

Series: Genesis: Blood to Babel

Text: Genesis 4:1-16

**Main Idea:** Sin turns family into fugitives.

Title/Hook: The Apple Doesn't Fall Far From The Tree

Date: 4/7/24

Purpose: To show how sin causes estrangement from God and each other and only faith in Christ can bring us back to God. To call non-Christians to faith in Christ and reconciliation with God. To encourage Christians to rule sin, by the power of the Spirit, instead of being ruled by it.

FCF/COR: All human beings are born in sin, born not only susceptible to sin's dominion but actively enslaved to it.

Christ Trajectory: How can God show mercy in the midst of judgment? God's judgment and mercy shake hands at the cross. Romans 3:22-26

Apologetic: Do you see the brokenness of the world, or your own life? The Bible reveals the cause (sin) and the solution (gospel).

Call to Worship: Psalm 51:1-2

Benediction: 1 Peter 3:18

Structure: Inductive

### **Main Idea:**

Subject (What is the passage about?): What happened when Cain disobeyed the Lord, got angry, and killed his brother Abel?

Complement (What does the passage say about the subject?): He was cursed by the Lord, becoming a fugitive and wanderer on the earth, and separated from the presence of the Lord.

Exegetical Main Idea: Cain disobeyed the Lord, got angry, and killed his brother Abel; he was cursed by the Lord, becoming a fugitive and wanderer on the earth, and separated from the presence of the Lord.

Theological Main Idea: Sin leads to the curse of estrangement from God.

Homiletical Main Idea: Sin turns family into fugitives.

Outline:

### **1. Two brothers, two offerings, and two responses (vv. 1-5a)**

**Hebrews 11:4** - By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks.

**Quote - Bruce Waltke** - "Cain's sin is tokenism. He looks religious, but in his heart he is not totally dependent on God, childlike, grateful."

**Matthew 12:7** - And if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless.

**Hosea 6:6** - For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

**Quote - Matthew Henry** - "A hypocrite may possibly hear as many sermons, say as many prayers, and give as much alms, as a good Christian, and yet, for want of sincerity, come short of acceptance with God."

### **2. Sin isn't ruled but rules, and the result is murder (vv. 5b-8)**

**James 1:13-15** - 13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. 14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

### **3. God offers protection in the midst of punishment (vv. 9-16)**

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**Exodus 34:6-7** - 6 The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, 7 keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children’s children, to the third and the fourth generation.”

**Romans 3:22-26** - For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

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**Quote - John Owen** - “Be killing sin or it will be killing you!”

**Romans 8:13-14** - 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

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