"Cain Went Away From The Presence Of The LORD" Genesis 4:10-26; Deuteronomy 28:15-16; Isaiah 59:1-3

"Our hearts are restless until they rest in God." (Augustine)

"For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere." (James 3:16-17)

"I have a deep bondage to self-exaltation (I exalt what I think or feel over what God says), self-preservation (the desire to protect my feelings/self over obeying God), and self-gratification (finding satisfaction apart from submission to God) which makes me ignore and/or reject what God says is good for me." (John Piper)

- A Rejection of the Goodness and Grace of God (Genesis 4:6-9)
 - God's revealed will (His Word) expresses His goodness towards us. God's revealed will (His Word) is what is best for human life and flourishing in relation to enjoying God and life (cf. Genesis 2:16-17,24; Genesis 4:7,19).
 - The first person to physically die was a martyr for God. Because of his love for God, he was murdered.
- The Wages of Sin is Spiritual Death (Genesis 4:10-14,16, 23-24; cf. Genesis 3:23-24)
 - Sin corrupts our reasoning, our moral standard, our desire for God, our desire to obey God, and to exalt God above all things. We exist to make Christ look supremely valuable above all other things.
 - Cain was bothered more by the consequence of his sin, than the fact that he had sinned against
 God who is only good towards him. "For I know that my transgressions and my sin is ever before me.
 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight." (Psalm 51:4)
 - Why is every sin against God? 1) When we sin we are rejecting God's goodness towards us.
 2) When we sin we are directly disobeying God's will for our lives. 3) When we sin we are exhibiting a lack of trust in God. 4) When we sin we are proclaiming He is not worthy of worship.
 5) When we sin we insult God's infinite wisdom. 6) When we sin we are rejecting God's love towards us. 7) Every time we sin, we are sinning in the presence of God.
- The Common Grace of God (Genesis 4:15,17-18,20-22)
 - What is common grace? It is kindness shown by God to all humanity regardless of their disposition towards God. It is also God putting things into place to restrain mankind from sinning more severely than they already do. It also is seen in mankind having a general kindness, love, and concern for fellow image bearers.
 - o "The LORD is good to all, and His mercy is over all that He has made" (Psalm 145:9). "If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same....But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great and you will be sons of the Most High, for He is kind to the ungrateful and the evil" (Luke 6:32-35). "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment" (Romans 13:1-2).
- Redemption by the Grace of God (Genesis 4:25-26)
 - Adam and Eve lost both of their sons because of sin. Sin only takes, it never ultimately gives.

(continued \rightarrow)

- God's plan of redemption (Genesis 3:15) was not defeated because of Cain killing Abel (Genesis 4:8). God's plan was that through the lineage of Seth the Messiah would come (Luke 3:23-38). "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts crying, Abba Father!" (Galatians 4:4-6)
- We are starting to see the distinctions between the children of God and the children of the Devil (Acts 13:10; Matthew 13:38; John 8:44; 1 John 3:10). In Cain's life we see a rejection of God's Word, murder, hatred, dissatisfaction, distance from God, and a rejection of God's design for marriage in his lineage in Lamech. "And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind." (Ephesians 2:1-3)
 - We also see a line of people who began to call upon the name of the LORD (Genesis 26:25). "For you, O Lord, are forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon You. Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace. In the day of my trouble I call upon You, for You answer me." (Psalm 86:5-7; cf. 2 Timothy 2:22)

→ Prayer Points for Day of Prayer (Wednesday, June 29th):

- Pray for wisdom and steadfastness for our Elders and Deacons as they lead and serve our church body.
- Pray that we as individuals and as a church body would live holy lives before friends and neighbors so that our witness to the gospel will have a credible testimony.
- Pray that you and your family will be committed to studying, doing, and teaching the Word of God.
- Pray that we as individuals and as a church body would have our hearts filled with extraordinary, contagious, full-to-overflowing love for one another.

Announcements:

- ★DONATIONS: THIS Thursday will be the LAST day that we are collecting monetary donations for HeartCry. For more information about HeartCry and what they do, please see the board in the lobby. There is a container on the back table to put your monetary donations in. There is also information on the container about how to give online.
- ★4TH OF JULY SERVICE: We will be having our annual 4th of July Service NEXT Sunday, July 3rd, at Mary Conrad's house (15340 CR 439, Dresden). Please do NOT come here to this building, no one will be here NEXT Sunday! We will not be having prayer before the worship service next week. The worship service will start at 5:30pm, and the fellowship dinner will immediately follow the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the back table, please sign-up to bring something for the dinner! If you have any yard games that you enjoy playing, please bring those to the service next Sunday.
- ★CHURCH DAY OF PRAYER: Our monthly day of prayer as a church body will be THIS Wednesday, June 29th. We ask that you set aside specific time on this day to pray for the leaders and the ministries of our church body. Please see the prayer points above. If you have any specific prayer requests that you would like for our Elders to be in prayer for, please pass those requests on to one of the Elders and they will communicate your requests to the rest of the Elders.