

Cain And Abel

Gen. 4:1-12

The Account

- 4:1-2 → The first children: Births, names, occupations.
 - And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD.
 - And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

The Account

- Gen. 4:3-5 → Their offerings and God's response to those offerings.
 - ³ And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD.
 - ⁴ And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering:
 - ⁵ But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

The Account

- 4:6-7 → God's questions, admonition, warning to Cain
 - ⁶ And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?
 - ⁷ If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

The Account

- 4:8-12 → The killing, Divine interrogation, punishment.
 - ⁸ And 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 slew him.
 - ⁹ And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?
 - ¹⁰ And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.
 - ¹¹ And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand;
 - ¹² When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth.

Lessons:

- ***The terrible danger of sin crouching at the door of our heart.*** We become a target for other sins when we allow sinful attitudes to find lodging in our hearts.
 - Anger. (Eph. 4:27)
 - Bitterness. (Eph. 4:21)
 - Lust. (II Tim. 2:22)
 - Covetousness. (I Tim. 6:9-10)
 - A stubborn, obstinate disrespectful will. (Matt. 7:21)

Lessons:

- **The principle of acceptable worship:**

- Both our heart and action must be according to God's will for our worship to be accepted. (Jn. 4:24; Rom. 6:17-18)
- Acceptable worship focuses on the object not the worshipper.
- God is worthy because He is the Holy Eternal Creator of our praise and honor.
- God has not left acceptable worship up to man's desires, innovation or imagination. (Heb. 11:4; Rom. 10:17)
- We express our worship to God when we pray, teach His word, sing, partake of the Lord's Supper and give of our means.

Lessons:

- **I am my brother's keeper.**

- John 1:40-41 → 40 One of the two which heard John [speak], and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.
- Jn. 13:34-35 → 34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. 35 By this shall all [men] know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. (Heb. 13:1)
- Gal. 5:13 → “...but by love serve one another.” (Js. 2:14-17)
- Gal. 6:1-2 → 1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. 2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.