

verse 16 forbids lying and at the same time promotes truth. It is not enough to refrain from committing murder but innocent people must be protected. This is exactly what Abraham did in **Genesis 14:14-20** when he went to deliver his nephew, Lot, from the enemies hand. He took up the defense of Lot by force and was blessed by Melchizedek, who was a type of Christ. God not only blessed his efforts, but also praised Abraham for doing so (**Hebrews 7:1**). The moral law required this defensive act.

According to **Acts 5:29**, the apostles defied the government when they were commanded to stop preaching the gospel, "*Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.*" When the government violates God's moral law and sanctions and legalizes the murder of the innocent, we should not submit to it. The individual citizen has a right and duty to defend himself and his neighbor when the government stops providing protection for its people. If the church continues to remain silent on the issue of the mass murder of the unborn, God will judge the church with the country. The church must be a voice for those who have no voice. How can we be true to Christ and ignore this great duty (**Isaiah 1:17, Isaiah 58:6-7, Proverbs 17:15**).

In conclusion, please consider prayerfully the following truth from God's Word: Jesus said in **John 15:13**, "*Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.*" The least we can do is to give a little of our time in order to end this holocaust in our country. May the church of Jesus Christ stand for truth, righteousness, and justice. Amen.

"In Germany they [the Gestapo] came first for the communists, I didn't speak up because I wasn't a communist.

Then they came for the Jews and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew.

Then they came for the trade unionists and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Catholics and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant.

Then they came for me and by that time no one was left to speak up."

Written by Martin Niemoller, a German pastor before World War II.

The Riches OF GRACE

"hath appeared to all men." Titus 2:11

Robert W. Reed
June 2004

Defending the Unborn

"If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?"

Proverbs 24:11-12

+ A BIBLICAL DUTY +

This article will focus on the responsibility of Christians to defend our unborn neighbor. The church of Jesus Christ has a Biblical mandate from the Lord to defend and protect the innocent at all costs. This command is seen throughout the Holy Scriptures. There is a holocaust in our land. Abortion is murder, and abortion clinics are the greatest threat to the American population. These terrorist activities, which are sanctioned by our own government, are killing over 4,000 a day in the United States. The church has been silent too long. We must not neglect our duty in coming to the aid of these helpless and innocent children who are suffering violent deaths. May God help us to wake up and be a blessing to our unborn neighbor.

*"These six things doth the LORD hate:
yea, seven are an abomination unto him:
A proud look, a lying tongue,
and hands that shed innocent blood."*

Proverbs 6:16-17



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**" Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ,
and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."
Acts 16:31**

On Monday morning, May 24, 2004, while standing in front of an abortion clinic in Mobile, Alabama, the Lord brought to my attention **Proverbs 24:11-12**. In **verse 11**, a great duty is required of us, the relief of the oppressed, *“If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain.”* This passage insists that we are our brother’s keeper. Please consider the fact that through abortions, the unborn child is drawn into death and slain in a murderous act. These helpless victims must have someone to come to their rescue (if not the church then who)? According to **verse 12**; there is no excuse for not responding to their need, *“If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?”* This verse shows that God sees all and knows what is in our heart and will judge according to our works. During World War II, the church in Germany kept silent while the Holocaust was taking place and God judged the entire country including His church. There were very few that responded to the voice of those being killed. The same is happening in America today. The church is busy with its buildings, programs, plays, and feasts while millions are being slaughtered. There are many examples in the Bible where someone came to the aid of another, but space will not allow me to elaborate, but we must respond.

The second great commandment is to love thy neighbor as thyself according to Jesus Christ in **Matthew 22:39**, *“And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.”* In **verses 34-40**, the Lord summarizes the Ten Commandments and grouped them into two major divisions. The first four commandments are Godward, showing our relationship to God and the last six are manward, showing our relationship to one another. These Ten Commandments are God’s moral law, written by the finger of God, etched in stone showing their permanence, and placed in the Holy Ark for safe keeping. The last six commandments require us to love our neighbor. This truth is clearly illustrated in the story of “The Good Samaritan” in **Luke 10:29-37**. This story plainly reveals that our neighbor is anyone we see that is in need of help. Each individual has a biblical right to defend himself and most would do so if harm came his way and his limbs were being torn from his body. The law of love requires us to do the same for our unborn neighbor; it is our duty according to the moral law in both the Old Testament and the New Testament. Would you want someone to come to your rescue if you were being slain? It would be very important to help our neighbor if they were being robbed, raped or starved, and even more so if they were

threatened with death. I cannot love the Lord with all my heart, soul, and mind, and at the same time not love my neighbor or vice versa.

In **James 2:8**, we see the Royal Law which is the law of love, *“If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well.”* This law of love in **verses 15-16** requires us to come to the aid of those in need, *“If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?”* Our response will show whether we truly have genuine faith, *“Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.”* **verse 17**. Our faith is demonstrated to others by our good works. The law of love was first set forth in **Leviticus 19:18** and quoted in **Matthew 5:43, 19:19**, and **Galatians 5:14**. In **Matthew 25:35-36**, we see the marks of a true believer, *“For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.”* The contrast is between the saved and lost (sheep and goats) in **verses 31-46**. Those who enter into God’s Kingdom are characterized by their benevolence to the naked, hungry, sick, and imprisoned.

Defending the **innocent** is clearly seen throughout Holy writ. The unborn are innocent people as are the born child, orphan, widow, poor, or stranger. The more helpless the victim, the greater the duty to help them and the greater the sin if we refuse. Please consider **Psalms 82:2-4**: *“How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked? Selah. Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the poor and needy: rid them out of the hand of the wicked.”* Other Scriptures are, **Proverbs 31:8-9** and **Zechariah 7:9-10**. The Bible says that the blood cries out of those who are slain as in **Genesis 4:10**, *“And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother’s blood crieth unto me from the ground.”* This means that God hears the cry of the innocent, so why don’t God’s people hear the same cry? God heard the cry of his people in bondage in Egypt when no other heard it (**Exodus 2:23, 3:7,9, 22:23**).

According to **Numbers 35:33**, blood defileth the land, *“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.”* The blood of the unborn has polluted our land and God will require it of us all (**Psalms 106:38, Hosea 4:2-3**).

The moral law in **Exodus 20:13**, *(Thou shalt not kill)* not only forbids murder; but, also requires the defending of the innocent. For example,