



GENESIS

A WORLD BROKEN BY SIN

SESSION 18

Read Genesis 4:1-16

- 1 What are some possible reasons that Abel's offering is accepted rather than Cain's?

HEBREWS 11:4

By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.

- 2 Consider how God speaks to Cain. He lovingly tries to show Cain the error of his ways. And He refers to sin much like a lion "crouching" and "desiring." Who else in the Bible is referred to as like a lion seeking to devour Christians (cf. 1 Peter 5:8)?

1 PETER 5:8

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

- 3 In Genesis 4:13-16, even though Cain murders his brother and then arrogantly remains unrepentant, God nevertheless puts a mark of mercy upon this sinner, a sign of God's divine grace and protection. What sign has God placed upon sinners like us to show His grace and favor wherever we may wander upon the earth?

ROMANS 2:4

Do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance, and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?

1 PETER 3:15

And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him...

Read Genesis 4:17-24

- 4 What are the defining characteristics of Cain's lineage?
- 5 Note Lamech's attitude about his murder of a man who wounded him. Lamech not only violates God's design for marriage by taking two wives and introducing polygamy, but he revels in Cain's vengeance, as if it was a virtue rather than a vice. Lamech is the seventh in Cain's line and it is he who boasts that his vengeance is 10 times what Cain's was. What does Jesus teach about this in Matthew 18:21-22? Where are we to look for justice when we are wronged?

Read Genesis 4:25-26 & 5:28-29

- 6 What is it about Eve's exclamation over the birth of Seth that might show repentance over her misplaced hope in Cain?
- 7 Why does Genesis wait until 4:26 to report that people began to call upon the name of the Lord? Surely Adam and Eve and even Cain and Able did this. What do we make of this?

EXODUS 3:13-14

Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

EXODUS 6:2-3

God spoke to Moses and said to him, "I am the Lord. I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by my name the LORD I did not make myself known to them.