

~BLOODGUILT (460)

- At times the **Hebrew** word for blood *dam*, plural, *da-mim*' refers to guilt incurred **by the shedding of innocent blood** and is thus rendered bloodguilt.
- If a thief should be found in the act of breaking in and he does get struck and die, **there is no bloodguilt** for him. (**Exodus 22:2**)
Footnote
- And it must occur that on the day of your going out and when you do pass over the torrent valley of Kidron, you should unmistakably know that you will positively die. **Bloodguilt** for you will itself come to be upon your own head. (**1 Kings 2:37**)
Footnote
- Hands that **are shedding innocent blood** have been one of the most detestable things to Yehowah ever since righteous Abel's **blood** cried out from the ground.
- There are six things that Yehowah does hate, yes, seven are things detestable to his soul. (**Proverbs 6:16**)
- Lofty eyes, a false tongue, and **hands that are shedding innocent blood**. (**Proverbs 6:17**)
- At this he said; What have you done? Listen! Your brothers **blood** is crying out to me from the ground. (**Genesis 4:10**)
- You will destroy those speaking a lie. A man of **bloodshed** and deception Yehowah detests. (**Psalms 5:6**)
- Men also have long been aware of the **sacredness of blood**, when Noah and his family came out of the ark they were informed of the dire consequences befalling those upon whom there was **bloodguilt**.
- **Anyone shedding man's blood**, by man will his own blood be shed, for in God's image he made man. (**Genesis 9:6**)
- When Reuben heard this he tried to deliver him out of their hand. So he said, Let us not strike his soul fatally. (**Genesis 37:21**)

- And Reuben went on to say to them; Do not **spill blood**. Pitch him into this water-pit which is in the wilderness and do not lay a violent hand upon him. His purpose was to deliver him out of their hand in order to return him to his father. (**Genesis 37:22**)
- Then Reuben answered them, saying; Did not I say to you; Do not sin against the child. But you did not listen? And now his **blood**, here it is certainly asked back. (**Genesis 42:22**)
- In due time laws were published, spelling out what constituted crimes worthy of death, and in this way, everyone could avoid doing that which would bring **bloodguilt** upon his own head. Other legislation was enacted as preventive safeguard to protect people from **spilling innocent blood**. Parapets had to be built around the edge of the flat-topped houses so people would not fall off.
- In case you build a new house, you must also make a parapet for your roof, that you may not place **bloodguilt** upon your house because someone falling might fall from it. (**Deuteronomy 22:8**)
- A man had to provide safeguards to prevent his bull from goring people.
- But if a bull was formerly in the habit of goring and warning was served on its owner but he would not keep it under guard, and it did put a man or a woman to death, the bull is to be stoned and also its owner is to be put to death. (**Exodus 21:29**)
- If a thief was killed while breaking in at night, there was no **bloodguilt**, but if he was killed during the daylight, it was a different matter.
- If a thief should be found in the act of breaking in and he does get struck and die, there is no **bloodguilt** for him. (**Exodus 22:2**)
- If the sun has shone forth upon him, there is **bloodguilt** for him. He is to make compensation without fail. If he has nothing, then he must be sold for the things he stole. (**Exodus 22:3**)
- Cities of refuge were set up to protect the accidental manslayer from the **avenger of blood**.
- And the assembly must deliver the manslayer out of the hand of the avenger of blood, and the assembly must return him to his

city of refuge to which he had fled, and he must dwell in it until the death of the High Priest who was anointed with the holy oil. (**Numbers 35:25**)

