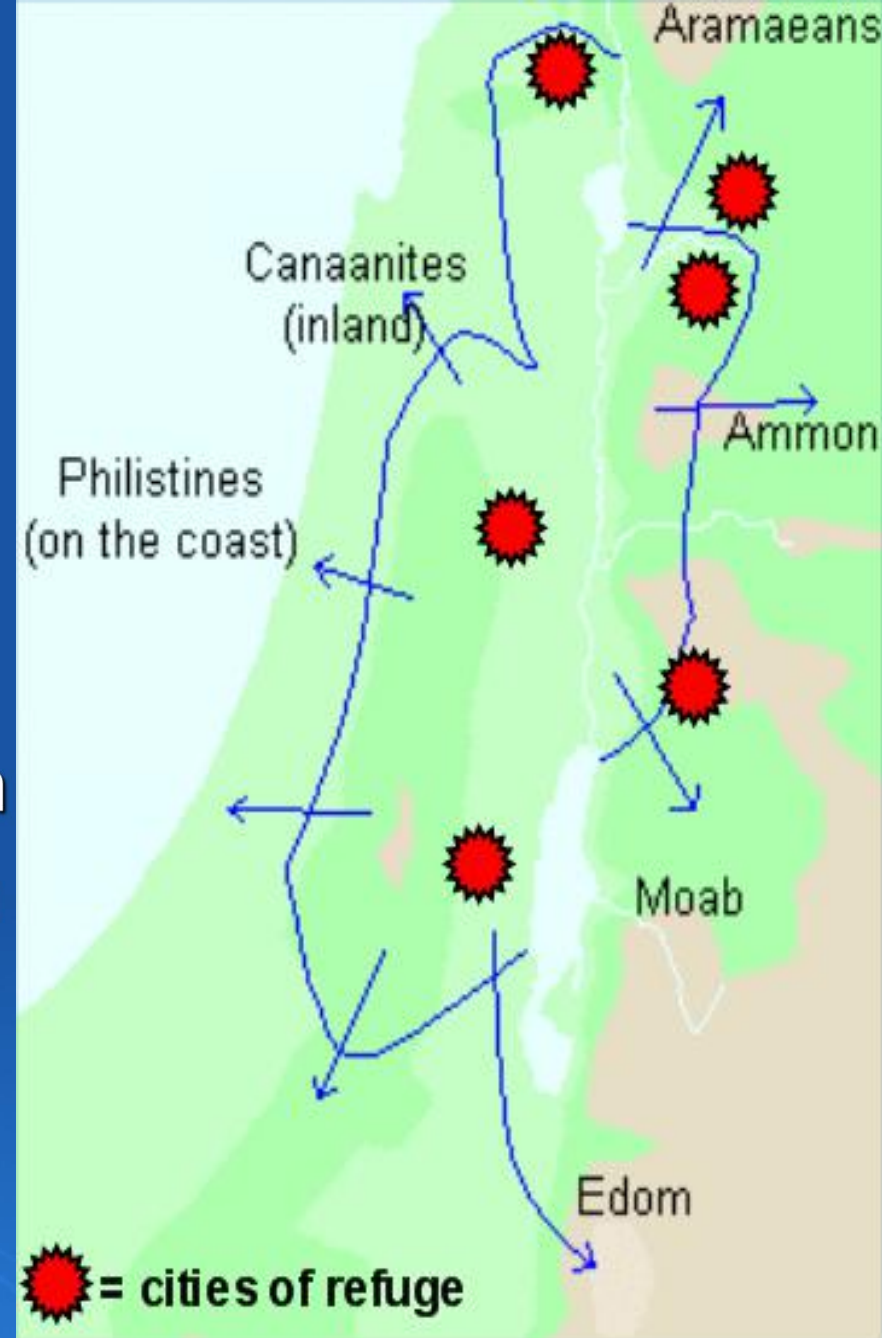
