

Genesis 4:1-5:32 — Descent

October 11, 2015

Welcome to CrossWinds. My name is Kurt. As a church, we are studying our way through Genesis. It is a big book. It will take us about a year to make it through, so we are plowing through a chapter or more a week. Last week, we studied Genesis 3, which is an important chapter. We learned why Fox News is always bad news. We learned why hospitals and undertakers are in a recession-proof business. We learned why our cars comes with locks and our houses with keys. It is all because of sin. Adam and Eve believed the deception of the serpent and sin entered our world. The death and destruction of sin didn't stay in Adam and Eve's hearts but it affected everything in this world with decay and death. That was Genesis 3. Today we learn that sin is like mold, once it starts. it spreads and gets into everything. The story of the spread of sin and the increasing destruction of sin is Genesis 4 and 5.

Today we pick up the story on the spread of sin with some of Adam and Eve's children named Cain and Abel.

Cain and Abel — When I sin, I will suffer.

Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord." Genesis 4:1 (ESV)

This sounds like an innocent line. Before we skip it, I want us to think about it. Cain is their first child born. Everything was new to Eve. The book What to Expect When You Are Expecting was not written. Like any new mother, she was stoked at the birth of her first child. She was especially happy because her first child was a son. Last week, in Genesis 3:15, God told Eve that she

would have a descendant that would be a son. He would crush the head of Satan and fix the huge mess they made of their lives and the planet.

I don't know but perhaps Eve was thinking Cain was the son that would solve all her problems. She was thinking Cain would be the hero of the world. She may be thinking she just birthed Jesus. As we will see in a moment, she couldn't be more wrong. Cain was not like a little Jesus. He was more like a little demon.

And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. Genesis 4:2 (ESV)

Next we have Abel. We don't get much on Abel. Maybe the Bible doesn't say much because after your first child the other children become routine. The first child you have his or her entire life on video. By the second child, you are thankful if you remember to take the camera off the charger and put it in your diaper bag. I think this is what we have with Abel. He just blended into the growing family and his birth didn't appear to be an impressive event.

Abel's name is important. Abel means *breath* or *wind*. It is used in the book of Ecclesiastes to describe life. Our life is described as an Abel, a vapor, a mist, a wind. Life is something that is brief and passes quickly. After high school, you get married, have kids and find yourself an empty nester with retirement staring you in the face. Where did life go? That is an Abel. Abel's name turns out to be prophetic of Abel's life. His life doesn't last long.

Eve's little boys grew up. They got out of diapers, graduated from high school and got jobs. They both had good professions. Cain worked the land as a farmer, like his father. Abel was a sheep herder.

In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. Genesis 4:3–5 (ESV)

It says *in the course of time*. This means at the appropriate time.

Apparently Cain and Abel were in the habit of bringing offerings to God. It was something they did regularly. Many Bible scholars believe this was an end-of-year offering. We call it a harvest offering or an ingathering.

In a moment we will see that God had regard to Abel's offering but he didn't like Cain's offering. Before we bust on Cain and say, "I am thankful I am not like Cain." We need to understand that at least Cain got one thing right. Cain at least brought something to worship. He understood that true worship is about giving and sacrificing, not about consuming and using. He understood that when you worship God, you give God something as an act of worship. Many modern Christians don't understand that worship is about giving rather than getting. Most worship as consumers.

True worship doesn't mean going to church, drinking free coffee, singing a few songs, listening to the preacher, making a mess then leaving and hoping somebody will clean up after you. If that is your attitude, you are essentially saying, "I am God. I allowed the church to come into my presence and worship me." "I didn't like the offering the church gave. The coffee wasn't hot enough. The worship was too loud or too soft. The people weren't friendly enough. Would you believe they served store-bought cookies?"

In a moment we will see that Cain gets a lot of things wrong in worship but at least he had this part right. He knew worship was about bringing something.

Worship is about what you can give to others and how you can serve them in the name of Jesus. It is not about how flawlessly people serve you.

