

Genesis 4:9-24 - Lesson 13

The Way of Cain

1. 4:6-10 - The Way of Cain

- a. *"why art thou wroth"* - God did not respect him. Cain was self-righteousness
- b. *"doest thou well"* - Cain did not desire to do well - Rom 6:16-17, Eph 4:26-27
- c. The way of Cain was contrary to the way of God - Jude 11, Matt 23:23
- d. Abel was a prophet, killed by the father of religious men - Luk 11:50, Act 7:52
- e. *"am I my brother's keeper?"* - Cain shows no regret, repentance, or sorrow
- f. *"blood crieth unto me"* - Dead cry for justice - Heb 11:4, Isa 26:21, Jam 5:4, Rev 6:10
- g. Christ's blood speaks greater things: grace - Heb 12:24, Eph 1:7, Rev 5:9-10

2. 4:11-15 - The Curse of Cain

- a. Cain is cursed and so associated with the serpent - that wicked one - 1 John 3:12
- b. Cain betrayed his brother and God; he would be without home and security.
- c. *"my punishment is [too great]"* - The opposite response of a godly man - Ezra 9:13
 - i. Cain thinks his sin is not so great to receive this punishment.
- d. *"findeth me shall slay me"* - Cain's evil thoughts, not God's - Num 35:19, John 8:11
- e. The mark is not black skin, not inherited, not Cain's, not now, and for protection.
- f. God's mark vs. the mark of the beast - Rev 7:2-3 vs. Rev 13:6-7

3. 4:16-24 - Cain's Family

- a. *"went out from the presence"* - a picture of the ungodly in 2 Thess 1:8-9
- b. *"knew his wife"* - Perhaps already married, and this did not all happen in a day.
- c. Where did Cain get his wife? She was a sister or a niece - Gen 5:4
- d. These generations lived for centuries, est. pop. in 100 yrs could be thousands
- e. *"he builded a city"* - for protection and provision, contrary to God's instructions
- f. Yes, names had meaning, but do not rely too much on them, the meanings differ.
- g. Cain's family reflects their father's pattern to pursue their own way.
- h. Lamech was the first polygamist - and thought Cain's actions/mark was good.
- i. 4:23-24 - Revenge: a popular theme in godless culture, also fornication and death

4. 4:20-22 - Early Technology/Civilization

- a. Jabal = husbandry (after agriculture), tentmaking (after cities)
- b. Jubal = music, instruments: organ (wind), and harp (string)
- c. The three-age view of anthropological history: stone age, bronze age, iron age
- d. The Bible indicates brass and iron together in the pre-flood world
- e. Copper is easier to make than iron, and requires mining, metallurgy, chemistry
- f. Inventions by ancient man argue against pagan & modern origin stories
- g. Luke 17:26-27 - As in the days of Noah, perhaps ancient man was not so different