



Lesson 3: Genesis 4-11

Introduction:

"The next events in Genesis graphically catalogue the Fall's impact upon the race. These stories focus on curse and judgment. The story of the first family (Gen 2:4–4:26) ends in the violence of Cain and Lamech. Such is repeated in the stories that follow. All of these judgments highlight the scope of failure that dogs the human family as a result of the Fall. Yet there is also the alternating theme of blessing and grace from a faithful Creator, that also punctuates the narrative of human failure."

Albert H. Baylis

From Creation to the Cross, p.65

This year we are memorizing Isaiah 40. **This week's verse is Isaiah 40:4...**

"Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain."

Day One- Read Genesis 4:1–16; **The First Results of the Curse**

Note: This week we will be doing an overview of Genesis 4–11 looking only at selective events in the early history of God's people.

1. In Genesis 4:1, Eve acknowledged God's help as she named her first-born "Cain", which means "created" or "formed." What hope might Eve have had as she remembered God's message of hope in Genesis 3:15?

2. From verses 3–5, why do you think God had regard for Abel’s offering but not Cain’s? (See also Hebrews 11:4 and 1 John 3:12.)

3. In verses 5–16, what was Cain’s response?

a. Did Cain show any repentance? What might he have done differently to please God?

b. What is your response when God convicts you of sin? Is there anything you need to change or do differently to please God?

4. From verses 3–16, identify first the progression of Cain’s sin, and then how God’s grace was also displayed in the midst of this tragic event.

a. How has God’s grace been evident in your life this week? Take a moment to thank Him for His comfort and hope.

Day Two- Read Genesis 4:17–6:13; Sin Abounds

1. Sin was evident through the generations of Cain’s descendents; what were Lamech’s transgressions in Genesis 4:19 and 23–24?

- a. In verses 25–26, how was God’s grace also evident? Refer back to Genesis 3:15.
2. Skim Genesis 5; what direct consequence of the Fall is repeated throughout the chapter? (See also Genesis 2:16–17)
 - a. In the midst of this narrative, what verses give evidence that some men remained faithful to God?

 - b. In verses 22–24, how is Enoch described? What do you think that means?
3. From Genesis 6:1–13, what was the overall condition of mankind, and what was God’s response?
 - a. In verse 7, why do you think that God chose to destroy every living thing?

 - b. What aspects of God’s character are displayed in His decision to judge sin and spare Noah?

Day Three- Read selected passages in Genesis 6–9; **God’s Judgment in The Flood**

1. From Genesis 6:13–22, what instruction did God give Noah, and how did he respond?
 - a. How can you follow Noah’s example and be godly in the midst of an ungodly culture? Be specific.

2. Skim Genesis 7–8 and note what you find particularly interesting in the account of the Flood, and why.
 3. In Genesis 8:20, what was Noah’s response to God’s salvation of his family?
 4. From Genesis 8:21–9:17, in your own words briefly describe what God established with Noah.
 - a. In 9:1–6, what five basic commands did God give?
 - b. In verses 8–17, what promise did God give, and what was it is sign?
 5. In Genesis 9:18–28 as Canaan and the Canaanites are first introduced, there is the continued inclination towards sin in the actions of Noah and his son Ham, and the reminder that the sin of one person has consequences for the generations that follow. How does Ham’s example underscore the importance of God’s commandment in Exodus 20:12 to honor one’s father and mother?
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Day Four- Read Genesis 11:1–9; **The Spread of Sin**

1. Briefly describe what took place in Genesis 11:1–9.
 - a. In verse 4, how did the people deliberately disobey God’s will, and how does that relate to God’s command given in Genesis 1:28 and 9:1??
 - b. From verses 8–9, what was the consequence of that disobedience and how is God’s judgment and grace evident?

2. What do you think was the fundamental motivation behind the building project at Babel? Is there significance to their building up to the heavens?

a. Do you see a similar motivation in the hearts of people today? Explain your answer.

3. In your opinion, what is the most important lesson for believers in Genesis 11:1–9?

Day Five- Skim Genesis 4–11; Overview

NOTE: Remember that Genesis 1–11 covers four major events—Creation, the Fall, the Flood, and the Tower of Babel—while Genesis 12–50 covers four major people: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.

1. From Genesis 4–11, cite examples of the conflict between the seed of the woman and the seed of the serpent.

2. Cain's response to God's judgment of sin in Genesis 4 is in stark contrast to David's response in 2 Samuel 12:13 and Psalm 51. How is David an example for believers today? See also 1 John 1:5–10.

3. What have these chapters taught you about:

a. the holiness of God

b. the sinfulness of man and God's judgment

c. God's purpose for man

4. From Genesis 4–11, briefly contrast God's faithfulness and man's faithlessness. If you are not saved, take time to consider your sin and God's certain judgment of it. If you are saved, consider God's forgiveness and grace in your life and write a brief prayer of thanksgiving.

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