

**Sermon: “Crouching Dragon, Hidden Tiger”**

**Text: Genesis 4:1-16 (page 3 in the pew Bible)**

**I. Cain’s offering deficient, verses 2-5**

**“The LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering He had no regard.” Vs. 4-5**

**Hebrews 11:3** “*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.”

**Hebrews 11:6** “And without faith it is impossible to please (God) Him...”

**II. God’s warning disregarded, verses 6-7**

**“If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it.” Vs. 7**

**Galatians 5:17** “The desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.”

**I Peter 2:11** “Abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.”

**III. Cain’s crime and criminal defense deplorable, vs 8-9**

**He said, “I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?” vs. 9**

**I John 3:11-13** “For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you.”

**“Cain said to the LORD, “My punishment is greater than I can bear.” Vs. 13**

**IV. God’s mercy demonstrated, verses 7 and 10- 15**

**“If you do well, will you not be accepted?” vs. 7**

**“Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” vs. 9**

**“You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.” vs. 12**

**“Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold.” Vs. 15**

<p><b>“Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.”</b></p> <p><b>Hebrews 12:24</b></p>
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