- Because you will keep all this commandment that I am commanding you today by doing it, to love Yehowah your God and to walk in his ways always, you must then add three other cities for yourself to these three. (**Deuteronomy 19:9**)
- That no innocent blood may be spilled in the midst of your land that Yehowah your God is giving you as an inheritance, and no **bloodguilt** has to be upon you. (**Deuteronomy 19:10**)
- Speak to the sons of Israel, saying; Give for yourselves the cities of refuge of which I spoke to you by means of Moses. (**Joshua 20:2**)
- For the manslayer who fatally strikes a soul unintentionally without knowing it to flee there, and they must serve you as a refuge from the **avenger of blood**. (**Joshua 20:3**)
- If Ezekiel failed in his duty as a watchman to Israel, the **blood** of the inhabitants would be upon him.
- When I say to someone wicked; You will positively die! And you do not actually warn him and speak in order to warn the wicked one from his wicked way to preserve him alive, he being wicked, in his error he will die, but his **blood** I shall ask back from your own hand. (**Ezekiel 3:18**)
- And when someone righteous turns back from his righteousness and actually does injustice and I must put a stumbling block before him, he himself will die because you did not warn him. For his sin he will die, and his righteous acts that he did will not be remembered, but his **blood** I shall ask back from your own hand. (**Ezekiel 3:20**)
- Now as regards the watchman, in case he sees the sword coming and he actually does not blow the horn and the people itself gets no warning at all and a sword comes and takes away from them soul, for its own error it itself must be taken away, but its blood I shall ask back from the hand of the watchman himself. (**Ezekiel 33:6**)

- When I say to someone wicked, O wicked one, you will positively die! But you actually do not speak out to warn the wicked one from his way, he himself as a wicked one will die in his own error, but his **blood** I shall ask back at your own hand. (Ezekiel 33:8)
- With this in mind we find understandable what the apostle Paul meant when he said that he was innocent of **bloodguilt**.
- But after they kept on opposing and speaking abusively, he shook out his garments and said to them; Let your **blood** be upon your own heads. I am clean. From now on I will go to people of the nations. (Acts of Apostles 18:6)
- Hence I call you to witness this very day that **I am clean from the blood of all men**. (Acts of Apostles 20:26)

See Also AVENGER OF BLOOD

- The Bible lists both those that were free of **bloodguilt** and those that were not free of it, and these well serve as warning examples. There was Saul, who at one time escaped **bloodguilt** because he refrained from killing David, yet later Saul brought **bloodguilt** upon his whole household when he foolishly killed off some of the Gibeonites.
- And he proceeded to put his soul in his palm and strike the Philistine down, so that Yehowah performed a great salvation for all Israel. You saw it, and you gave way to rejoicing. So why should you sin against **innocent blood** in having David put to death for nothing? (1 Samuel 19:5)
- Then Saul obeyed the voice of Jonathan, and Saul swore; As Yehowah is living, he will not be put to death. (1 Samuel 19:6)
- Now there came to be a famine in the days of David for three years, year after year, and David proceeded to consult the face of Yehowah. Then Yehowah said; Upon Saul and upon his house **there is bloodguilt, because he put the Gibeonites to death**. (2 Samuel 21:1)
- There were others too that in various ways became **bloodguilty**.
- That the violence done to the seventy sons of Jerubbaal might come and that he might put their **blood** upon Abimelech their

brother because he killed them, and upon the landowners of Shechem because they strengthened his hands to kill his brothers. (**Judges 9:24**)

- David then said to him; The **bloodguilt** for you be upon your own head, because your own mouth has testified against you, saying; I myself definitely put the anointed of Yehowah to death. (**2 Samuel 1:16**)
- And here they came into the middle of the house as men fetching wheat, and then struck him in the abdomen, and Rechab and Baanah his brother themselves escaped detection. (**2 Samuel 4:6**)
- When they went into the house, he was lying upon his couch in his inner bedroom, and then they struck him so that they put him to death, after which they removed his head and took his head and walked on the road to the Arabah all night long. (**2 Samuel 4:7**)
- Eventually they came bringing the head of Ish-bosheth to David at Hebron and said to the king; Here is the head of Ish-bosheth the son of Saul your enemy who looked for your soul, but Yehowah gives to my lord the king revenge this day upon Saul and his offspring. (**2 Samuel 4:8**)
- However, David answered Rechab and Baanah his brother, the sons of Rimmon the Beerothite, and said to them; As Yehowah who redeemed my soul out of all distress is living. (**2 Samuel 4:9**)
- When there was one reporting to me, saying; Here Saul is dead, and he himself in his own eyes became like a bringer of Good News, I, however, took hold of him and killed him in Ziklag when it was due for me to give him the messengers fee. (**2 Samuel 4:10**)
- How much more so when wicked men themselves have killed a righteous man in his own house upon his bed? And now **should I not require his blood from your hands**, and must I not clear you out of the earth? (**2 Samuel 4:11**)
- With that David commanded the young men and they killed them and cut off their hands and their feet and hanged them by the pool in Hebron, and the head of Ish-bosheth they took and then

buried in the burial place of Abner in Hebron. (2 Samuel 4:12)

