

Cain and Abel

Genesis Chapters 4 & 5

Brief Review of the Fall: (1) warning, (2) temptation, (3) disobedience, (4) consequences, (5) provision

Read Genesis chapter 4:1-5

“Cain” sounds like the Hebrew word for “acquired” or “gotten,” as in, “I have gotten a man.”
“Abel” means “breath” or “temporary.”

- Why do you think Cain’s offering was looked on unfavorably by the Lord while Abel’s was received well?

Look up – Proverbs 3:9, Heb 11:4. What do these passages tell us about the likely reasons for God’s displeasure?

- What emotional reaction does Cain have?

How do we react when we receive correction or when others receive more appreciation than we do? How should we react differently?

Read chapter 4: 6-7

After Cain’s sacrifice was rejected, God gave him a chance to right his wrong and try again. God even encouraged him to do this. What does the Bible say about those who refuse correction or counsel?

Look up – Proverbs 15:31-33

Describe the Lord’s “*tone of voice*” in these verses. Have you ever used similar speech with your children?

Read chapter 4: 8-16

Why do you think Cain killed Abel? Hint: Jesus describes Abel as the first prophet killed [Luke 11:50].

Describe the progression of the Fall as read in verses 1 to 12.

Despite the consequences of sin, what characteristic does God perennially display? Look up – Psalm 103:13-14

Read chapter 4:17-24

How are Lamech’s boasts contrasted with the instructions that Jesus gave Peter in Matthew 18:21,22?
Describe the progression of the Fall displayed by Cain and Lamech. Recall the temptation of Eve.

Read Chapter 4:25-26

“Seth” probably means “granted.” How does Eve’s choice of name reflect a different attitude from when she named Cain and Abel?

“At that time, men began to call on the name of the Lord.” How does Seth’s line compare with Cain’s?

Conclusion: Compare 4:10 with Hebrews 11:4 and Hebrews 12:24

AT HOME: Chapter 5: Genealogies

Why does God care about genealogies? Do we descend from Cain or from Seth? The last genealogy in the Bible is found in Luke 3. Read it in comparison to Genesis 5.