

Oh, hold  
them back!



**I**F YOU ARE SLACK in the day of distress, your strength is limited.

*Deliver those who are being taken away to death, and those who are staggering to slaughter, Oh hold them back!*

*If you say, "See, we did not know this," does He not consider it who weighs the hearts? And does He not know it who keeps your soul? And will He not render to man according to his work?*

—Proverbs 24:10-12

With these words, Solomon challenged his son to be a bold, brave leader, to go against the culture of disobedience and death. But these words are not just for kings and princes. They are also for us.

## How do we deliver? Whom should we hold back?

People need all sorts of help, but some are in imminent peril of being unjustly killed. Their rescue cannot wait. Among other applications, this passage has been used to urge action on behalf of unborn babies who are in danger of being aborted.

The Bible gives us many examples of heroes and heroines who acted selflessly and courageously to save lives.<sup>1</sup> Some were prominent people while others were only ordinary folk. Some of those rescued were ones anointed by God for special purpose, while others were unnamed neighbors and countrymen.

Sometimes biblical heroes risked their lives by speaking up to people in power; at other times they exercised caution and used stealth. Often, lives were saved through simple acts of kindness.

According to Proverbs 24:10-12, a life-saver is someone who...

- ▶ Doesn't want to be considered weak or cowardly in a day of distress
- ▶ Thinks less of his own problems and is aware of the distress of others
- ▶ Is strong and brave

- ▶ Doesn't make excuses
- ▶ Is aware that God watches him and knows his heart
- ▶ Desires to be rewarded by God
- ▶ Knows that God takes care of him so he can take care of others

We can be life-savers if we educate ourselves about the causes of abortion and think about what we can do to help mothers and rescue their babies. There's no need to panic during distressing days if we're prepared. Perhaps your unique gifts and abilities can be applied to the problem of abortion.

The main thing to remember is this: We derive our courage and strength from an all-powerful, all-knowing, and always present God.

*"Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or tremble at them, for the LORD your God is the One who goes with you. He will not fail you or forsake you."* —Deuteronomy 31:6

**Life Matters**  
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