

GENESIS 4; January 4; Cain Kills Abel

ANALYSIS:

1. What different offerings did Cain and Abel bring to the LORD?

Cain: _____

Abel: _____

2. What reasons can you give as to why God rejected one and accepted another? _____

3. How did God punish Cain for killing his brother Abel?

4. What special skills or occupations are found among Cain's descendents? _____

5. What was God's purposes in twice appearing to Cain? (vs 6-7) _____, (vs 9-12) _____

Extra: If Cain & Abel were born to Adam & Eve in the first years of their marriage, and if Seth was born soon after Cain killed Abel, about how old was Abel when he was killed? See 5:3 for helpful information. _____

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

Whenever God convicts you of doing evil and sinning (as He did with Cain in verses 6-7), be thankful, repent, confess your sin(s), trust Him for forgiveness, and obey His revealed will. Don't be like Cain who rejected God's counsel. According to I John 3:12 we learn that Cain's "works were evil, and his brother's righteous." In this book we learn "that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him" (2:29), and "he that doeth righteousness is righteous" (3:7). "By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous" (Heb 11:4). Abel's offering, which God accepted, proved, testified and witnessed that he was already righteous before God.

What is the answer to the question: "Where did Cain get his wife?" Look for help with the answer in 3:20. Did Lamech speak like a poet? (vs 23)?
HELP:

1. Cain: the fruit of the ground. Abel: the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof.

2. Since Abel brought his offering "by faith" (Heb 11:4), we conclude God had revealed the necessity of a shed blood sacrifice. Such a blood shedding sacrifice would point to the "Lamb of God" who would finally put away all sin. Cain's offering was from the ground which had been cursed (3:17) and represented man's efforts to please God.

3. Cain was "cursed from the earth," the ground would not yield good produce, he would be a fugitive and vagabond in the earth.

4. invented the harp and organ, made things of brass and iron, poetic composition.

5. (vs 6-7) God instructed Cain that an acceptable offering was waiting for him to use. (vs 9-12) God announced Divine judgments for Cain's murder of Abel.

Extra: If the two suppositions are true, and based on the fact that Adam was 130 years old when Seth was born, Able may have been 125 to 127 years old.