For the Love of God

GENOCIDE IN THE OT

What do we do with the violence in the Bible?









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- 2. What emotions describe how you feel about an innocent person being murdered?
- 3. How do you feel about someone committing a serious crime (such as murder) but never being caught and getting to live a comfortable, normal life?
- 4. Do you think there are ever any situations in which violence is justifiable? Why or why not?







¹³ When Joshua was near the town of Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with sword in hand. Joshua went up to him and demanded, "Are you friend or foe?"

14 "Neither one," he replied. "I am the commander of the Lord's army."

At this, Joshua fell with his face to the ground in reverence. "I am at your command," Joshua said. "What do you want your servant to do?"

¹⁵ The commander of the Lord's army replied, "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did as he was told.





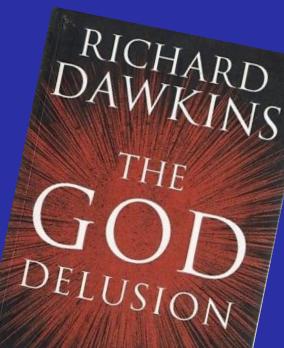
Describes the Bible's account of the killing of the Canaanites as:

...ethnic cleansing.

...a text remarkable for the bloodthirsty massacres it records and the xenophobic relish with which it does so.

...morally indistinguishable from Hitler's invasion of Poland, or Saddam Hussein's massacres of the Kurds and Marsh Arabs.





As any reader of the book of Judges will discover, [the story of the Levite at Gibeah] isn't there as a moral example – quite the opposite. This, and many stories like it, are designed to show us just how bad God's own people had become in this period.

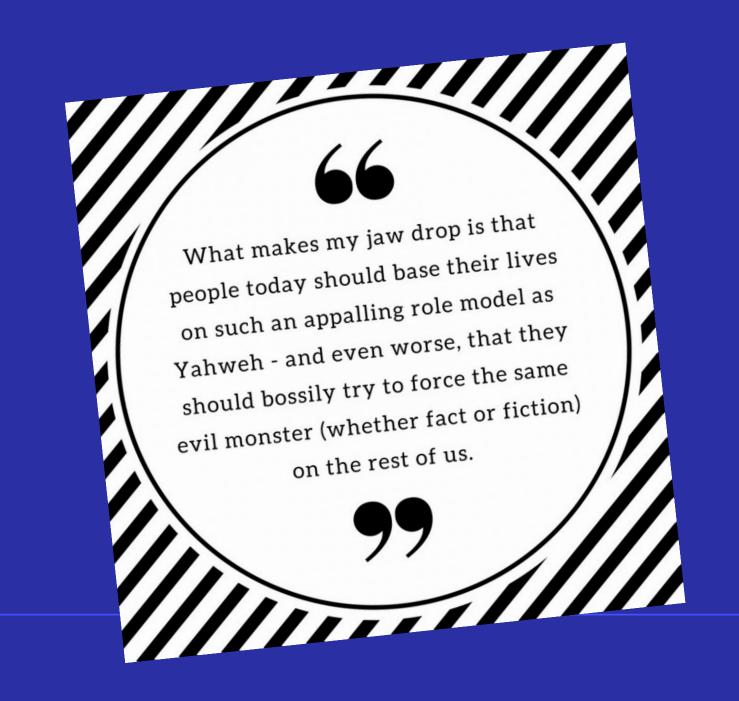


Read Joshua 2.1-24

Joshua 6.25 (NLT)

So Joshua spared Rahab the prostitute and her relatives who were with her in the house, because she had hidden the spies Joshua sent to Jericho. And she lives among the Israelites to this day.









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