

**Text: Deuteronomy 19:1-13**

**PRACTICE OF JUSTICE IN CANAAN**

1. Laws had been given
2. Judges to be appointed
3. Extra provision of “cities of refuge”

**CITIES OF REFUGE**

1. Three cities to be set aside as “cities of refuge” (Deuteronomy 19:2)
2. Roads to these cities to be prepared (Deuteronomy 19:3)
3. For the “manslayer” (Deuteronomy 19:3)

**THE CASE OF THE MANSLAYER**

1. Unintentional slaying (Deuteronomy 19:4)
2. No hatred noted in the past (Deuteronomy 19:4)
3. Accidental death (Deuteronomy 19:5)

**THE AVENGER OF BLOOD**

1. He is angry (Deuteronomy 19:6)
2. He pursues the manslayer (Deuteronomy 19:6)
3. The cities of refuge would help prevent bloodshed

## **POSSIBILITY OF ADDING THREE MORE CITIES**

1. If the territories are enlarged (Deuteronomy 19:8)
  
2. Why God would bless with more territory (Deuteronomy 19:9)
  - a) If the commandments are kept
  - b) If there is love for the Lord
  - c) If the people walked with God
  
3. More cities of refuge
  - Lest innocent blood is shed (Deuteronomy 19:10)

## **POSSIBLE ABUSE OF THE CITIES OF REFUGE**

1. Hatred of neighbour (Deuteronomy 19:11)
2. Slaying of victim (Deuteronomy 19:11)
3. The elders of land must uphold justice (Deuteronomy 19:12)
4. The murderer must be dealt with appropriately (Deuteronomy 19:13)
  - a) No sparing
  - b) No guilt of innocent blood on the nation (Deuteronomy 19:13)