

THE CHRISTIAN AND SELF-DEFENSE Pt.2 (The Biblical Doctrine of Self-Defense)

A. The Examination of Jesus Christ's COMMAND to BUY A SWORD. (Luke 22:35-38)

1. Several other observations:

- a. Though these instructions were given in the Upper Room Discourse, they are designed to be implemented _____ by these believers who would be living in the _____.
- b. Though 11 disciples were present, _____ were enough for the entire group; thus, _____ all disciples needed to purchase a sword.
- c. Since we understand everything else in this passage to be _____ [the money bag, knapsack, sandals, garment, etc.], we should then understand the command to purchase 2 swords to be _____ - especially in light of serious hostility toward Jesus Christ and those identified with Him.
- d. While it would be shocking to some today, Jesus Christ actually underscored the need for _____ or the _____ as a great priority by commanding these disciples to _____ their outer garments if needed and _____.

2. A conclusion: While this is a very specific historical situation, its implications are far-reaching for believers in Christ today:

- a. Jesus Christ actually placed a _____ on _____ for believers _____ in light of growing hostility toward Jesus Christ and His followers in carrying out the Great Commission.
- b. This command would also be in keeping with our Lord's teaching on the need to _____. (Matthew 22:39; Rom.13:9; Gal.5:14; James 2:8)
- c. Believers clearly have the _____ to _____ a weapon for personal defense of themselves or others if so needed and desired.
- d. The purchasing of a _____ for self-defense or the defense of others is not incompatible with a _____ but is a God-given means to a proper end.

3. Some clarification on such passages as:

- a. **Matthew 26:47-56**
- b. **Matthew 5:38 - 42**

B. The BIBLICAL JUSTIFICATION For The PROPER USE of VIOLENT FORCE.

1. The reality of conflict in the angelic realm is due to _____ (Isa.14:12-15; Ez.28:12-17; Rev.12:7-9), and overflowed toward man in the _____. (Gen.3:1-5)
2. The reality of man's inherently _____ and predisposition to _____ [legitimate and illegitimately] is evidenced everywhere on the planet throughout history until Jesus Christ _____. (Gen.3:16; 4:8-15; Mark 7:21, 24:6-8; Gal. 5:21; James 4:1-3; 2 Thess. 3:1-3; Rev.19:10ff)

3. The reality of man's sinful nature acting _____, along with a _____, prompted God to _____ the world of Noah's day and to start again. (Gen.6-7)
4. To address these past issues, God established _____ with the right of _____ for _____ to restrain and punish evil doers. (Gen.9:1-17)
5. God later established the divine institution of _____ at the Tower of Babel to thwart globalism with its lack of balance of power, which may involve _____. (Gen. 11:1ff)
 - If there is a scriptural place for the proper use of force in capital punishment and justified war, is there ever a legitimate place for it in personal self-defense in a fallen world?
 - **Principle to remember: Though God is the ultimate source of _____, He does use providential, angelic, and personal _____ to accomplish His plan and purposes. Thus, we need to have our trust _____, while appreciating His _____ to accomplishing His ends. (Psalm 4:8, 20:7, 31:15, 33:16-19; 2 Thess.3:1-3)**

C. The Consideration of Other Relevant Passages of Scripture:

1. Exodus 20:13
2. Exodus 22:2-3
3. Psalm 144:1-2
4. Acts 8:1-4; 1 Peter 1:1-2
5. Acts 12
6. Acts 16:35-40
7. Acts 22:23-29
8. Acts 25:11, 25
9. Romans 12:17-21
10. Romans 13:1-5
11. 2 Corinthians 11:23-28
12. 1 John 3:16-18

D. The Addressing of Questions, Objections and Concerns

1. Do we not have a constitutional right to "keep and bear arms" under the 2nd Amendment? What about assault rifles?
2. Won't the police protect us when in criminal danger so that we really do not need to protect ourselves?
3. Isn't the answer to criminal attack more 'gun laws' instead of purchasing a weapon for self-defense?
4. Are there clear, legal guidelines for what constitutes self-defense in our country and state?
5. Is there a place and need for churches to provide armed security in our present day?
6. Isn't all of this an area of personal liberty regarding self-defense (Romans 14)?