



In the Beginning

A study of Genesis Chapters 1 - 11

Christian Life Assembly

Jim Hoffman

The Journey 2018

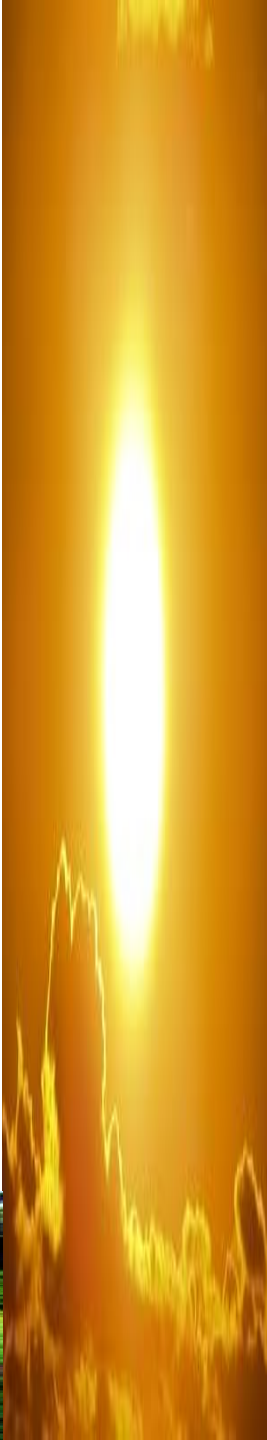
In the Beginning

Next Sunday!

Sunday, 10/28/18

Class Fellowship Lunch

Hoss' Mechanicsburg



In the Beginning

- Genesis 9:1 And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. 2 The fear of you and the terror of you will be on every beast of the earth and on every bird of the sky; with everything that creeps on the ground, and all the fish of the sea, into your hand they are given. 3 Every moving thing that is alive shall be food for you; I give all to you, as I gave the green plant. 4 Only you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. 5 Surely I will require your lifeblood; from every beast I will require it. And from every man, from every man’s brother I will require the life of man. 6 “Whoever sheds man’s blood, By man his blood shall be shed, For in the image of God He made man. 7 “As for you, be fruitful and multiply; Populate the earth abundantly and multiply in it.”



In the Beginning

- Genesis 9:1 And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.”
- By the time we get to Genesis 9:7, mankind will have received this command from the Lord no less than 4 times.
- Two times to Adam and Eve and two times to Noah and his family – this was evidently important to God.



In the Beginning

- It was important to God because of the “Imago Dei” – the fact that man was made in the image of God.
- It was important, not because God needed the fellowship of men as is all too frequently taught.
- But because as His image bearers, the more He can be seen the more He is glorified.

