

The Gospel in Genesis 4-12

Faith in the Seed of the Woman

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Post Fall Genesis 4-12

A Biblical Theology of Salvation

1. Sin – Transgressions against God’s covenants (Adamic, Brotherhood, etc.)
2. Judgment
 - God unleashes a Temporal Judgment (i.e. – in space and time) against sin
 - Foreshadows and warns of the Final Judgment
3. Gospel Call
 - After the Temporal Judgment, the Seed of the Woman is identified
 - There is a call to believe in the Seed of the Woman (Christ) and be saved from Eternal Judgment
4. Conversion
 - The one who puts his faith in the Seed of the Woman (meaning Christ) and calls on the Name of the Lord will be saved
5. Temporal Death
 - Human history continues on the trajectory God set in Genesis 1-3
 - Despite conversion, everyone eventually dies
6. Glory
 - However, its clear that death is not the end [Gen 4:10]
 - Restoration of paradise (“Eden”) is implied through the work of Christ

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Genesis Pre-History Major Story Arcs

Sin, Judgment, Gospel, Conversion, Death, Paradise

1. The Fall [Genesis 3] – Covenant with Adam

- Sin: Adam and Eve eat from the Forbidden Tree breaking the **Covenant with Adam**
- Judgment: God judges Adam and Eve
- Gospel Call: The Seed of the Woman will crush Satan
- Conversion: Demonstrated by Eve's faith statements in Genesis 4
- Temporal Death: Demonstrated by the Genesis 5 genealogy

2. Cain, Abel, and Seth [Genesis 4] – Covenant of Brotherhood

- Sin: Cain kills Abel breaking the **Covenant of Brotherhood**
- Judgment: Cain is exiled
- Gospel Call: God appoints Eve another offspring [Genesis 4:25]
- Conversion: People begin to call on the Name of the Lord [Genesis 4:26]

3. The Flood and Noah [Genesis 5-9] – Covenant with Noah

- Sin: Violence fills the earth [Genesis 6:5] breaking the **Creation, Marriage, and Brotherhood Covenants**
- Judgment: God ordains the Flood [Genesis 6:7]
- Gospel Call: Noah, Eve's Seed, named "rest" undoes part of the Adam's curse [Genesis 5:9]
- Conversion: Noah and his family

Genesis Pre-History Major Story Arcs (Cont)

Sin, Judgment, Gospel, Conversion, Death, Paradise

4. The Sons of Noah [Genesis 9]

- Sin: Ham attempts to disinherit his father breaking the **Noahic Covenant**
- Judgment: Canaan will be a slave
- Gospel Call: Genesis 9:25-26 [... May **He** dwell in the tents of Shem...]
- Conversion: Self-explanatory

5. Babel and Abram [Genesis 10-12]

- Sin: Making a Name for themselves breaking the **Creation Covenant**
- Judgment: Babel
- Gospel Call: Genesis 12:1-3 (...I will make your name great and you will be a blessing...)
- Conversion: Abraham goes, believes God, and is credited with righteousness

Genesis Pre-History Covenants

Six Covenants That Apply to All Humanity

1. Covenant with Creation
2. Covenant of Marriage
3. Covenant with Adam
4. Covenant of Brotherhood
5. Covenant with Noah
6. Covenant with Abraham

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Cain, Abel, and Seth

Genesis 4

The Covenant of Brotherhood

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Cain, Abel and Seth

Genesis 4:1-12 [ESV]

¹ Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, **“I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord.”** ² And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. ³ In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, ⁴ 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, ⁵ but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. ⁶ The Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? 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.” ⁸ Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. ⁹ **Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I do not know; am I my brother’s keeper?”** ¹⁰ **And the Lord said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to me from the ground.** ¹¹ And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. ¹² 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.”

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Cain, Abel and Seth

Genesis 4:12-24 [ESV]

¹³ Cain said to the Lord, “My punishment is greater than I can bear. ¹⁴ 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.” ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ **Then Cain went away from the presence of the Lord** and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden. ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad fathered Mehujael, and Mehujael fathered Methushael, and Methushael fathered Lamech. ¹⁹ And Lamech took two wives. The name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah. ²⁰ Adah bore Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. ²¹ His brother’s name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe. ²² Zillah also bore Tubal-cain; he was the forger of all instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah. ²³ 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. ²⁴ If Cain’s revenge is sevenfold, then Lamech’s is seventy-sevenfold.”

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Cain, Abel and Seth

Genesis 4:25-26 [ESV]

²⁵ 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.**” ²⁶ 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.**

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Analysis of Genesis 4:1

Genesis 4:1 (Various Versions)

^{ESV} Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD."

^{JPS} And the man knew Eve his wife; and she conceived and bore Cain, and said: 'I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD.'

^{KJV} And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD.

^{NIV} Adam lay with his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, "With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man."

