

DESCENT

A STUDY OF GENESIS 4-11

The Generations of Adam
Genesis 4:25-5:32
April 26, 2020

This is the book of the generations of Adam. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them Man when they were created. - **Genesis 5:1-2**

I. PARTING WAYS

- The separating of the families of the earth begins. One line is given over to autonomy and self-rule, the other to representing God and knowing his blessing (Isa. 42:6, 49:6; Luke 2:32).
- Sin is now formally a part of the human condition. Lamech's song oozes hatred, and sees vengeance in terms of duty (Gen. 4:23-24).
- In Seth's line, people begin to call on the name of the Lord. Worship begins in earnest (vs. 26; Gen. 5:29; Ps. 20:7, 102:15; Prov. 18:10).

II. THE DEATH DIRGE

- The reoccurring theme to chapter five is "and he died." The curse is now realized in its most fearful and potent manner.
- Seventh in the line of Cain brings us evil Lamech. Seventh in the line of Seth brings us righteous Enoch (Gen. 4:18, 5:18).
- The dirge of death is ended abruptly in verses 21-24. "Enoch walked with God, and he was not..." (Ps. 73:24; Heb. 11:5-6).
- To walk with God was commanded of Israel; it remains the standard for believers today (Lev. 26:3, 12; Col. 2:6; Rev. 3:4).
- To walk with God is to be in agreement with him — to fellowship with him (Amos 3:3; 2 Cor. 6:16).

III. RELIEF FROM THE CURSE

- One of the primary goals of humankind is to seek relief from the effects of the curse (v. 29).
- Noah was indeed a righteous man, but God's promise of relief comes not through Noah, but through his Son: Jesus (John 10:27-29).

KNOW: Although sin is increasing on the face of the earth, God sets about the task of providing for and preserving a godly lineage through Seth. Ultimately, God is preserving a line from which will arise a Messiah (Savior) for the world.

DO: Place your whole-hearted trust in Christ, who promises to deliver us from the curse.

Suggested Reading:

Far As the Curse is Found by Michael Williams.

Where Sin Abounds: The Spread of Sin and the Curse in Genesis by Robert Gonzales Jr.

Rejoicing in Christ by Michael Reeves

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read Genesis 4:25-5:32

1. What is the overarching theme of this narrative? What are we supposed to learn?
2. Why, do you think, are these genealogies so important to the Jews?
3. Why did God take Enoch away?
4. What are some ways that human beings try to alleviate the effects of the curse outside of a relationship with Jesus?
5. How does Jesus "give us" eternal life? (see John 5:20-22).
6. Why does the introduction of Noah seem to finish this narrative?
7. What are your application points from this message?