- David, on the other hand, **escaped such guilt** when he heeded Yehowah's warning sent to him through Abigail.
- She then fell at his feet and said; Upon me myself, O my lord, be the error, and, please, let your slave girl speak in your ears, and listen to the words of your slave girl. (1 Samuel 25:24)
- Please, do not let my lord set his heart upon this good-for-nothing man Nabal, for, as his name is, so is he. Nabal is his name, and senselessness is with him. As for me your slave girl, I did not see my lords young men that you had sent. (1 Samuel 25:25)
- And now, my lord, as Yehowah is living and as your soul is living, Yehowah has **held you back from entering into bloodguilt** and having your own hand come to your salvation. And now let your enemies and those seeking injury to my lord become like Nabal. (1 Samuel 25:26)
- And let this not become to you a cause for staggering or a stumbling block to the heart of my lord, both **by the shedding of blood without cause** and by having the hand of my lord itself come to his salvation. And Yehowah will certainly do good to my lord, and you must remember your slave girl. (1 Samuel 25:31)
- And blessed be your sensibleness, and blessed be **you who have restrained me this day from entering into bloodguilt** and having my own hand come to my salvation. (1 Samuel 25:33)
- The city of Jerusalem was destroyed in **607 B.C.E.** because of gross **bloodguilt**.
- And as for you, O son of man, will you judge, will you judge the **bloodguilty** city and certainly cause her to know all her detestable things? (Ezekiel 22:2)
- And you must say; This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; O city that is **shedding blood** in her midst till her time comes, and that has made dungy idols within herself in order to become unclean. (Ezekiel 22:3)
- By your **blood** that you have shed you have become guilty, and by

your dungy idols that you have made you have become unclean. And you bring your days near, and you will come to your years. That is why I must make you an object of reproach to the nations and of jeering to all the lands. (Ezekiel 22:4)

- For they have committed adultery and there is blood on their hands, and with their dungy idols they have committed adultery. And, besides that, their sons whom they had borne to me they made pass through the fire to them as food. (Ezekiel 23:37)
- But as regards righteous men, they are the ones that will judge her with the judgment for adulteresses and with the judgment for **female shedders of blood**, for adulteresses are what they are, and there is **blood** on their hands. (Ezekiel 23:45)
- The false religious leaders of Jesus day could not deny their **bloodguiltiness** any more than the leaders of Jeremiah's time, for, in both instances, **their skirts were crimson red with the blood** of Yehowah's faithful ones.
- Also, in your **skirts there have been found the blood marks of the souls of the innocent poor ones**. Not in the act of breaking in have I found them, but they are upon all these. (Jeremiah 2:34)
- That there may come upon you all the **righteous blood** spilled on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the **blood** of Zechariah son of Barachiah, whom you **murdered between the sanctuary and the altar**. (Matthew 23:35)
- Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation. (Matthew 23:36)
- Seeing that it did no good but, rather, an uproar was arising, Pilate took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, **I am innocent of the blood of this man**. You yourselves must see to it. (Matthew 27:24)
- At that all the people said in answer; **His blood come upon us and upon our children**. (Matthew 27:25)
- So that the **blood** of all the prophets spilled from the founding of the world may be required from this generation. (Luke 11:50)
- From the **blood** of Abel down to the **blood** of Zechariah, who was

slain between the altar and the house. Yes, I tell you, it will be required from this generation. ([Luke 11:51](#))

