

Genesis 4

Pastor Jim Thomas

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SERMON NOTES

Genesis

In the beginning...

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”

- *Genesis 1:1*

Genesis 4

Outline of Genesis 4:

1. The tragic story of Cain and Abel (v. 1-15)
2. The dramatic decline of humanity (v. 16-24)
3. The progress of redemption history (v. 25-26)

“By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained the testimony that he was righteous, God testifying about his gifts, and through faith, though he is dead, he still speaks”.

- *Hebrews 11:4*

“Not as Cain, who was of the evil one and slew his brother. And for what reason did he slay him? Because his deeds were evil, and his brother’s were righteous.”

- *1 John 3:12*

“If this biblical story is not the one that really controls our thinking then inevitably we shall be swept into the story that the world tells about itself. We shall become increasingly indistinguishable from the pagan world of which we are a part.”

- Leslie Newbigin

“God is not a supporting actor in our life movie. We exist for His purposes, not the other way around.”

- Michael Horton

“When you argue against Him you are arguing against the very power that makes you able to argue at all: it is like cutting off the branch you are sitting on.”

- C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

“Since we were not created to be autonomous, self-made people but were created to be in communion with God, when the Spirit leads us back into communion with God in Christ, we do not lose our true selves. We regain them.”

- J. Todd Billings, *Union with Christ*

Cain was a fugitive and a wanderer... (v. 12, ESV)

- A fugitive running away from home.
- A wanderer without a home.

God’s people are...

- Strangers in a world that is not our home. (1 Peter 2:11)
- Pilgrims on a journey back to our true home. (Ephesians 2:19; Hebrews 11:14-16)

“God has appointed us a captain of our salvation, and made him responsible for seeing us through this world home to glory. Thank God we can count on his faithfulness and know that he will never fail, never once loose his patience or his temper with any of us, but will fulfill his appointed task to the very end. He will save to the uttermost all who come to God by him.”

- David Gooding, *An Unshakeable Kingdom*

“Let your own unrighteousness, and all your darkness and despair, drive you to Jesus Christ, the righteous, in all his brightness and sufficiency.”

- Dane Ortlund, *Gentle and Lowly*