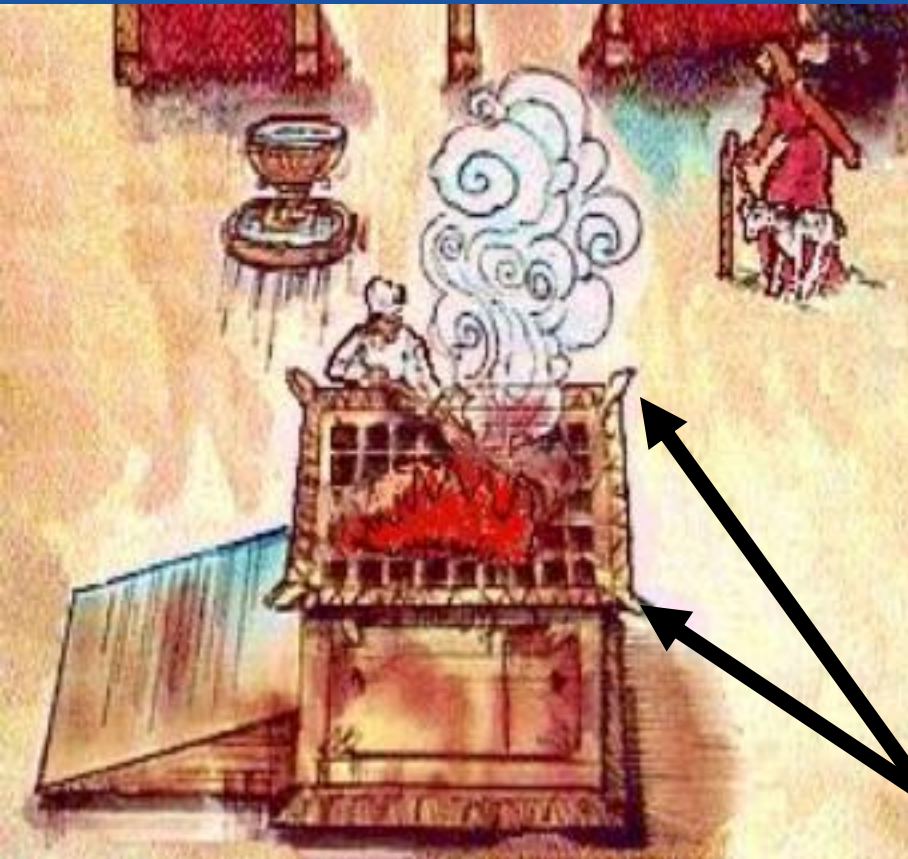


