



35:1-8 Cities for the Levites

⊕ The Levite's are to be given

1. cities to live in
2. pasture land for cattle, equipment & other animals

Source: From the inheritance of other tribes of Israel

Size of pasture land: 1000 cubits = 457.m

2000 cubits = 914.4m

- 6 are to be cities of refuge
 - Purpose:
- Why the Levites are not given land?
 - Deuteronomy 18:1–2

⊕ Accessibility of the Levitical priests to all tribes

⊕ Occupying the Promised Land

35:9-34 Cities of Refuge

vv.9 – 15 Cities of refuge

⊕ **Mercy and Justice for unintentional manslaughter**

vv.16 – 21 What constitutes murder?

- 35:16 – 18
- 35:20

⊕ **Undermining the Life Giver**

- Genesis 9:6

Executioner: the Blood Avenger

- Hebrew: goel/ga'al
- related to the word for “redeem,” “reclaim,” or “restore”
- Kinsman (Numbers 5:8; Ruth 3:9, 12, 13; Ruth 4:1, 3, 6, 8, 14)

⊕ **Restoration by the Kinsman-Redeemer**

- Isaiah 41:14

vv.22 – 28 What constitutes manslaughter?

Protection:

- Duration
- Guarantee

⊕ **Mercy and Justice for unintentional manslaughter**

vv.29 – 32 The sanctity of life cannot be compromised & yet cannot be guaranteed

- For the murderer
 - No ransom for the murderer
- For the manslayer
 - No protection outside the refuge

Uncompromising and guaranteed only in **the Lord Jesus Christ** as

1. The True Refuge (Hebrews 6:18-20)

2. The True High Priest (1 John 2:2)

3. The True Kinsman-Redeemer (Mark 10:45; 1 Peter 1:18-19)

vv.33 – 34 The only recourse to bloodshed: **ATONEMENT**

- Leviticus 17:11

Not from human perspective

- Human rights – mere sanctity of life
- Legal rights – mere justice

⊕ **It is about GOD'S PRESENCE: HIS HOLINESS**

A HOLY GOD must make us

- think what it means to be made in His image in the context of upholding the sanctity of life
- desire to reflect God's character in all areas of our lives □



1. How do people destroy or belittle God's image?
2. With an understanding of the image of God, how does a life redeemed protect and reflect God's image?
3. How does 1 & 2 affect the ministry that we do?