

*Sin-Killing*  
**Genesis 4:6-24**

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**Intro:** “Dying you shall die” ... we’ve seen the promise of Christ, and the fruit of that promise, but here we see how great our need is. **Either by grace, we are dead to sin and killing it; or, sin is killing us and will do so forever.**

**Sin kills the sinner.** Cain was angry at God, but God was trying to help Cain see his true enemy: his sin. Sin desired to dominate him, and what he needed to do was destroy it. Kill it. But, he couldn’t, because he was not hoping in Christ and was not led by the Spirit. He chose the sin that was killing him over the Lord who was being merciful to him.

**Sin attacks God.** Satan was unable to harm God, so he went after people who are made in the image of God. Satan was the murderer from the beginning, and Cain ended up being his first ultimate victim. Not only does Cain literally commit murder, assaulting God’s image, but then he blames God Himself in v9. It was the Lord who was Abel’s keeper, as v10 shows (cf. Prov 22:22-23). It is because sin is against God that God says, “vengeance is Mine; I will repay.”

**Sin spurns grace.** One of the main features of the passage was God’s mercy to Cain. The Lord warns and rebukes him. And the Lord does not immediately destroy him. And the Lord even puts a mark of protection upon him. But every good that the Lord does to him ends up testifying against him, because he does not repent.

**Sin may be disguised in fleshly/superficial glory.** Cain builds the first city (in defiance of his punishment!). Lamech is a ladies’ man, who writes hymns to himself. His children are successful farmers, musicians, engineers, and beauty queens.

**Conclusion:** Stop being so consumed with fleshly pride and success and desire! Don’t let earthly pursuits get in the way of seeing God and His grace as the great realities of your life. In the midst of all of them, be looking to Him who is Your life, Him who is Your strength, Him who is Your Father. And by His Spirit, by whom you call Him your Father, be killing sin!