6 CITIES OF REFUGE

- 3 inside of the Promised Land
- 3 OUTSIDE of the Promised Land
- Sanctuary = refuge = asylum
- A place where a person who is afraid of his government may go to be protected from arrest and punishment

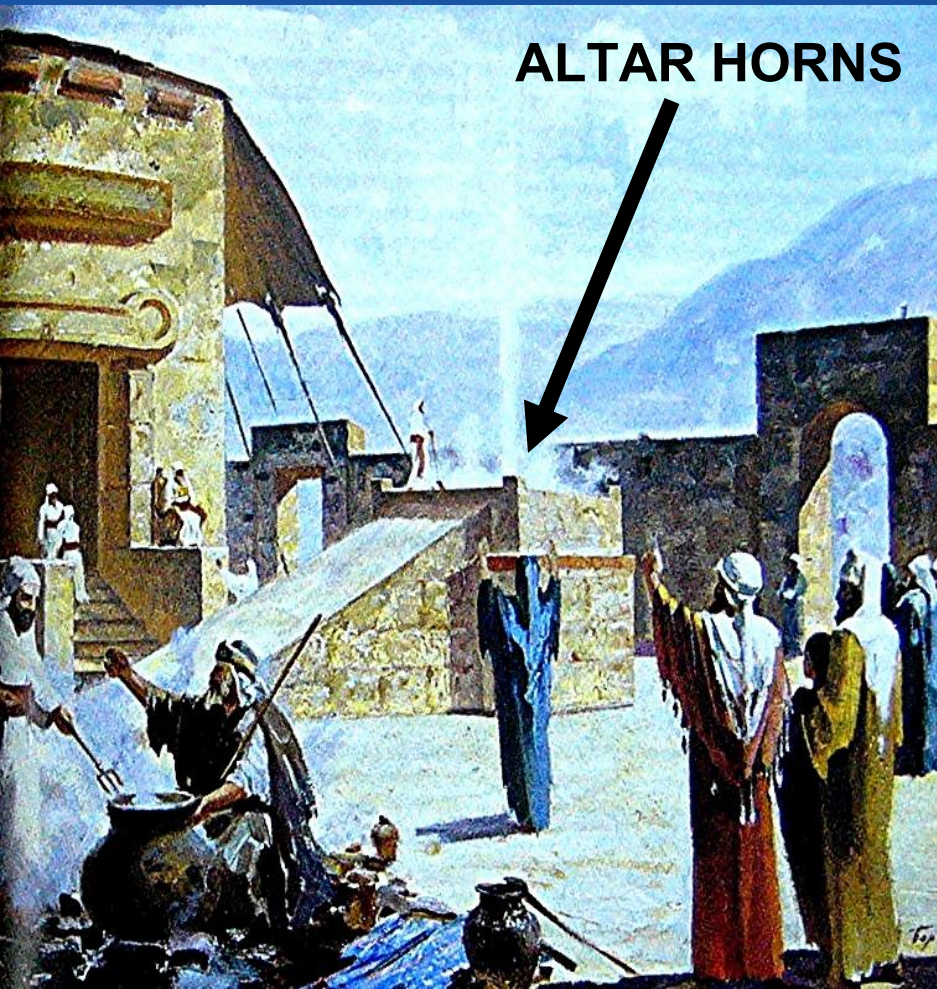


ASYLUM NOT INVENTED BY THE HEBREWS



- Most Middle Eastern cultures incorporated the city-of-refuge concept
- Usually meant someone fleeing to the priest or Temple
- The first Hebrew sanctuary was probably inside the camp of the Levites
- A man would “grab hold of the horns of the altar” and was protected as long as he was there

GRASPING THE HORNS OF THE ALTAR



- Acceptable practice in David and Solomon's era
- Priesthood greatly diminished in that era
- Concept is that whatever touches something HOLY contracts holiness
- Korah and the fire pans
- God's ordinance does NOT allow any but a Priest's hands to touch the Altar

USE OF SANCTUARY CITIES ONLY BEGAN ONCE INSIDE THE PROMISED LAND

- Often the Bible merely quotes accurate historical fact, NOT that what happened or what was said was good or righteous!
- We will regularly see God's commands carried out wrongly or ignored altogether in the Bible

MANSLAYING:

