



A person stands on a rock in the foreground, looking up at a vast night sky filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy. The text is overlaid on this scene.

MANKIND'S DEPRAVITY AND GOD'S DELIVERANCE

GENESIS 4:13-26

GENESIS: THE FOUNDATION FOR EVERYTHING

“Get up! Take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is going to search for the Child [Jesus] to destroy Him.”

“Get up! Take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is going to search for the Child [Jesus] to destroy Him.... Then when Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he became enraged, and sent and slew all the male children who were in Bethlehem and all its vicinity, from two years old and under, according to the time he had carefully determined from the magi.” (Matt. 2:13, 16)

Moses wants us to see the **beginning** of this downward spiral of sin as it poisons our souls and leaves us **totally depraved**.

Our depravity is sin's power to exert dominion over us.

- I. Our Sin Nature Incurs God's Just **Judgment** (Gen 4:10-12)
- II. Our Sin Nature Is a **Burden** Too Great for Us to Bear (Gen 4:13-15)
- III. Our Sin Nature is **Life-Defining** (Gen. 4:16-22)

III. Our Sin Nature is **Life-Defining** (Gen 4:16-22)

From the beginning, God has justly punished the guilty. Cain is sentenced to live forever separated from God in a devil's hell. This is God's **judicial punishment** for **unforgiven** sin.

The apostle Paul warned the Christians in the city of Corinth: *“Or do you not know that the **unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God**? Do not be **deceived**; neither the sexually immoral, nor idolators, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.”* (1 Cor. 6:9-10)

IV. Our Sin Nature **Hardens** Us Against God and Others (Gen 4:23-24)

Lamech's sin shows us the growing pride, callousness, and shamelessness stemming from the **ongoing influence** of depravity and its **expanding expression** in society through polygamy and multiple murders. This hardening of the heart against God and man is an **active principle** in us.

IV. Our Sin Nature **Hardens** Us Against God and Others (Gen 4:23-24)

The apostle Paul characterized this ruling force of sin as he admonished the Christians in the church at Ephesus to “*walk no longer as the Gentiles [unbelievers] also walk, in the futility of their mind, **being darkened in their mind**, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the **hardness of their heart**. And they, having **become callous, have given themselves over** to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.*” (Eph. 4:17-19)

V. Our **New Nature Submits** to God (Gen 4:25-26)

“...And He has said to me, ‘My Grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.’ Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast in my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. (1 Cor. 12:9)

A person is silhouetted against a night sky filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy. The person is standing on a small rock or mound of earth, looking up at the stars. The Milky Way is visible as a bright, colorful band of light stretching across the sky. The overall scene is dark and atmospheric, with a focus on the vastness of the universe.

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