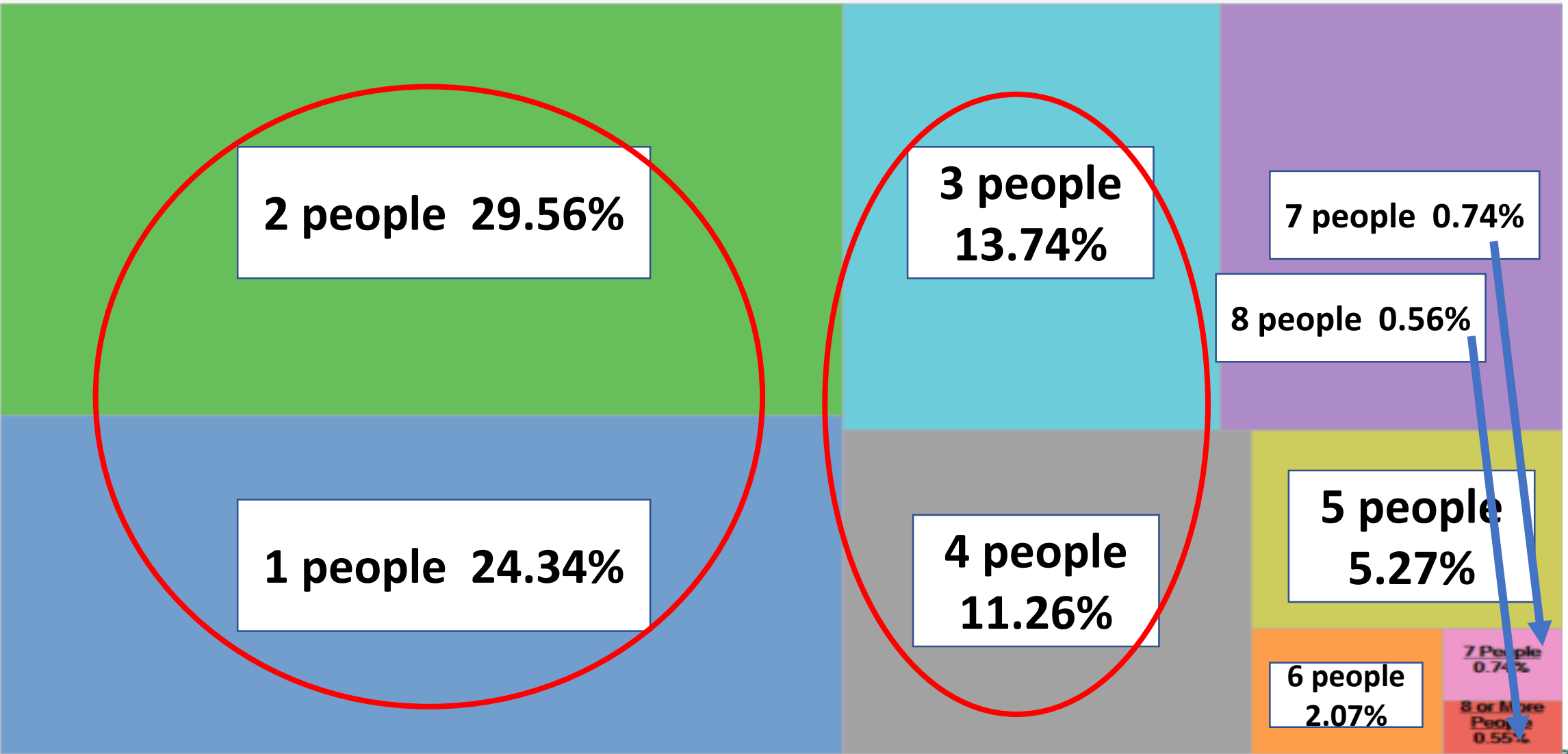


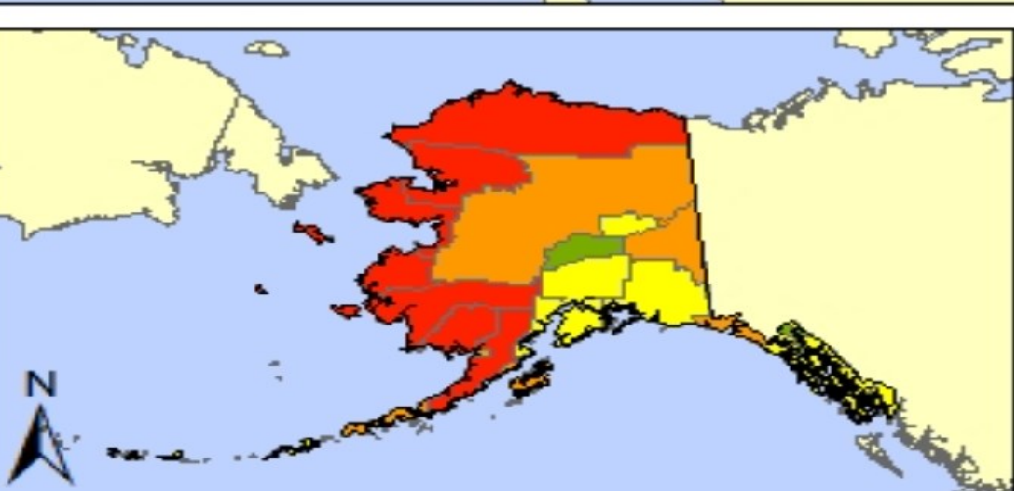
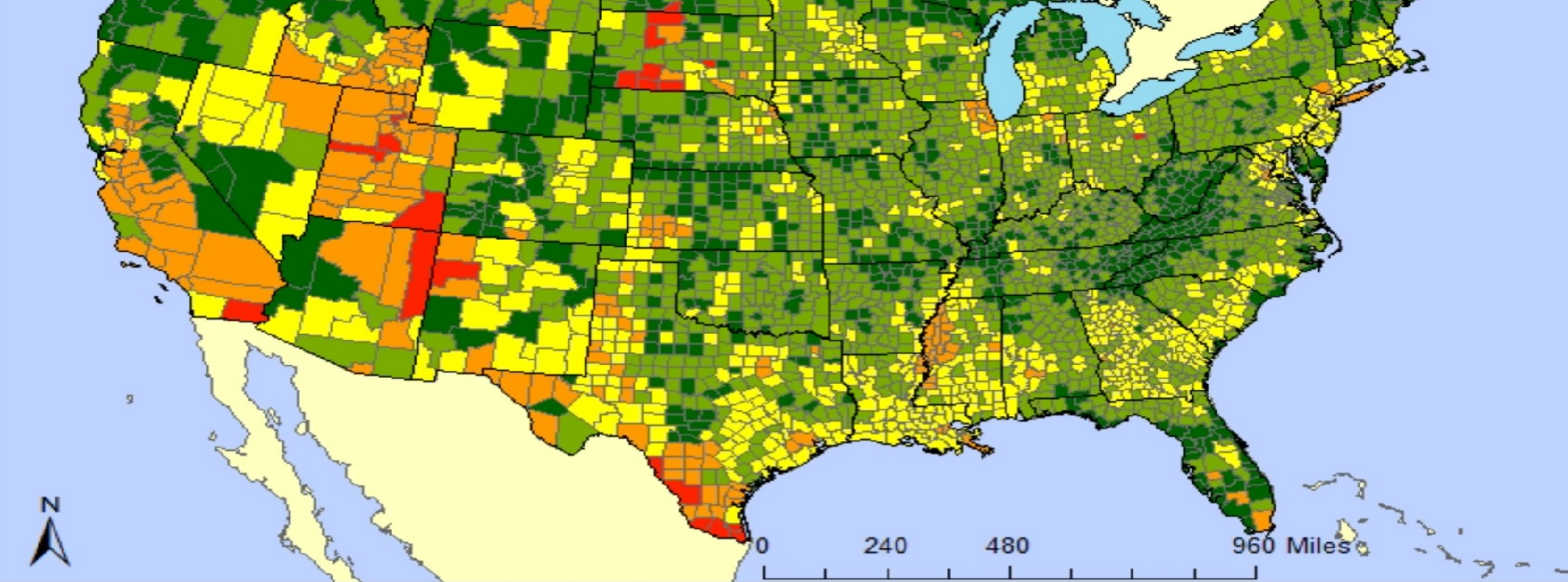
In the Beginning