I ask you, did you come today as a giver or a getter? Did you come with a heart to serve others to be served by others? Are you here to make a mess or clean up a mess? Are you here for what you get from God or what you can give to God by serving others. If you aren't bringing anything to worship, you may not be here to worship God. You may be here to worship yourself.

When you see the garbage full in the foyer, don't complain. Empty it yourself as part of your worship. Extra bags are in the bottom of the can. Don't let somebody else do all the set-up and tear-down. Do it as part of your worship. Some of you say, "Well, that is inconvenient. I want to be first in line at the restaurant where more people can serve me." It is good if worship is inconvenient. David said he would not give in worship what cost him nothing (2 Samuel 24:24). If it didn't cost you anything, it wouldn't be worship.

At least Cain had this part right. He knew worship involved bringing something. It was about being a giver, not a taker.

Let's get back to the story of Cain and Abel.

Why was Cain's offering rejected and his brother's accepted?

There is a right way and a wrong way to worship God. Our worship is not just about what we bring but it is also about the attitude we have when we bring our offering and the quality of the offering we give.

1. **Abel brought what was first and best.** Abel brought the firstborn of the flock. Later in the law of Moses we learn it is very important to worship God by

giving him first things. When you gave of your flock, you were to give the firstborn to God. The firstborn were considered the best and we give God the best because he deserves the best. This was not just true in animals but it was also true in a grain offering, what I call the veggie offering. You were to always give the first-fruits of the harvest (Numbers 18:13). You weren't to sell the best and give God the leftover. This is the first contrast we see between Cain and Abel. Abel gave what was first; Cain gave what was left.

In addition, Abel was giving the best portion of his flocks. He was giving the fat portions. Today we are into lean meat. The problem with lean meat, like venison, is that it doesn't taste good without fat. The fat portions were considered the best portions. Abel gave God what was first and what was best because God deserves what is first and best from his life. The quality of Abel's offering revealed how Abel felt about God. Abel loved God. Cain's offering of leftovers revealed how he felt about God. Men, do you remember when you were dating your wife? Remember how you wanted to talk to her first? Do you remember how you always wanted to give her the best? You gave her what was first and best in your life because you love her. If you blew her off, wouldn't return her calls or only talked to her out of obligation, your relationship would have fallen apart.

Malachi shows us the importance of giving God our best as an expression of the love we have for God in our hearts.

When you offer blind animals in sacrifice, is that not evil? And when you offer those that are lame or sick, is that not evil? Present that to your governor; will he accept you or show you favor? says the Lord of hosts. And now entreat the favor

of God, that he may be gracious to us. With such a gift from your hand, will he show favor to any of you? says the Lord of hosts. Malachi 1:8–9 (ESV)

God says, “You give me junk. You give me the leftovers and you expect my favor?” What we give to God and how we give to God is a reflection of our heart and how he or she truly feels about God. I ask you. If you look at how you give to God and the quality of what you give, what does it say? Are you more like a Cain or an Abel?

Let me make this practical. Is your tithe the first check you write when you get your paycheck or the last check you write if there is money left over? What do you do after we close the service? Do you run out the door as fast as you can to get on your way or do you sacrifice your time to look for people you don't know so you can talk with them, make them feel welcome or even invite them over to your home. If a visitor came to CrossWinds, would he or she want to come back next week because he or she met you? Folks, true worship is not about getting, it is about giving. When you see somebody go in the hospital in an announcement on the prayer chain group on the CITY, do you call up and offer to bring a meal to the family? Is your worship about getting or giving? When the announcements go out on the CITY about needing cookies for the coffee bar on a Sunday, do you quickly delete it, or mutter how annoying it is to get another church email or do you get online and check the box that says you will bring three dozen cookies to give to others. Do you just show up at the coffee bar to eat cookies or do you look for an opportunity to bring cookies? Are you about giving or getting in your worship? True worship is about giving and

giving our best because this place is what God deserves. Is your worship more like Cain's or Abel's this morning?

The Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? 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." Genesis 4:6–7 (ESV)

You have to love this. Cain was not good at hiding his feelings. It showed all over his face. God looked at his face and said, "You can't hide it. You are depressed. You are upset. I can see it. Everybody can see it. You are irritable and angry." 1 John 3:12 tells us Cain was jealous of Abel. He couldn't handle his little brother being accepted by God while he wasn't.

I love this about God. "Cain, all you have to do is do the right thing. Give what is first and best. Just repent of your sin and worshipping me with cold-hearted leftovers. I am a forgiving God. I am a God of second chances." Can I get an "Amen" on that one? Just repent and do the right thing. God is so forgiving.

Look what God said to him. "Sin is couching at your door. It desires to have you but you must rule over it." Sin is described like a vicious animal that is in the crouched position just waiting pounce on him and destroy him. God, out of his grace, was giving Cain a warning to turn from sin before it destroyed him. All Cain had to do was repent and do the right thing. God would have accepted him. It was water over the dam. If he didn't, sin would destroy him from the inside out. Isn't that the way sin works? If you are mad at somebody, if you are angry at what they did, you start to dwell on it. You think on it. You roll it over again and again in your mind. You baste it with the fine juices of hatred, jealousy and

bitterness. Feeding your anger and dwelling on it doesn't make it better. It makes it worse. You get angrier. You become a bitter person.

If you internalize it, you become depressed. If you externalize it, like Cain did, you become a violent person. The only God-honoring option is to repent of your anger, leave what hurt you in God's hands and do what is right. Guys, you can't sit on this stuff. You can't hold it. It will ruin you.

Some of you are in the same position as Cain this morning. You have hatred, jealousy, anger or bitterness in your heart. The Holy Spirit is convicting you right now. You need to deal with it today before you leave. You need to confess your sin to God. You need to do what is right. You need to get some courage and talk it out. When you have done what you can do, leave it in God's hands and move on before the sin takes you over from the inside, just like what happened to Cain. Will you give me that promise today? Don't be like Cain.

Lets see what happens.

Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" Genesis 4:8-9 (ESV)

Things didn't go well for Cain. He didn't make the right choice. He killed his brother. It was cold-blooded murder. I don't know if he hit him with a rock or he cut him with a knife. I am betting on the knife because of the amount of blood on the murder scene. Being a farmer, he had a shovel, so he buried the body. He hoped nobody would know. Like his father and mother, he thought he could hide his sin from God, which as we know, is a futile effort. God knows all about

our sin. The smartest thing to do when we sin is run to God, not from God. Cain made the dumb choice to hide it.

God stepped to the plate and started questioning him. “Where is your brother?” Don’t you hate those pop quizzes from God? Cain’s heart was callous, which shows you the source of his worship problems, and he said, “Am I my brother’s keeper? Why are you asking me about him?”

While we laugh at Cain’s cold, calloused answer, the truth is most of us are just like Cain. We don’t see ourselves as our brother’s or sister’s keeper. When people in our church family are hurting, and God’s spirit prompts us asking what we have done about it, what do we say? “Am I my brother or sister’s keeper? God, we have a big church. I don’t know them well. I would feel uncomfortable if I called them. God, I am busy. God, I don’t know their number, never mind that they are on the CITY or I could call the church office.” We have cold-hearted, calloused excuses, just like Cain.

If we haven’t seen somebody at church that we usually talk with at the coffee bar, what do we say? “God, it is not my responsibility to call them. It is not my responsibility to find out where they are. Doesn’t the church have elders for that kind of work? I am sure it is a pastor’s job. God, I just come to be served.” Jude 11 talks about people who walk in the way of Cain. If we are too busy to care about our brothers and sisters in Christ other than seeing them occasionally in this building, we are acting like Cain and saying, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” Look what the Scriptures say.

[We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. 1 John 3:14 \(ESV\)](#)

The Bible is even more pointed when it comes to our physical family. How do you love your family?

