

**Foundational Assumption of the Story:** God is the one with the rights

"The ancient man approached God (or even the gods) as the accused person approaches his judge. For the modern man, the roles are quite reversed. He is the judge: God is in the dock. He is quite a kindly judge; if God should have a reasonable defense for being the god who permits war, poverty, and disease, he is ready to listen to it. The trial may even end in God's acquittal. But the important thing is that man is on the bench and God is in the dock." - C.S. Lewis, *God in the Dock*

### **The Story**

Worship in Faith vs. Empty Worship (1-4a)

Hebrews 11:4, "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."

Unbelief Leads to Envious Anger (5-7)

Sin Devours (8-10)

"Wrath kindles wrath as fire kindles fire. When you are angry you will make others angry, or discontented, or troubled by your words and deeds. Once you have provoked others to anger, you do not know the extent of the sin it may lead them to. You do not have power to moderate their anger after yours has subsided. It is the devil's bellows to kindle man's corruptions and set hearts, families, and kingdoms aflame." - Richard Baxter

God Displays His Justice (11-12)

God Displays His Mercy (13-16)

Cain's Family Line Advances Without Faith (17-24)

Faith Does Not Disappear from Creation (25-26)

### **The Central part of the Story: The Blood That Speaks**

Hebrews 12:24, "and [you have come] to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel."

Exodus 34:6-7

### **Responding to the Story**

1. Test Yourself

2 Corinthians 13:5  
Hebrews 3:12-14

2. Put Anger to Death

3. Calling on the Lord is the Most Important Thing You Can Do With Your Life  
Psalm 73:16-17