- This kind of truth, if I am right about God's purpose in His command to "fill the earth", may cause us to rethink birth control as western Christians.
- Have we traded posterity for prosperity?
- I remember well deciding to limit our children to what we thought we could afford – in hindsight, that decision seems poorly thought out.

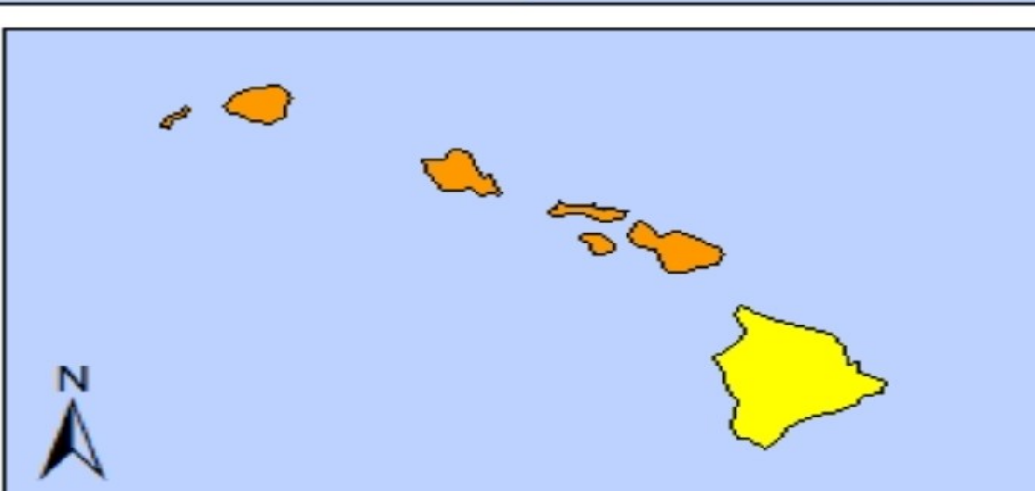
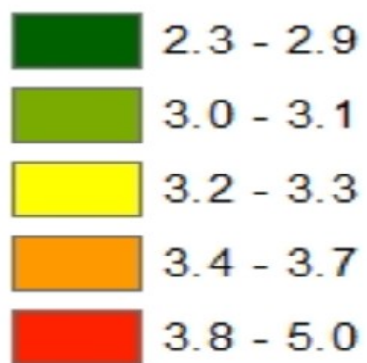


How Many People are There per Household in the US?