וְהָאָדָם יָדַע אֶת-חַוָּה אִשְׁתּוֹ וַתַּהַר וַתֵּלֶד אֶת-קַיִן וַתֹּאמֶר קָנִיתִי אִישׁ אֶת-יְהוָה:

Literal Translation: "... She said I have gotten a man, **the Lord**"

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Analysis of Genesis 4:9

The Covenant of Brotherhood

Amos 1:9-12 ⁹ Thus says the LORD: "For three transgressions of Tyre, and for four, I will not revoke the punishment, because **they delivered up a whole people to Edom, and did not remember the covenant of brotherhood.** ¹⁰ So I will send a fire upon the wall of Tyre, and it shall devour her strongholds." ¹¹ Thus says the LORD: "For three transgressions of Edom, and for four, I will not revoke the punishment, because **he pursued his brother with the sword and cast off all pity, and his anger tore perpetually, and he kept his wrath forever.** ¹² So I will send a fire upon Teman, and it shall devour the strongholds of Bozrah."

Malachi 1:1-4 The oracle of the word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi. ² "I have loved you," says the LORD. But you say, "How have you loved us?" "Is not Esau Jacob's brother?" declares the LORD. "Yet I have loved Jacob ³ but Esau I have hated. I have laid waste his hill country and left his heritage to jackals of the desert." ⁴ If Edom says, "We are shattered but we will rebuild the ruins," the LORD of hosts says, "They may build, but I will tear down, and they will be called 'the wicked country,' and **the people with whom the LORD is angry forever.**"

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Analysis of Genesis 4:10

Hebrews 11:4-7 [ESV]

⁴ 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. **And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks.** ⁵ By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. ⁷ By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

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Analysis of Genesis 4:10

The Seed of the Woman

1. The Genesis and Hebrew texts states Abel still speaks
 - Infers life after death
 - However, it is through **faith** that Abel still speaks [Hebrews 11:4]
2. Faith in what??? Or Who???
 - Both Cain and Abel knew God face-to-face
 - Likely the Seed of the Woman
3. The Righteous are those justified by Faith
4. Faith manifests itself in works!
 - Why was Abel's sacrifice accepted and Cain's rejected?

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Analysis of Genesis 4:13-16

Cain's Judgment

¹³ Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. ¹⁴ 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." ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ **Then Cain went away from the presence of the Lord** and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

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Analysis of Genesis 4:25

Seth

²⁵ 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.**" ²⁶ 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.**

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Analysis of Genesis 4:26

Romans 10:9-13

⁹ ... if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹ For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³ For "**everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.**"

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The Noachic Covenant

Genesis 9:1-17



Blessing and Commandment

Genesis 9:1-7

¹And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. ²The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth and upon every bird of the heavens, upon everything that creeps on the ground and all the fish of the sea. Into your hand they are delivered. ³Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. And as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything. ⁴But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. ⁵And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man. ⁶“Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image. ⁷And you, be fruitful and multiply, teem on the earth and multiply in it.

Covenant Established

Genesis 9:8-11

⁸Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the earth. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

Sign of the Covenant (Rainbow)

Genesis 9:12-17

¹²And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

Noahic Covenant Structure

I. Historical Prologue

- A. Noah and his descendants
- B. Animals

II. Blessings

- A. Permission to eat animals
- B. Promise to sustain life, seasons, etc. until the end of the Earth.
- C. Never again to destroy the Earth with water

III. Stipulations

- A. Command to Multiply
- B. Prohibition against murder
- C. Prohibition against eating blood

IV. Curses

- A. Penalties for murder

V. Sign - Rainbow

Eschatological Footnote

2 Peter 3:5-10

⁵ For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, ⁶ and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. ⁷ **But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.** ⁸ But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

Abrahamic Covenant (Selective Review)

Genesis 12:1-7

Call of Abram

Genesis 12:1-7 [ESV]

¹ Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." ⁴ So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵ And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶ Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷ Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

The Promise of Blessing

Genesis 12:2-3

² And I will make of you a great nation, and **I will bless you** and make your name great, so that you will **be a blessing**. ³ **I will bless those who bless you**, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth **shall be blessed**." [ESV]

וְאֶעֱשֶׂה לְגוֹי גָדוֹל וְאֲבָרְכֶךָ וְאֲנַדְלָה שְׁמֶךָ וְהָיָה בְרָכָה:

וְאֲבָרְכָה מְבָרְכֶיךָ וּמְקַלְלֶיךָ אֲזָאֵר וְנִבְרַכְוּ בְּךָ כָּל מְשֻׁפָּחֹת

הָאָרֶץ:

The Promise of Blessing

Analysis

- I. 5 Blessing Statements
- II. 7 Clauses

² And I will make of you a great nation [and]

I will bless you [and]

[I will] make your name great,

so that you will **be a blessing**.

³ **I will bless those who bless you**, [and]

him who dishonors you I will curse, [and]

in you all the families of the earth **shall be blessed**."

The Promise of Blessing

Analysis

III. Blessing Sandwich (Gordon Hugenberger)

² And I will make of you a great nation [and]

I will bless you [and]

[I will] make your name great,

so that you will be a blessing. [BE A BLESSING]

³ I will bless those who bless you, [and]

him who dishonors you I will curse, [and]

in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.“

The Promise of Blessing

Analysis

IV. Blessing to You

² And I will make of you a great nation [and]

I will bless you [and]

[I will] make your name great,

V. Blessing Through You

³ I will bless those who bless you, [and]

him who dishonors you I will curse, [and]

in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.“

The Promise of Blessing

Analysis

VI. Therefore, be a Blessing!

so that you will be a blessing. [BE A BLESSING]

VII. Chiasmic Structure – Making a Point

A

B

C – This is the Main Point/Feature of the Narrative

B

A