

Biblical War Texts

Is Yahweh a Blood-Thirsty, Genocidal God?

Free Public Lecture

with [Dr. William Webb](#)
and [Dr. Gordon Oeste](#)

The “kill all” passages in the Hebrew Bible sure look like Yahweh, the God of the OT, encourages genocide—the indiscriminate slaughter of men, women, and children . . . everyone. This leaves readers with a disturbing (even horrifying) picture of God, challenging to faith and troubling to the soul. But things are not so simple. First, the total-kill language is rhetorical (hyperbole) rather than literal—a common misunderstanding. Second, a series of God portraits within subversive war texts (often overlooked) radically challenges the extreme patterns of war violence in an ancient world. Yahweh is calling his stubborn people away from war atrocities towards his enduring and higher value of shalom.

Friday June 6, 2025, 7:15 - 9:30 p.m.

[Forestview Church, 3175 Dundas Street West, Oakville, ON](#)



The Canadian-American
Theological Association



TYNDALE
UNIVERSITY



FORESTVIEW
CHURCH WITHOUT WALLS