Average Family Size



Countries ▾		Forecasts ▾		Analysis ▾		Databank ▾			Directories	
	Country	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
	United States	2.69	2.63	2.63	2.61	2.61	2.61	2.61	2.60	2.60
	Canada	2.70	2.68	2.67	2.66	2.64	2.63	2.62	2.61	2.59
	Germany	2.16	2.14	2.13	2.12	2.11	2.10	2.07	2.07	2.05
	France	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30
	United Kingdom	2.41	2.41	2.39	2.39	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.39
	Italy	2.63	2.62	2.60	2.58	2.57	2.57	2.56	2.54	2.51
	Spain	3.08	3.02	2.98	2.96	2.94	2.92	2.78	2.76	2.72
	Netherlands	2.34	2.34	2.33	2.32	2.31	2.30	2.29	2.28	2.27
	Switzerland	2.24	2.24	2.25	2.26	2.27	2.29	2.28	2.27	2.27
	Belgium	2.42	2.40	2.39	2.38	2.37	2.36	2.35	2.35	2.34

Nigeria	5.38	5.25	5.12	5.00	4.88	4.76	4.64	4.52	4.40
Israel	3.59	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.53	3.52	3.51	3.50	3.50
Algeria	6.51	6.48	6.46	6.43	6.41	6.38	6.37	6.35	6.34
Kuwait	7.59	7.60	7.61	7.62	7.63	7.64	7.74	7.84	7.94
Qatar	5.36	5.35	5.34	5.32	5.31	5.30	5.30	5.30	5.31
Morocco	6.40	6.42	6.44	6.45	6.47	6.49	6.50	6.51	6.52
Tunisia	5.48	5.48	5.47	5.47	5.46	5.46	5.47	5.47	5.48
Lebanon	4.60	4.52	4.44	4.35	4.27	4.26	4.24	4.23	4.22
Kenya	4.60	4.53	4.47	4.40	4.37	4.33	4.30	4.27	4.23
Tanzania	4.90	4.90	4.90	4.90	4.90	4.90	4.92	4.94	4.96
Bahrain	5.95	6.00	6.05	6.10	6.15	6.20	6.22	6.24	6.26

In the Beginning

In light of God being
more glorified in more
people, have we in the
west erred?



In the Beginning

- Genesis 9:2 “The fear of you and the terror of you will be on every beast of the earth and on every bird of the sky; with everything that creeps on the ground, and all the fish of the sea, into your hand they are given.”
- Apparently more changed on the ark than we are told.
- The animals lined up and walked into the ark right before the flood, but afterward there is this seeming necessity for man to be protected from the animals.



In the Beginning

- With few exceptions, most of those being the protection of their young, animals are afraid of mankind.
- We know that some animals are strong enough to overpower and kill us, but few actually try because they live in fear (terror) of us.
- God did that for our protection and so that we could engage them for food on our terms, not theirs.



In the Beginning

- Genesis 9:3 “Every moving thing that is alive shall be food for you; I give all to you, as I gave the green plant.”
- Genesis 1:29 “Then God said, “Behold, *I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you;*”
- Now, post-flood, God gives “every moving thing that is alive” for food to mankind as He gave all the plants.



In the Beginning



In the Beginning

- 1st Timothy 4:1 But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, 2 by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron, 3 men who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth. 4 **For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with gratitude; 5 for it is sanctified by means of the word of God and prayer.**



In the Beginning

- Genesis 9:4 **Only you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.** 5 Surely I will require your lifeblood; from every beast I will require it. And from every man, from every man's brother I will require the life of man. 6 **“Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed, For in the image of God He made man.”**
- Two subjects here – 1) mankind is not to eat raw meat and 2) God believes in capital punishment.



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- We know that God is good so if He is going to forbid man to eat raw meat we also know there is a good reason for it – to protect mankind from disease and sickness.
- And, since we know that God is good we can also deduce that capital punishment also has a good purpose.

What is the purpose of capital punishment?



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- The upside of capital punishment is that it is a deterrent to murder.
- The downside is that a society runs the risk of executing innocent citizens.
- A decision by a society to allow or forbid capital punishment is not a moral one, God already tells us it is moral to execute murderers. (it is about what risk are we willing to assume with respect to executing the innocent)



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- As of March 11, 2009, there have been a total of 15,645 executions due to the death penalty in the U.S.; 14,489 of these occurred before the U.S. Supreme Court declared capital punishment unconstitutional in 1972, and 1,156 occurred after capital punishment was reinstated in 1976. There is no definitive answer to the question of how many innocent people have been executed in the U.S.; however, Northwestern University School of Law's Centre on Wrongful Convictions (CWC) documented 38 executions carried out since the mid-1970s where there was compelling evidence of innocence or serious doubt about guilt. Another 130 death row inmates were exonerated, instead of executed, between 1973 and 2008 due to emerging evidence, including DNA analysis. A smaller number of people have been exonerated posthumously.



In the Beginning

**WHAT DO
YOU SAY?**



Questions

