

THE FIRST CHILDREN OF MANKIND

Genesis 4:1-16

It was not until after Adam and Eve had sinned that they began to fulfill one of God's earliest purposes for them as given in Genesis 1:28: "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth...." Study now about their first two children:

A. Their Early Lives and Offerings To God: Read Genesis 4:1-4a

1. What were the names of Adam and Eve's first two children? Genesis 4:1, 2a

2. What were their occupations? Genesis 4:2b

3. What kind of offering did each bring to God? Genesis 4:3, 4a
 - a. Cain _____
 - b. Abel _____

B. God's Evaluation of Them and of Their Offerings: Read Genesis 4:4b, 5a

1. How did God feel concerning
 - a. Abel and his offering? Genesis 4:4b _____
 - b. Cain and his offering? Genesis 4:5a _____
2. What do you think was the reason for this difference?

3. What must every sacrifice include? (See Hebrews 9:22)

4. Did Cain and Abel have any way of knowing this? (See Genesis 3:21 and *THINK!*)

5. What was the real purpose of sacrifices or offerings to God? (See Hebrews 10:12a, 18b)

6. But what two things must be in a person's heart before God could forgive his sins? (See Acts 20:21b, c)

7. Do you think that Cain had these two things? _____ Look for indications as to whether or not he did, in the rest of the story.
8. Did Abel have these two things in his heart? (See Hebrews 11:4)

C. God's Dealings With Cain: Read Genesis 4:5b-7

1. How did Cain feel about God's evaluation of him and of his offering? Genesis 4:5b

2. Did God think that Cain should feel this way? Genesis 4:6

3. What did God indicate that Cain might yet do? Genesis 4:7a

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D. Cain's Choice and Its Results: Read Genesis 4:8

1. Did Cain do what God suggested? _____ What does this show about his attitude toward sin? Had he really repented? (*THINK!*)

2. What did Cain then do to his brother? Genesis 4:8

3. Why did he do this? (See 1 John 3:12a, c)
 - a. _____
 - b. _____

E. God's Reckonings With Cain: Read Genesis 4:9-16

1. What did the Lord ask Cain? Genesis 4:9a

2. What was his reply? Genesis 3:9b

3. Was this the truth? (*THINK!*) _____ What does this show about his attitude toward sin?

4. Did God know what Cain had done, even though he refused to tell God? Genesis 4:10

5. Read the punishments God gave to Cain: Genesis 4:11, 12
NOTE: Remember that till means to cultivate. A fugitive is one who flees from enemies, danger, etc. A vagabond is one who wanders from place to place, having no fixed dwelling.
6. How did Cain feel about his punishment? Genesis 4:13

7. What did he fear people would do to him? Genesis 4:14

8. What did God do to prevent this? Genesis 4:15

9. Where did Cain go to live after this? Genesis 4:16
From _____ To _____

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Why did all this evil come upon Cain?

2. Do I seek always to do what God says, in order that I may be accepted by Him? When I have not done what He said, do I appreciate God's giving me another chance? Enough to correct my behavior in that part of my life?
What may I expect to happen to me, if I do not take advantage of God's offer? (See Romans 6:23a)

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