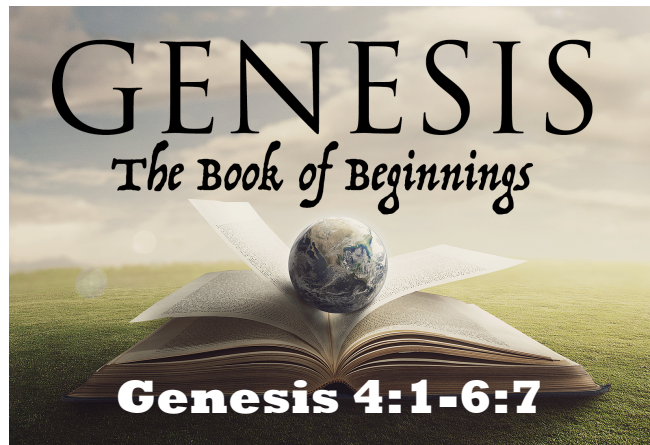


### 3 • The Beginning of Life Outside of Eden



What would life look like after Adam and Eve were driven out from the garden of Eden? Now separated from the tree of life, what would they experience?

In [Genesis 3:16](#), God had spoken of childbearing to Eve. [Genesis 4](#) begins by documenting the birth of two sons: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Unfortunately, it *doesn't* describe the end of sin. In fact, we don't even get one chapter beyond the beginning of sin before reading about murder.

Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the ground, and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his \_\_\_\_\_ and of their fat portions. And the LORD had \_\_\_\_\_ for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very \_\_\_\_\_, and his face fell. ([Gen 4:2-5](#))

The question is, what would Cain do with his anger? Listen carefully to what the LORD said:

“Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? If you do \_\_\_\_\_, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, \_\_\_\_\_ is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must \_\_\_\_\_ over it.” ([4:6-7](#))

Like his parents before him, Cain had a choice to make, and the next verse describes the terrible choice he ended up making:

Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and \_\_\_\_\_ him. ([4:8](#))

Like his parents before him, Cain was confronted by the LORD and held accountable for his actions. For the rest of his life, he would be a cursed fugitive and wanderer on the earth ([4:9-16](#)).

[Genesis 4:17-24](#) briefly records several generations of Cain's descendants, ending with Lamech, who most certainly did not honor his Creator in the way he acted or spoke. With [Genesis 4:25](#), we begin to follow the family line of another descendant of Adam and Eve— \_\_\_\_\_.

To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time people began to \_\_\_\_\_ upon the name of the LORD. ([4:26](#))

With [Genesis 5](#), we have a listing of ten generations, spanning from Adam to Noah. Among them was:

☉ \_\_\_\_\_ ([5:21-24](#)), a man who “walked with God, and he was not, for God took him”

☉ Methuselah ([5:25-27](#)), who lived to be 969 years old, longer than any other known human being

But with each generation, we repeatedly read the same ending: “and he \_\_\_\_\_.” The consequence for sin promised by God to Adam in [Genesis 3:17-19](#) was being experienced in every generation.

By the time we reach [Genesis 6](#), mankind is beginning to “multiply on the face of the land,” but not drifting any closer to God and his will. In fact,

The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only \_\_\_\_\_ continually... So the LORD said, “I will blot \_\_\_\_\_ man whom I have created from the face of the land... for I am \_\_\_\_\_ that I have made them.” ([6:5-7](#))

## For Class & Family Discussion:

- What should we make of [Genesis 4:3-5](#)? How might [Hebrews 11:4](#) enhance our understanding of what was going on?
- What warning did the LORD give Cain in [Genesis 4:6-7](#) and what can we learn from it?
- What was God's curse on Cain? Is there any sense in which God extended grace to Cain?
- What stands out to you from [4:17-24](#) as you read about Cain and his descendants?
- What should we make of Lamech, particularly based on what he says to his wives in [4:23-24](#)?
- What is different about the descendants of Seth according to [4:26](#)? What sort of contrast can be drawn between [4:26](#) and [4:16](#)?
- In what way would the line of generations in [Genesis 5](#) have meant much more to a Jewish audience than the generational line in [Genesis 4](#)? Note especially what Luke records at the conclusion of [Luke 3](#)...
- In this long list of names, what is remarkable about Enoch in [5:21-24](#)? What can [Hebrews 11:5](#) add to our understanding?
- [Genesis 6:1-4](#) can be a challenging section to understand. What might it mean? While those four verses might be challenging, the message and meaning of [6:5-7](#) is much more straightforward. What do we learn about God in these verses?