

Genesis 4 & 5

Worldview: Sin and Sacrifice

Follow up from last week: Genesis 4:7

Sin and Sacrifice

Question: what is our motivation for sacrifice? In verse 1, how does Eve demonstrate the right attitude regarding the motivation for sacrifice?

The sacrifices of Cain and Abel:

1. Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground.
2. Abel brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions
3. The Lord had no regard for Cain and his offering.
4. The Lord had regard for Abel and his offering.

Question: with whom was Cain angry?

Question: in God's opinion, with whom should Cain have been angry? Why?

1Sa 16:7-8 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." (8) Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one."

1Jn 3:12 We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous.

Heb 11:4 By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks.

The Wages of Sin

Note verse 7: "Its (sin) desire is for you, but you must rule over it. But Cain was devoured by sin in his murder of Abel.

Consider the cry of injustice:

Gen 4:10 And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground.

Isa 26:21 For behold, the LORD is coming out from his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity, and the earth will disclose the blood shed on it, and will no more cover its slain.

Mat 23:29-35 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the monuments of the righteous, (30) saying, 'If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.' (31) Thus you witness against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. (32) Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers. (33) You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell? (34) Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, (35) so that on you may come all the

righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of innocent Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar.

Rev 6:9-11 When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. (10) They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" (11) Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.

Now, consider the justice that came to Cain:

Gen 4:11-12 And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. (12) When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth."

Question: How did Cain respond to the punishment given to him? What does Cain's response reveal about what he fears?

The Trajectory of Sin

Seventh generation from Adam:

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|---------------|---------|
| 2. Cain | Seth |
| 3. Enoch | Enosh |
| 4. Irad | Kenan |
| 5. Mehujael | Mahalel |
| 6. Mehtushael | Jared |
| 7. Lamech | Enoch |

Sons of Cain

Gen 4:23-24 Lamech said to his wives: "Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; you wives of Lamech, listen to what I say: I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for striking me. (24) If Cain's revenge is sevenfold, then Lamech's is seventy-sevenfold."

Sons of Seth

Gen 5:24 Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him.

Next Week:

Read Genesis 6

Memory Verse: Gen 6:5 The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.