**Exodus 20:13**

**A Time To Kill?**

1. What does the Bible mean when it says we are made in the image of God? What gives human beings their unique status? Why is this important? (Genesis 1:26, 2:7)
2. How does this value affect our relationship with God (vertical)? Our relationship with our fellow man (horizontal)?
3. How has the theory of evolution affected the application of the sixth commandment?
4. Why is capital punishment a biblical concept? How does it carry out justice? Act as a deterrent?
5. Read Roman 13:1-5. How does this relate to the sixth commandment?
6. What present day laws are similar to the capital punishment laws in the Old Testament? Which are different? (see list in notes below)
7. Read Matthew 5:21-22. How does Jesus expand and deepen the sixth commandment? Why is this important?
8. What does the Bible say is the root cause of all sin? (Galatians 5:19-21, James 4:1-2, Romans 3:9-12)
9. How important is 1 John 1:9-2:2 in this discussion? Is there any sin excluded from Jesus’ forgiveness?

**Notes**

**Old Testament capital punishment for:**

1. Murder – Exodus 21:12
2. Striking and reviling a parent – Exodus 21:15-17
3. Sabbath-breaking – Exodus 31:14; 35:2
4. Witchcraft, any occult practices – Exodus 22:18
5. Blasphemy – Leviticus 24:14-16, 23
6. False prophecy – Leviticus 20:27
7. Adultery – Leviticus 20:10; Deuteronomy 22:22
8. Some forms of unchastity – Deuteronomy 22:21, 23
9. Rape – Leviticus 22:25
10. Unnatural sex (sodomy, homosexuality, bestiality) – Exodus 22:19; Genesis 20:11,14, 16
11. Kidnapping (“man-stealing”)– Exodus 21:16
12. Idolatry – Leviticus 20:2; Deuteronomy 13:6; 17:2-7; 19:16-19