

## **Presbyterians On The Death Penalty**

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) opposes the death penalty. Its web site states the death penalty cannot be supported by the Bible and "the use of the death penalty tends to brutalize the society that condones it" (<http://www.pcusa.org/101/101-deathpenalty.htm>). In last week's article we noted that the PCUSA supports abortion, even refusing to call for a ban on partial-birth abortion (<http://www.pcusa.org/101/101-abortion.htm>).

First, the death penalty is supported by the Bible. The New Testament declares governments are established by God and they do not "bear the sword in vain" (Rom. 13:1-4). If the death penalty "tends to brutalize" society, then it is God's fault.

Second, how can a church that claims to love the Lord support the murder of innocent children but oppose justice being served on vile criminals? It is hypocritical and evil. We call upon Presbyterians who love the light, to leave the darkness of the PCUSA (2 Cor. 6:11-18).

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