But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. 1 Timothy 5:8 (ESV)

The way we love God is by loving others, especially our biological family and our church family. All Cain cared about was himself. Don't be a Cain.

And the Lord said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth." Genesis 4:10–12 (ESV)

Whenever we sin, we will suffer. There are always consequences to sin. Cain faced consequences for his sin. The first thing that happened was the ground that received his brother's blood was now cursed because of him. Cain used to be a farmer. He was probably a good farmer. Then, because of his sin, whenever he worked the ground, he wouldn't have much of a crop. He wouldn't get a good harvest. A bad harvest is very irritating if you are a farmer. Cain was going on major diet. No Hungry Man meals. No full plate at his dinner table. There are always consequences of sin, and every time he looked at his skimpy plate, he remembered it was skimpy because of the ground he used to try and hide his brother's blood.

The second thing was he would become a fugitive. Whenever I see that word I think about the old Harrison Ford movie Fugitive. Harrison Ford spent the entire movie living in panic running from the law. Harrison Ford was playing Cain's life. The difference was Cain ran for hundreds of years, not just a two-

hour movie. For hundreds of years he went to bed fearful of someone killing him in his sleep. That is not a pleasant existence. In addition, he would always be a vagabond on the earth. He was never allowed to settle down and have a stable life. He never had a home town.

My friends, when we sin, we will suffer. There is no escaping it. If today you are thinking about how you can get even with your spouse or how you can play politics at work, if you are stewing over somebody that hurt you, trying to find a way to get even, you need to stop. Talk it out, or if you can't fix the hurt, just give it to God and trust it into his hands. If you get even and sin, you will suffer.

In the big picture, Cain didn't suffer that much. He didn't get what he deserved. Proper justice would have been his own death. Later, God writes "whoever sheds the blood of man, by man his blood will be shed" (Genesis 9:6). God is kind, even when we sin. He didn't give Cain what he deserved. He doesn't give us what we deserve.

Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." Then the Lord said to him, "Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the Lord put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him. Genesis 4:13–15 (ESV)

I find this amusing. Cain was worried that somebody would kill him because he killed his brother. It is called revenge killing. He was worried another son or daughter of Eve would get sick of listening to Mom and Dad crying every night at the dinner table when they looked at Abel's empty chair.

First, God was merciful to Cain and didn't give Cain what he deserved. God was gracious to Cain. He gave Cain something good he didn't deserve.

God put a mark on Cain. I don't know what this mark is. Maybe it was a tattoo on his forehead that said, "Property of God. Don't mess with Cain or you mess with me." I don't know. This mark was a promise that if someone touched Cain God would take revenge on them seven fold.

God promised to protect Cain from revenge killers. What incredible undeserved grace. Isn't this the same for us? Doesn't God continually show mercy toward us with our sin by not giving us what we deserve plus grace toward us through Jesus and in many other ways by giving us kindness we don't deserve? Isn't God good in spite of our sin?

What comes next is we move from a zoom lens on Cain and Abel to a wide-angle lens that covers approximately 1,600 years of history. What we find is sin continues to spin the world out of control in all of Cain's descendants. Cain was a murderer. From there, it just got worse for his kids and grandkids.

Cain's line — The Rise of Godless Civilization

Then Cain went away from the presence of the Lord and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden. Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. When he built a city, he called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch. To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad fathered Mehujael, and Mehujael fathered Methushael, and Methushael fathered Lamech. And Lamech took two wives. The name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah. Adah bore Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe. Zillah also bore Tubal-cain; he was the forger of all instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah. Lamech said to his wives: "Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; you wives of Lamech, listen to what I say: I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for striking me. If Cain's revenge is sevenfold, then Lamech's is seventy-sevenfold." Genesis 4:16–24 (ESV)

Cain left God's presence and went to the land of Nod. Nod means wondering. Cain became a wanderer, a vagabond. He went east of Eden, which

simply means he was continuing to go further away from God. Every time you see the phrase east of Eden in the Bible, it means people are moving further from God. That is not the direction to travel.

