

WOW! Graphic w/email

Copperhead picture

[https://www.rd.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/shutterstock\\_7400092.jpg?resize=700,466](https://www.rd.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/shutterstock_7400092.jpg?resize=700,466)

Unseen shark image

<https://th.bing.com/th/id/R.09c07f551b3774155969a7473dcfdabe?rik=Zvprn2uI9QBQTQ&riu=http%3a%2f%2fall-that-is-interesting.com%2fwordpress%2fwp-content%2fuploads%2f2017%2f05%2fpaddleboarding-with-shark-og.jpg&ehk=9vIKImZKvLQHVRmU7k3WSv8cJ4x%2fxHpkUeRwTD%2f3>

**The danger of unseen dangers ...**

### **BLIND SPOTS:**

***Dangerous things we don't always "see" but need to take into account***

#### **Genesis 4:1-4a**

The man was intimate with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to **Cain**. She said, "I have had a male child with the Lord's help." She also gave birth to his brother **Abel**. Now Abel became a shepherd of flocks, but Cain worked the ground. In the course of time Cain presented some of the land's produce as an **offering** to the Lord. And Abel also presented an offering—some of the **firstborn** of his flock and their fat portions.

#### **Genesis 4:4b-5**

The Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but he did not have regard for Cain and his offering. Cain was **furious**, and he looked **despondent**.

#### **Hebrews 11:4**

It was **by faith** that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did.

**The unseen danger—the BLIND SPOT—of Cain's heart condition.**

#### **Genesis 4:6-7**

Then the Lord said to Cain, "**Why are you furious**? And **why** do you look despondent? If you do what is right, won't you be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, **sin is crouching** at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must **rule** over it."

***Crouching at the door***

- Hidden presence
- Predatory presence
- Ambitious presence

The “Wow!” = the **fact of sin** in and around us must be **factored** into our lives

God comes to Cain in love as a warning.

The question of us is not **IF** we have a **blind spot** but **WHERE** is it?

### Genesis 4:8-9

Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let’s go out to the field.” And while they were in the field, Cain **attacked** his brother Abel and **killed** him. Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is your brother Abel?” “I don’t know,” he replied. “Am I my brother’s guardian (keeper)?”

*{come up ONE at a time}*

### Blind Spots (Crouching):

- **Bigger & deeper than our behaviors**
- **Threat** to ourselves and to others
- When confronted, **rationalization, defensiveness, and/or denial** are common responses.

### Genesis 4:9-10, 13, 15

Then he said, “What have you done? Your brother’s **blood cries out to Me** from the ground! So now you are cursed, alienated from the ground that opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood you have shed ... But Cain answered the Lord, “My punishment is too great to bear ... Then the Lord replied to him, “... whoever kills Cain will suffer vengeance seven times over.” And he placed a **mark on Cain** so that whoever found him would not kill him.

**The ending foreshadows the eventual victory over the crouching sin ...**

**Injustice gets God’s attention. → He is just.**

**He is also gracious and merciful.**

### Hebrews 12:24

... to **Jesus**, the mediator of a **new** covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which says **better things** than the **blood of Abel**.

**I John 1:9**

If we confess our sins, He is **faithful and just** to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**Have you been “affected” by the infallible justice of God and His amazing grace?**

**Romans 6:14**

For sin will **not rule** over you, because you are not under the law but under grace.

**The **power of the Gospel** is greater than the power of **crouching sins**!**

**Who in your life is helping you fight sin and remember the Gospel of Jesus?**

**How aware are you of how deep and sure God’s love is?**

**God’s love and justice are not hidden but on full display.**