

Gen 4 <sup>1</sup> Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, "I have acquired a man from the LORD."<sup>2</sup> Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.<sup>3</sup> And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD.<sup>4</sup> Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering,<sup>5</sup> but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.<sup>6</sup> So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen?"<sup>7</sup> If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."<sup>8</sup> Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.<sup>9</sup> Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?"<sup>10</sup> And He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground.<sup>11</sup> So now you are cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand.<sup>12</sup> When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth."<sup>13</sup> And Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear!<sup>14</sup> Surely You have driven me out this day from the face of the ground; I shall be hidden from Your face; I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth, and it will happen that anyone who finds me will kill me."<sup>15</sup> And the LORD said to him, "Therefore, whoever kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the LORD set a mark on Cain, lest anyone finding him should kill him.

\* **How are** Eve's words in vs 1 a declaration of faith?

\* **What did** Adam & Eve likely think (or hope) regarding Cain?

\* **What divides** the two sons? (3-7)

\* **How is** sacrificial language used in the NT?

Rom 12 <sup>1</sup> I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service [or worship]

Heb 13 <sup>15</sup> [B]y Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

\* **Why does** God "respect" Abel and his offering, but not Cain and his offering? (4-5) And what evidence do we have of prior instruction from God?

1)

2)

Lev 3.14-16 <sup>14</sup> "From it he shall present his offering as an offering by fire to the LORD, the fat that covers the entrails and all the fat that is on the entrails ... <sup>16</sup> The priest shall offer them up in smoke on the altar as food, an offering by fire for a soothing aroma; all fat is the LORD'S."

Gen 7.2 You shall take with you seven each of every clean animal, a male and his female; two each of animals that are unclean, a male and his female;

3)

4)

Heb 11 <sup>4</sup> By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.

\* **How do** we know that is was not only Cain's heart that was wrong, but also his offering?

Lev 23.12-13 <sup>12</sup> And you shall offer on that day ... a male lamb of the first year, without blemish, as a burnt offering [ascension offering] to the LORD. <sup>13</sup> Its grain offering shall be two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil, an offering made by fire to the LORD, for a sweet aroma; and its drink offering shall be of wine, one-fourth of a hin.

\* **What is** Cain's response to God, how does God pastor Cain, and what is Cain's response to God's pastoring? (6-8)

\* Homicide is the full flower & fruit of what sin?

*Mt 5 <sup>21</sup> "You have heard that it was said ..., 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' <sup>22</sup> But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without cause shall be in danger of the judgment."*

*Mt 22 <sup>39</sup> "And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'"*

*Lev 19 <sup>15</sup> "You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial to the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty. In righteousness you shall judge your neighbor. <sup>16</sup> You shall not go about as a talebearer among your people; nor shall you take a stand against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD. <sup>17</sup> You shall not hate your brother in your heart. You shall surely rebuke your neighbor, and not bear sin because of him. <sup>18</sup> You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD."*

\* **Whom is** Cain's anger initially directed toward, and to whom does it spread?

\* **What role** does envy play?

*James 3 <sup>16</sup> Where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion [turmoil, upheaval] and every evil thing are there.*

\* **Points of application:**

1) All that we witness from Cain stems from what?

*2Cor 5 <sup>20</sup> [W]e implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.*

*Rom 5 <sup>10</sup> For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life ... <sup>8:15</sup> [Y]ou received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." <sup>16</sup> The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ*

2) It is a \_\_\_\_\_. Being Christians, reconciled to the Father through Christ, doesn't mean we aren't susceptible to envy, self-seeking, malice, and other forms of unrighteous \_\_\_\_\_ toward other Christians.

*James 4 <sup>1</sup> What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? <sup>2</sup> You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup> You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures. <sup>4</sup> You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God?"*