fact that anger rests in the hearts of fools?

Cross section of the human heart

The warning that Jesus gave about an angry person being in danger of the judgment can be applied to the physical body as well as to legal prosecution. When a person becomes angry, many physical consequences occur which directly affect his life and the lives of those around him.

1 Anger produces imbalances in the bloodstream.

Every outburst of anger kills thousands of muscle fibers in a person's heart. Over the years scars accumulate, blocking vital passages and contributing to heart failure and death.

Anger also stimulates the adrenal glands to produce hormones called catecholamines (kat-uh-KOE-luh-meenz), which strengthen a person during times of crisis. Catecholamines include such hormones as epinephrine (adrenaline), norepinephrine, and dopamine. When these hormones are released in large quantities, the heart beats more rapidly and powerfully, some blood vessels contract while others dilate, and the liver increases the level of glucose in the blood, alerting every member of the body.

Unlike anger, exercise produces a healthy balance of catecholamines and builds muscle fiber.

Exercise and physical stress also produce large amounts of catecholamines. The mixture of catecholamines which exercise produces stimulates muscles and strengthens the heart. Anger, on the other hand, produces an unbalanced mixture of catecholamines: large amounts of norepinephrine and very little epinephrine, as well as large amounts of cortisol and cholesterol, a combination which causes imbalances in the bloodstream.

Because of this imbalance, blood vessels which should dilate and stretch now constrict and tighten. Glucose which the liver releases into the bloodstream for instant energy remains unused. Also, the increased intake of oxygen can result in a condition called oxidosis, which is having too much oxygen in the bloodstream. A person who is often angry, who is angry for long periods of time, or who never resolves his anger may experience these imbalances for a longer period of time than the average person.

2 Anger produces high blood pressure.

Every person has his own personal threshold of anger which cannot be measured by outward appearances. Some people may talk loudly and heatedly without ever becoming angry, whereas others may smile and never say a word as they boil inside.
Anger produces an imbalanced mixture of catecholamines—a condition which is extremely damaging to the body.

Anger is best measured by monitoring blood pressure. The adrenal glands of a person who has reached his threshold of anger activate the release of catecholamines, raising blood pressure dramatically.

All anger has a cause, although the cause may not always be obvious because it may have nothing to do with the present circumstances or the actions of others. Most causes of anger, however, can be traced to selfish desires and unyielded rights.

Anger without an evident cause is especially dangerous because it lingers without any resolution, thus causing imbalance in the body chemistry for prolonged periods of time.

3 ANGER CONTRIBUTES TO ATHEROSCLEROSIS.

With each beat of the heart, arteries bulge and then shrink back to normal size as blood surges through the circulatory system. The pulse you feel when you hold your left forefinger on your right wrist is the radial artery stretching and relaxing.

The heart exerts the greatest pressure on the arteries when the left ventricle contracts. Physicians call this the systolic pressure. The word systolic comes from the Greek word systolo, meaning "a contracting."

The pressure which remains in the artery after the surge passes is called diastolic pressure. The word diastolic comes from the Greek word diastole, meaning "a dilation."
A cardiac cycle showing time in seconds, valve action and arterial pressure, ECG tracing, and heart sounds.

Blood vessels are normally quite elastic. However, anger constricts so many blood vessels at the same time that it raises systolic pressure. This stretches arteries beyond their elastic limits and causes thousands of microscopic lesions along their interior linings.

When these linings, called endothelial (endo-THREE-lee-al) linings, are injured, platelets in the bloodstream accumulate at the site of each lesion to heal the wound much like tiny bandages.

As the platelets heal the wounds, they release chemicals that attract large amounts of cholesterol which is then absorbed by the endothelial lining. Each expression of anger saturates the endothelial lining with cholesterol, making the artery walls thick and inelastic.

Platelets also stimulate the growth of smooth muscle cells along the damaged vessels. These cells can build up so heavily that they block the flow of blood completely. This condition is called atherosclerosis.

How Atherosclerosis Develops

ANGER COMPOUNDS THE PROBLEM OF HYPERTENSION BY DAMAGING THE KIDNEYS.

An imbalance of catecholamines also damages other key organs such as the kidneys. The individual filtering unit of the kidney is called the glomerulus, which contains a network of capillaries from which waste is filtered.

High levels of catecholamines damage the walls of these capillaries so that they become clogged, causing a build-up of blood inside the glomerulus. The kidney senses the build-up and attempts to correct the problem by elevating blood pressure throughout the body by secreting excessive amounts of renin. Renin increases the heart's systolic pressure and induces hypertension.
How does a damaged kidney maintain enough pressure to filter blood properly?

Blood pressure increases

Kidney monitors the difference in pressure between the inside and outside of the glomerulus

Increased blood volume and concentration of sodium in the blood

A clogged kidney decreases the arterial pressure in the kidney

Renin interacts with several other agents to stimulate the adrenal cortex to increase its secretion of aldosterone

Arteries shrink to increase the pressure necessary for proper filtration in the kidneys

The thin line between hypertension and normal blood pressure

The generally accepted borderline for hypertension is a systolic pressure of 140 over a diastolic pressure of 90, expressed as 140/90. Because the blood pressures of many adults are already close to that borderline, anger can easily push them into the "high risk" category. In fact, the excess catecholamines which anger releases can temporarily push blood pressure to as high as 250/140—an extremely dangerous condition.

