

Lock The Door

Description

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Exodus 20:13; Matthew 5:21-26

Cain killed his younger brother Abel out of jealousy over God's favor. God specifically and personally warned Cain *before* he picked up the stone, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it" (Genesis 4:6-7). Murder was already in Cain's mind and heart. He didn't invent it. It was just there, lurking like a shadow by the doorpost. The sin was in his heart before the rock was in his hand.

That is precisely Jesus' point. Most murders are powered by anger. They may be rooted in jealousy, greed, fear, or revenge but the engine that so often drives someone to act is anger. There is a way to put out anger's fire. Go to your brother or sister and be reconciled. Confess it, seek forgiveness, and whatever you do don't open that door!

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Date Created

2020/10/19