

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT THE RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS

INTRO: 1. This is a divisive subject—country & home are divided. 2. Liberals say all guns should be removed from society. Only professionals should have them—police, military, etc. 3. Whenever a gun is involved a crime, it receives national attention. 4. Politically correct organizations have succeeded-- in many peoples minds-- with their efforts to demonize all guns, shooting sports, & hunting events. 5. But what does the Bible say?

I. DOES THE BIBLE GIVE INDIVIDUALS THE RIGHT TO HAVE WEAPONS?

THE BIBLE SAYS: LK 11:21-23 MATT 10:34-36 LUKE 11:17

FROM THIS WE LEARN:

1. Weapons are to be used in defensive ways to keep his palace—to protect liberty—provide safety—to provide peace for his household. Lk 11:21
2. Others use weapons in offensive ways to cross his threshold-- overcome him-- take away his defensive capability-- take away his families goods. Lk 11:22
3. Jesus said you are either with me in this matter or against me. Lk 11:23
4. Jesus' teachings often bring division, but households are terribly weakened by division. Matt 10:34-36
Lk 11:17

II. WHAT PURPOSE DOES THE BIBLE GIVE THE RIGHT TO USE WEAPONS?

THE BIBLE SAYS: I SAM 13:17-21 GEN 14:14-20 LK 22:35
II SAM 1:17-18 PSA 144:1 LK 11:21 MATT 26:47-52
JOSH 4:12-13; 6:7-9 LEV 17:13 PRO 12:27

FROM THIS WE LEARN:

1. TO PROMOTE PEACE—Israel was disarmed—thought to be weak by their enemies. They took their farm implements in view of the Philistines to show them that they were armed. They did not want trouble—arms help to keep the peace. I Sam 13:17-21
2. TO DEFEND OUR FAMILIES—Lawful use of weapons by God-fearing individuals. Governments have mad war against civilians—Lot was taken captive. Abraham responded in correct Christian manner. Armed his trained servants born in his home. Where did he get the arms?? He had them. When did they learn how to use them??? He taught them. Abraham met Melchizedek after the battle---BLESSED HIM. God was pleased. He used his arms in the right way to protect his family. Gen 14:14-20
3. TO DEFEND OURSELVES—A. Jesus sent them out. He was there to protect them. Now, he was soon to leave—when they go out, get a weapon—more important than clothes they were to wear---JESUS HAD TO DIE---THEY DID NOT. The presence of a weapon is to deter crime. Lk 22:35

B. FBI STATISTICS FROM THE YEAR 2000—

- *1.9 million crimes stopped by people with handguns
- *600,000 violent crimes stopped by long guns
- *6000 took guns to school---only 13 were prosecuted
- *46% of gun prosecutions dropped by Reno
- *400,000 tried to illegally purchase guns & were denied
- *Criminals let out early or awaiting trial commit 76% of crimes
- (This Is A Felony—But Less Than 1% Were Prosecuted By Janet Reno)

C. Trigger locks do not help when few criminals are punished but law-abiding citizens are. Only .0017% of legal guns are used to commit crimes

D. 17% of healthcare facilities caused harm & death. You are a 1000 times more likely to suffer harm or death in doctor's office than in a home with a gun.

4. DEFEND THE DEFENSELESS—Philistines were trying to annihilate Israel, especially the Tribe of Judah. David the “man after God's own heart” said teach the children how to handle the bow—most advanced weapon of the day. II Sam 1:17-18

A. 71% of Americans believe gun violence not due to availability of gun but failure of parents to teach children proper gun handling.

4B. Bible teaches to teach our hands how to war & fight.

Psa 144:1

5. TO DEFEND OUR POSSESSIONS—. A strong man arms himself to defend his castle.Lk 11:21

B. Some say let the professionals do it—Jesus said “he who takes up the sword will die by the sword.” Look at Scripture more carefully.

C. Note the following truths in context: (1) A group has opposed Jesus & disciples armed with weapons. (2) Judas betrayed Jesus. (3) It was the will of God that Jesus suffer & die on the cross. (4) God’s will for the people to take Jesus. (5) Not God’s will for the disciples or others to die. (6) Jesus told Peter to put his sword up again in his place. – at Peter’s side.

Matt 26:47

“Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.”—they would die.

Matt 26:52

6. TO DEFEND YOUR HERITAGE——Note that before anyone else crossed Jordan River—before the Ark –priests—or anyone—armed men went first. Could not God protect without a weapon--- do not tempt the Lord—freedom comes from armed people trained to use their weapons.

Josh 4:12-13; 6:7-9

7. TO USE IN PURSUING WILD GAME—2 RULES:

A. All game that is taken while hunting is to be drained of blood before consumption. God’s people were not to leave blood in food.

Lev 17:13

B. God’s people are to consume what is harvested and not be lazy or slothful in the harvest of wild game.

“Property taken, property cared for” became a valuable part of any man’s substance. Eat what you kill.

Pro 12:27

CONCLUSION:

A weapon can protect your home & family—but it cannot save your soul. A Gun cannot turn alcoholics into decent people or restore a marriage. Sin is a reproof on any people. Guns cannot cover your sinful past—only the Blood of Jesus can do that.