

Seven Sin Stories in Genesis 1-11

1. Genesis 3:4

The serpent lied to Eve saying, “You will not surely die.”

2. Genesis 3:6

Eve, followed by Adam, ate of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil – the tree that God said, “you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die” (Gen 2:17)

3. Genesis 4:6-8

Cain was angry over God’s failure to regard his offering in the same way he accepted Abel’s offering and Cain killed Abel.

4. Genesis 4:19-23

Lamech, a descendant of Cain, took two wives and killed a man for wounding him.

5. Genesis 6:1-7

The sons of God took the daughters of man for wives. This was so displeasing to God that Yahweh limited human’s days to 120 years.

6. Genesis 9:20-21

Noah got drunk and lay uncovered in his tent. Ham failed to cover his father’s nakedness.

7. Genesis 11:4

Humanity congregated in one city and refused to fill the earth as God had commanded in Genesis 9:1.

In each of these stories, man failed to rule over sin as God commanded in Genesis 4:7. Sin is a transgression of, or failure to obey, what God has mandated either orally or after His word was given in the Bible. After five sin stories, God starts over with Noah. Then Noah sins and humanity as a whole is found guilty of not fulfilling the mandate to fill the earth at the Tower of Babylon so God starts over with Abraham in Genesis 12.

Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ² And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” (Genesis 12:1–3)