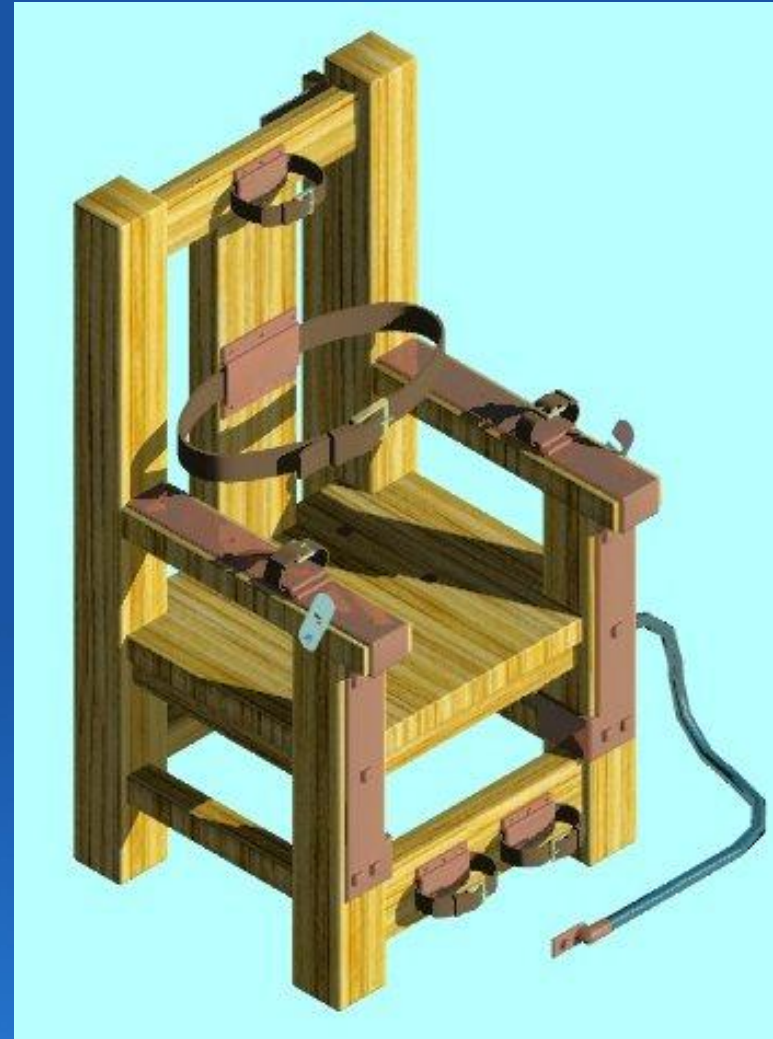
MURDER, ACCIDENTAL, JUSTIFIABLE

- INTENT is the key to determine the *seriousness* of ALL sin!
- Example: If someone uses an implement DESIGNED to kill (spear), it is murder
- OR.....if someone uses an implement NOT designed to kill but could be used as a weapon, it is murder
- This person CANNOT use the city of refuge, and MUST be executed!



IS EXECUTING THE MURDERER, MURDER?

- Bible says NO!
- God says executing the murder is PRESERVING life of the innocent!
- It is JUSTIFIABLE and necessary killing!
- ONLY way the Church can ignore these commands is to say that the Laws of Torah are dead and gone
- Those laws INCLUDE the 10 commandments, so the 10 commandments would have to be abolished as well



THE BLOOD AVENGER

- ***Ga'al*** = avenger or redeemer
- Term used here is ***dam ga'al*** = blood redeemer
- It is the ***ga'al*** who is to execute the murderer of his family member
- The principle here is: Life for a life, not personal retribution!
- Once Israel established Kings, they sought to STOP the practice of the ***dam ga'al***
- The Biblical Kinsman Redeemer had two functions:
 - 1) To assure that family land is never lost
 - 2) To assure justice in the form of ***dam ga'al*** occurs