Where did Cain get his wife? I know some of you will get really distracted on this kind of stuff in your Life Group. It isn't hard to figure out. Genesis 5:2 tells us Adam and Eve had other sons and daughters besides Cain and Abel.

Apparently Cain married a sister or possibly a niece.

They had a son and named him Enoch. Cain figured the wandering-fugitive-bad-crop lifestyle was too hard so he tried to settle down and make a city. This was not a city the size of Chicago or New York. The word *city* means any kind of small civilization. Cain was going to go against God's will, and he was trying to create a stable home and a school for his son. The tense of the Hebrew verb tells us he started to build the city but he never finished building. Like God said, he never had a chance to settle down. You can try to stick your hand in God's face all you want but God keeps his promises. It won't work.

What we have are the next 10 generations after Cain. When Moses wrote this he stopped in the seventh generation and gave us a sample of the general direction things were headed for the family line of Cain. It was not good. The test sample which is generation seven is a guy named Lamech. This guy had moved from monogamy, which is what God created in Eden, to polygamy. As people get farther from God, they get sexually confused. Lamech's two wives were named Adah and Zilla. He thought he was a ladies' man and had the

women covered from A to Z. By the way his second wife's name was Zilla, not Godzilla.

Adah and Zilla had kids. We see their kids were part of birthing culture and society. Jabal began the ag business and dealt in livestock. Farmers, this is your guy. Jubal cut an album, and it went platinum. He made all kinds of instruments and was the first rockstar. Tubal-Cain started the technology and tool industry. This was the guy that began Menards and Home Depot. I want you to notice that civilization, specialization and organized society began very early on planet Earth. While society as progressing, righteousness and love for God was plummeting. Look at the sample given to us in Lamech and his character.

Lamech was apparently a rapper because he wrote a rap song that made the Bible. Here we have a snippet of the rap song he sang in front of his two wives. "Here my wives, listen to what I say... (thump, thump)... I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for striking me (thump, thump)." Lamech was helping at his kids school and a kid gave him a paper cut by accident, so he killed the kid. You didn't cut Lamech off in traffic or he pulled out an Uzzi and shot you out of road rage. If you wrote a check to him and it bounced, he burned down your house with your family inside. Lamech was an egotistical pain in the neck. Could you imagine living next to him and having some of your leaves blow in his yard? This guy was a piece of work.

He said if Cain was avenged sevenfold, Lamech was avenged seventy-seven fold. If you think God's protection of Cain was tough so nobody messed

with him, you ain't seen nothing until you have seen Lamech. "My revenge is not seven fold but seventy-seven fold. I am infinitely tougher than God." This guy had a serious ego issue.

The reason Moses used Lamech as a sample was he was showing us what happens when people don't repent of their sin but they feed it and let it take over their lives. Sin was now dominating the entire human race. Sin is like cancer. If you don't deal with it early, it just gets worse until it kills you. Over 1,600 years, that is what happened to almost the entire human race.

Next week, when we pick up the story of Noah, we see Noah's story prefaced with these words.

The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. Genesis 6:5 (ESV)

The world was filled with people like Lamech. Violent sexual perverts. The whole world was like the Middle East. A worldwide flood to wipe almost everybody out and restart the entire planet doesn't sound like an unreasonable idea.

If we ended the story there, we would end on a bad note. There is a ray of hope.

Seth's family line - God Sustaining His Community

And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and called his name Seth, for she said, "God has appointed for me another offspring instead of Abel, for Cain killed him." To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time people began to call upon the name of the Lord. 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. When Adam had lived 130 years, he fathered a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth. The days of Adam after he fathered Seth were 800 years; and he had other sons and daughters.

