
Study Questions for the January 2, 2022 Sermon:
“The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly”
Genesis 4:1-12

1. *“This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the Lord. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord,’ because they will all know me...”* Jeremiah 31:33-34.
 - a. Do you believe that Jeremiah's prophesy has been fulfilled, or is not yet fulfilled?
 - b. If Jeremiah was using “write it on their hearts” as a metaphor, what is the literal meaning to which he was alluding?
2. In John 6:51, Jesus says his flesh is bread which we are to eat. The Jews begin to argue about the meaning of this. In John 6: 56 – 57, Jesus reiterates what he said. He does not say he was speaking symbolically; rather he states in graphic terms that his followers are to eat his flesh and drink his blood. In 1 Corinthians 10:16, the Apostle Paul refers to communion as participating in the blood and body of Christ. Some people believe that the wafer and juice become, in a spiritual sense, the body and blood of Christ. Do you agree or disagree? Support your belief with scripture.
3. Some religions teach that Adam and Eve are eternally separated from God because, while they were perfect, they chose to reject him. Do you see any evidence in Genesis 4 that suggests Adam and Eve were believers?
4. We see evidence in scripture that people were offering up sacrifices to God long before the Mosaic law required it: Cain and Able made offerings. So did Job, who may have predated Abraham. Also, many religions include sacrifices as part of their traditions. Why do men have a desire to make offerings to God?

5. Explain from scripture why God rejected Cain's offering.
6. In Genesis 4:6-7, God counsels Cain as to how he can handle his anger. What was God's advice?
7. What are the similarities between Cain's response to God in Genesis 4:9 and Adam's response to God in Genesis 3:10-12?
8. Why may Satan have encouraged Cain to murder Abel?
9. What are the differing messages, metaphorically, of Abel's blood and Jesus' blood?
10. Pastor Paul asked us to contemplate whether there is some sin to which we are clinging that undermines our sensitivity to the movement of the Holy Spirit. If you thought about this, please share.