5 ANGER ELEVATES THE LEVEL OF CHOLESTEROL IN THE BLOOD.

Hypercholesterolemia is the medical term for abnormally high levels of cholesterol in the blood. Hyper means "high," em means "of the blood," and ia means "condition of."

Many people try to regulate the level of cholesterol in their blood by eating foods low in fat. However, recent studies suggest that anger and other emotional stresses contribute to hypercholesterolemia as much as diet does.

One angry outburst may elevate cholesterol levels for as long as ten days. Thus, the results of unresolved, prolonged anger probably nullify any attempts to lower cholesterol levels by means of a low-fat diet.

Combining anger with risk factors such as continually eating foods high in fat, the use of tobacco, and untreated high blood pressure greatly increases the risk of heart disease. In fact, because of these risk factors, some individuals may be more than six times more likely to have heart attacks than others.

COMBINING RISK FACTORS (in any order)

5

6 ANGER AFFECTS THE HEAD'S CONTROL OF THE HEART.

Recent medical studies have revealed that anger affects the regularity of heartbeats. It appears that high levels of catecholamines can cause the heart to fibrillate.

Fibrillation is the uncoordinated contraction of muscle fibers. A fibrillating heart cannot pump blood because the contractions of individual fibers are not synchronized by the central nervous system. When a heart fibrillates, blood pressure drops to near zero.
Strong emotions such as anger not only increase heart rate and blood pressure, they also hinder the heart from beating regularly.

Physicians may actually “shock” a patient with special electrodes in order to reestablish regular heartbeats, because if the heart fibrillates for even a few seconds, heart muscle fibers will begin to die from lack of oxygen.

7 ANGER MAY DESTROY MUSCLE FIBERS IN THE HEART.

The most common type of heart attack is called a myocardial infarction (my-oh-CAR-dee-ul in-FARK-shun). It literally means "the death of the heart." A myocardial infarction occurs when the arteries which supply the heart muscle with blood become blocked with atherosclerotic plaque, or when a blood clot (from another part of the body) is carried by the bloodstream and lodges in a blood vessel which supplies the heart muscle.

Because anger is one of the causes of atherosclerosis, it is therefore indirectly responsible for thousands of heart attacks each year.

Anger may also trigger sudden death in apparently healthy young men. A classic study conducted at the Kennedy Space Center during the 1960s revealed that certain men between the ages of 28 and 35 had a 50 percent higher sudden death rate due to heart failure than other men of similar backgrounds. Several important differences distinguished the men in the study from men of other ages: They were more readily angry, hostile, depressed, and impatient.

They also had more stressful jobs, a 75 percent divorce rate, and a high rate of alcohol consumption. An analysis of the postmortem findings revealed that 85 percent of the victims had lesions called coagulative myocytolysis (koe-AG-yul-luh-tiv my-ok-sigh-TOL-ih-sis) which had weakened their hearts. These lesions were the direct result of excessive amounts of catecholamines produced during emotional outbursts.

Doctors have only recently discovered that an enlargement of the left ventricle of the heart precedes many sudden heart attacks. This enlargement results from the accumulation of empty cells and patches of useless fibers which replace the heart muscle cells destroyed by excess catecholamines.

The doctors found these empty cells and useless fibers in more than 80 percent of their patients who died of sudden heart failure.
When do more than half of all fatal heart attacks occur?

More than half of all fatal heart attacks occur either on Monday or Saturday. Conflicts at work or at home which are left smoldering tend to erupt with sudden anger at the first confrontation of a work week or weekend.

Major Causes of Death in the U.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Number of Deaths per Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heart/Blood vessel disease</td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accidents</td>
<td>80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flu/Pneumonia</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Others</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Anger Affects a Baby in the Womb.

While short bursts of anger in expectant mothers produce hormones which cross the placenta, the greatest danger to the unborn baby lies in long-term stress and anger in the mother.

This condition causes a continuous unbalanced mixture of catecholamines to be introduced into the baby's bloodstream, and may cause actual physical or emotional problems in the baby after he is born. Thus, the unborn infant, as well as his mother, suffers all the ill effects of anger.

Project

1. Recognize your own personal anger signals.

Each individual has a different threshold of anger and exhibits different signals when anger is kindled.

- tightness in the stomach
- clenching the teeth or lips
- sweaty palms
- rapid heart beat
- pounding in the head
- heavy breathing
- uncontrollable shaking
- inability to make eye contact
- rapid speech
- urge to stand up
- leaning forward
- talking loudly
- replaying events in your mind
- not listening to what others are saying
- using emotional words

2. Yield your rights to God.

Anger is often caused by unyielded rights. Know your individual "warning signs" of anger, and let them alert you to rights which you have failed to yield to the Lord.

Check the following personal "rights" which make you the most impatient and angry.

- The right to be heard without interruption
- The right to listen to any music I like
- The right to my own room
- The right to choose my own clothes
- The right to be free from injury
- The right to make all my own decisions
- The right to have any friends I choose
- The right to be appreciated
- The right to recognition
- The right not to be nagged
- The right to relax
- The right to a quiet and clean house
- The right to good meals which I like
- The right to spend my own money
- The right to be helped with household chores
- The right to be treated with proper manners
- The right to ____________________

Date completed ____________ Evaluation ____________