Thus all the days that Adam lived were 930 years, and he died. When Seth had lived 105 years, he fathered Enosh. Seth lived after he fathered Enosh 807 years and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Seth were 912 years, and he died. Genesis 4:25–5:8 (ESV)

At the time when the world was falling apart, when sin was taking over the planet and the world was becoming a place filled with violence and perversion, God caused Eve to conceive again. Eve gave birth to Seth. Seth was not like Cain. He was not the rebellious murdering type. He was like Abel. He was somebody who worshipped God. Seth had a son named Enosh.

At that time, a remarkable thing happened. We have the first religious revival. When it says that people began to call on the name of the Lord it means that instead of worshipping their technology, their music, their arts, their farming business, Seth and Enosh led people in a revival to worship God. What follows was another family tree of 10 generations in the line of Seth, just like there were 10 generations in the Cain line.

Some things are interesting. In this genealogy, which is like walking through a cemetery, we get the ages of people when they die. People lived a long time. You ask me, do I believe these are the literal ages? Yes, I do. This was pre-flood. There was most-likely a vapor canopy covering the earth to cut out the harmful UV rays. It was an unpolluted earth. God was extremely good.

Some of you may notice a few of the names between Cain's list and Abel's list are similar. You wonder if they are the same people. They are not the same people because the order of the descendants don't match. The best way I can illustrate this is by simply asking how many people do we have in the room by the name of David. All the Davids in the room would sound confusing in a

genealogical list to people reading it a few thousand years after we live. That is the same thing.

Here is what I find interesting. When we go to the seventh generation in this list, which is the sample generation, we run across a guy named Enoch. He was the only guy missing a tombstone. He was born, but he never died. It simply says he was taken home to be with the Lord. Lamech was so ungodly that he put a bullet in your head if you rang his doorbell during dinner hour. Enoch is so righteous that God took him home to heaven and he never died. Do you see the contrast?

When Enoch had lived 65 years, he fathered Methuselah. Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah 300 years and had other sons and daughters. Thus all the days of Enoch were 365 years. Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him. Genesis 5:21–24 (ESV)

On the earth there were two lines of people. There were those who were descendants of Cain. They might have been very successful in this world with technology and music and business but they were not walking with God and the violence and perversion of their lives showed it.

There was another line that God created and it was sustained through Seth. Cain's line was most of the planet. Seth's line was a thin small group. When we come to Noah next week we will see that in Noah's family there was only eight righteous people on the face of the Earth (1 Peter 3:20).

Conclusion

In 1,600 years there was a huge pre-flood civilization. Some scholars estimate there could have been as many as a billion people on Earth. Even though the earth was a populated place, there weren't many righteous people on

the entire planet. God in his grace created Seth's line and preserved Seth's line down to Noah and through Noah all the way to Jesus, who crushed the head of Satan. With Jesus, God moved from preserving a people to retaking people from every tongue tribe and nation and making them his people. We are all part of what God has done to crush the head of Satan through Jesus and retake the world. Isn't God incredibly gracious?

How is God calling us to respond? Some of us found today that we are like Cain, or we may even be worse than Cain. At least Cain brought something for worship. He at least gave something in worship. Some of us are all takers in worship. We need to repent. Others of us are like Cain in that what we give from our life in worship is just the leftovers. Even though we give, the leftover time and resources we give shows the true state of our affections of our hearts toward God. Today, God challenges us to give our first and best, not just what is leftover and convenient.

Others of us need to repent of being like Lamech and Cain in our attitudes. We need to stop rolling revenge around in our thoughts and focusing on how we can get even with those that hurt us.

We also want to remember God's role for his people in a fallen world, just like Enoch, Noah, Seth and Enosh, we are called to be preachers of righteousness in a fallen world. Let us urge our friends and neighbors to repent of sin, run to God and cling to the grace of Jesus.



Dr. Kurt Trucksess is ordained in the Evangelical Free Church of America. He enjoys reading, writing, time with his family and wrestling with his sons. His favorite topics are preaching and ancient rhetoric. Feel free to contact him at www.Christ2RCulture.com (www.c2rc.com)

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