- The great harlot Babylon the Great is so **bloodguilty** that she is said to be **drunk with the blood** of Yehowah's people.
- And upon her forehead was written a name, a mystery. Babylon the Great, the mother of the harlots and of the disgusting things of the earth. ([Revelation 17:5](#))
- And I saw that the woman was **drunk with the blood** of the holy one's and with the **blood** of the witnesses of Jesus. Well, on catching sight of her I wondered with great wonderment. ([Revelation 17:6](#))
- Yes, in her was found the **blood of prophets and of holy one's** and of all those who have been slaughtered on the earth. ([Revelation 18:24](#))
- Truly such **bloodguilty** one's are not worthy of living half their lives, as David said.
- But you yourself, O God, will bring them down to the lowest pit. As for **bloodguilty** and deceitful men, they will not live out half their days. But as for me, I shall trust in you. ([Psalms 55:23](#))
- As David did, all should likewise pray that Yehowah will deliver them both from **bloodguiltiness** and from the **bloodguilty** ones.
- Deliver me from **bloodguiltiness**, O God the God of my salvation, that my tongue may joyfully tell about your righteousness. ([Psalms 51:14](#))
- Deliver me from the practicers of what is hurtful, and from **bloodguilty** men save me. ([Psalms 59:2](#))
- O that you, O God, would slay the wicked one! Then even the **bloodguilty** men will certainly depart from me. ([Psalms 139:19](#))
- As the Revelation prophecy foretold, the time will shortly come when a mighty chorus of praise will ascend to Yehowah because the last elements of Babylon the Great will have been destroyed and the **blood** of all these innocent one's will have been forever avenged.

- After these things I heard what was as a loud voice of a great crowd in heaven. They said; Praise Yah, you people! The salvation and the glory and the power belong to our God. **(Revelation 19:1)**
- Because his judgments are true and righteous. For he has executed judgment upon the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication, and **he has avenged the blood** of his slaves at her hand. **(Revelation 19:2)**
- The **Christian Greek Scriptures** outline three distinct ways in which a Christian could become **bloodguilty** before God. First by **bloodshed, murder**, this would include those actively or tacitly supporting the **activities of a bloodguilty organization**, such as Babylon the Great
- And I saw that the woman was **drunk with the blood of the holy one's and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus**. Well, on catching sight of her I wondered with great wonderment. **(Revelation 17:6)**
- And he cried out with a strong voice, saying, She has fallen! Babylon the Great has fallen, and she has become a dwelling place of demons and a lurking place of every unclean exhalation and a lurking place of every unclean and hated bird! **(Revelation 18:2)**
- And I heard another voice out of heaven say; Get out of her, my people, if you do not want to share with her in her sins, and if you do not want to receive part of her plagues. **(Revelation 18:4)**
- Or other **organizations that have shed much innocent blood**.
- And I heard the angel over the waters say; You, the One who is and who was, the loyal One, are righteous, because you have rendered these decisions. **(Revelation 16:5)**
- Because they poured out the **blood** of holy one's and of prophets, and you have given them **blood** to drink. They deserve it. **(Revelation 16:6)**
- Go, my people, enter into your interior rooms, and shut your doors behind you. Hide yourself for but a moment until the denunciation passes over. **(Isaiah 26:20)**

- **By eating or drinking blood in any way.**
- **But to write them to abstain from things polluted by idols and from fornication and from what is **strangled** and from **blood**. (Acts of Apostles 15:20)**
- **By failing to preach the Good News of the Kingdom, thereby withholding the lifesaving information it contains.**
- **But after they kept on opposing and speaking abusively, he shook out his garments and said to them; Let your **blood** be upon your own heads. I am clean. From now on I will go to people of the nations. (Acts of Apostles 18:6)**
- **Hence I call you to witness this very day that **I am clean** from the **blood** of all men. (Acts of Apostles 20:26)**
- **For I have not held back from telling you all the counsel of God. (Acts of Apostles 20:27)**
- **Now as regards the watchman, in case he sees the sword coming and he actually does not blow the horn and the people itself gets no warning at all and a sword comes and takes away from them soul, for its own error it itself must be taken away, but its **blood I shall ask back from the hand of the watchman himself**. (Ezekiel 33:6)**
- **Now as regards you, O son of man, a watchman is what I have made you to the house of Israel, and at my mouth you must hear the word and give them warning from me. (Ezekiel 33:7)**
- **When I say to someone wicked, O wicked one, you will positively die! But you actually do not speak out to warn the wicked one from his way, he himself as a wicked one will die in his own error, but his **blood I shall ask back at your own hand**. (Ezekiel 33:8)**