

# Apply The Word

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## Message Info

### Title:

The Offspring War Begins

### Speaker:

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### Date:

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### Scriptures:

Genesis 4:1-26

**Theme:** Never fear, God's children always prevail.

**Introduction:** There is a battle going on for the direction of American culture, and we are walking away from biblical values. As Christians, we need to stand for righteousness in faith, in order to honor the Lord. There have been recent examples of Christians doing so, with some success (e.g., Ivan Provorov and the Flyers). These recent battles are not new—they are the latest in an ongoing war going back to the Garden and the Fall, with 2 sides.

We can see how the war has developed in 4 points:

#### 1. Spiritual DNA testing (1-7)

The story of Cain and Abel shows the outworking of the 2 sets of offspring in Gen 3. Cain brings an inferior offering which is rejected by the Lord, while Abel's offering is righteous and honored.

Cain is angry and the Lord warns him to resist sin, lest he be mastered by it.

#### 2. The ascension of the serpent's seed (8-16)

Cain responds by murdering Abel, showing that he belongs to the line of the devil. He is Adam's son biologically; but his spiritual lineage is diabolical.

Jesus makes a similar point to the evil Jewish leaders, identifying their father as the devil (John 8:44). Anyone not born again has the devil as a father.

The Lord punishes Cain, even while showing mercy and protection.

#### 3. The corrupt prosperity of the serpent's seed (17-24)

Cain resists the Lord's judgment by building a city (instead of wandering), and his descendants have success in cultural endeavors: animal husbandry, music, and metalworking.

His great, great, great grandson, Lamech, is a bigamist who also proudly announces that he will not be restrained by the Lord and will avenge himself.

We see that human culture and human sin increase together. We should not just celebrate and endorse every cultural achievement. We need to evaluate them wisely.

#### 4. The unstoppable offspring of God (25-26)

Even though the seed of the serpent seem to have triumphed and prospered throughout this chapter, it ends on a note of hope: the Lord is still at work to preserve his line and he will prevail.

Seth is born to Adam and Eve, granted by the Lord to continue the line of his offspring. Further, "at that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD" (26). The note of redemption is sounding again. God's purposes always triumph.

### Questions:

1. Are you afraid for the future?
2. What opportunities has the Lord given you to stand? How are you doing?
3. Are you aware of how the Lord is sanctifying you? How are you responding?