YESHUA, The Dam Ga'al: THE BLOOD AVENGER

**Meshiach Ben Yoseph
The REDEEMER**

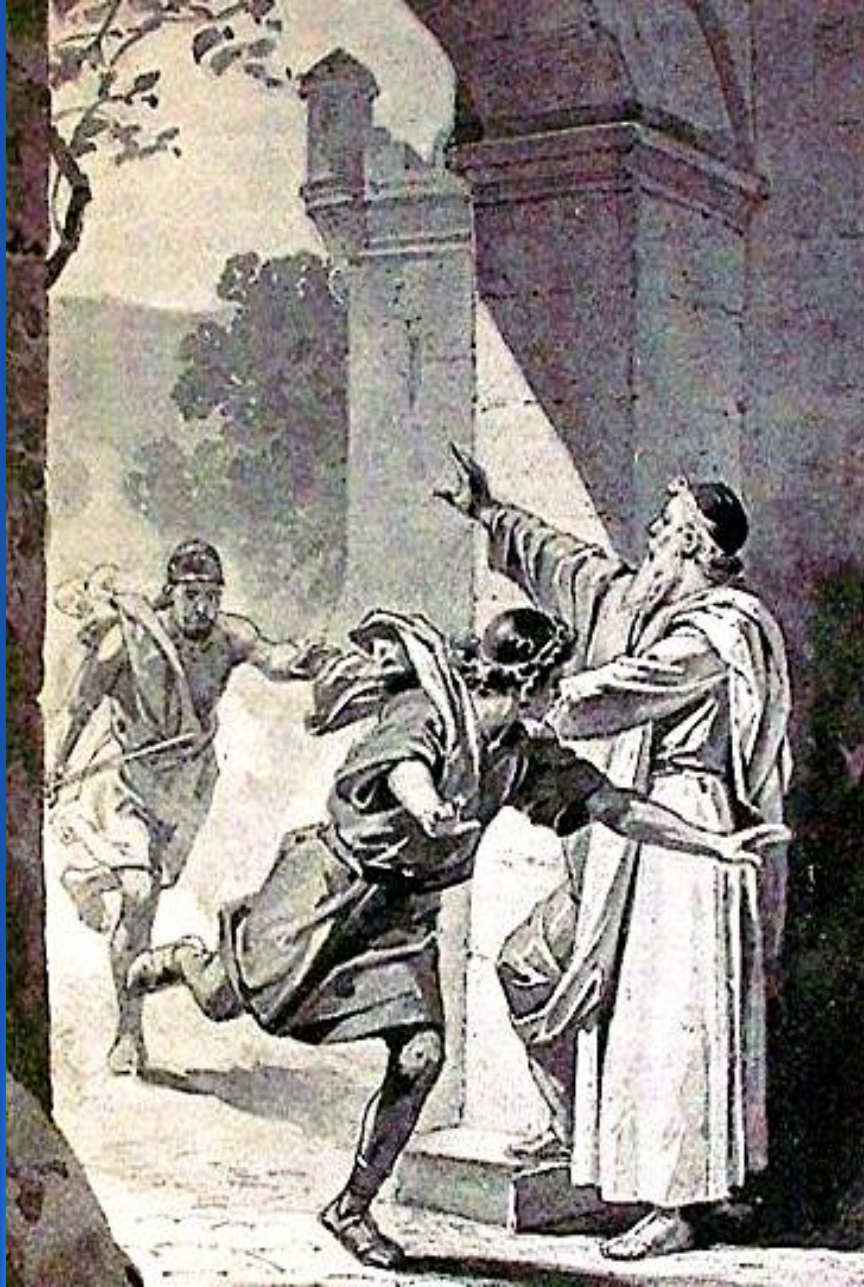
Rev. 19:1 “..... And He
has avenged the blood of
His bond-servants



**Meshiach Ben David
THE BLOOD AVENGER**

UNINTENDED KILLING

- If no malicious intent, then the perpetrator is allowed into the city of refuge
- A council of elders determines if the killing is unintended or not
- Killer is protected **ONLY** while **INSIDE** the city of refuge
- **OUTSIDE** the city, the blood avenger may **LEGALLY** kill him!



KILLER MUST REMAIN CONFINED UNTIL THE HIGH PRIEST DIES

- Killer REMAINS in his blood-guilt even while in asylum
- WHEN the High Priest dies, then the killer's blood-guilt is removed
- Killer may now LEAVE the city of refuge and the *dam ga'al* may NOT harm him!
- The death of the High Priest atones for the blood-guilt of the killer
- Must be 2 witnesses to convict a person of murder
- PRINCIPLE: Blood unjustly spilled on the land of God pollutes and defiles the Land



NUMBERS 36



- Daughters of Zelophehad permitted to inherit land
- PROBLEM: what happens if they marry a foreigner?
- Numbers 36 addresses a woman inheriting and marrying INSIDE Israel, but OUTSIDE of her tribe

TRANSFER OF THE PROMISED LAND IS PROHIBITED!!

- Deuteronomy will give more instructions about the land and inheritance
- The Land of Israel is **CENTRAL** to Yehoveh's overall plan of redemption
- Canaan is specifically set aside for Israel **ALONE!**
- Giving away God's land is rebellion and high-handed sin!

