

OLD TESTAMENT STORIES FOR

PERILOUS¹ TIMES

2 Timothy 3:1-5

OUTSIDE THE GARDEN: THE FIRST MURDER

Genesis 4

INTRODUCTION

After Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden of Eden for their rebellion against God, Eve bore their first children, Cain, Abel and Seth. In giving birth to her sons, Eve endured the painful effects of God's curse: *I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; in pain you shall bring forth children* (Genesis 3:16). Although the first man and woman through their first son, Cain, experienced the first murder, God in His divine plan for mankind, gave them Seth, through whom would come the Seed of the woman, the promised Messiah².

THEME SCRIPTURE

Abel also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering (Genesis 4:4).

¹ PERILOUS - Greek *chalepos* reducing the strength: difficult, dangerous, furious, fierce, savage.

² Messiah: the anointed One, the Lord Jesus Christ.

SECTION I - Cain and Abel

READ Genesis 4:1-15.

1. After Adam and Eve were sent out of the garden, Adam knew³ Eve and she bore her first son. What was his name (v. 1)?

4

What did Eve say? _____

2. Who did Eve give birth to next (v. 2)? _____ 5

What was Abel's occupation? _____

What was Cain's occupation? _____

LOOK DEEPER

How do the following Scriptures acknowledge that children are given by God?

Leah

Genesis 29:31, 32 _____

Psalm 127:3 _____

Rachel

Genesis 30:22, 23 _____

Jacob

Genesis 33:4, 5 _____

³ knew - Hebrew *yada* to know: Adam knew Eve intimately; sexual intercourse.

⁴ Cain - Hebrew *Qayin* acquired: possession.

⁵ Abel - Hebrew *Hebel* breath.

Manoah's wife
Judges 13:2-5 _____

Hannah
I Samuel 1:20 _____

Job
Job 1:18-21 _____

Zacharias
Luke 1:13 _____

Mary
Luke 1:26-36 _____

PERSONAL

How do these Scriptures apply to you? _____

3. In the process of time⁶, Cain and Abel brought offerings to the LORD. What did each bring (Genesis 4:3-5)?

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⁶ the process of time: at a set time; either at the end of the year when they celebrated the harvest or the end of the week; the Sabbath; a devoted practice that was regularly observed.

⁷ firstlings - Hebrew *bkowrah* firstborn: eldest.

How did God respond to each of their offerings? _____

DESCRIBE Cain's reaction to God. _____

LOOK DEEPER

Why did the LORD accept Abel's sacrifice (Hebrews 11:4)? _____

Why did the LORD not accept Cain's sacrifice (1 John 3:12)? _____

SECTION II - Cain Murders Abel

READ Genesis 4:6-15.

1. How did the LORD confront and instruct Cain concerning his offering (vv. 6, 7)? _____

2. Despite the LORD's exhortation to do well and be accepted, how did Cain rebel (v. 8)? _____

3. All sin is known to God. He knew the wickedness in Cain's heart which led to the murder of Abel. How did the LORD expose Cain (vv. 9, 10)?

How did Cain lie and excuse himself? _____

4. What was God's Divine curse on Cain (vv. 11, 12)? _____

5. Cain still did not repent. What were his greatest fears (vv. 13, 14)? _____

6. Despite Cain's unrepentance, how did the LORD show mercy on him (v. 15)? _____

LOOK DEEPER

READ James 1:13-15.

What do you learn about temptation? _____

WRITE the progression of sin. _____

PERSONAL

How have you been drawn away by your own desires? _____

What was the result? _____

SECTION III - Cain's Family

READ Genesis 4:16-24.

1. Where did Cain go (v. 16)? _____
_____ ⁸

2. Cain knew his wife and she bore him children. Name his descendants and what was said about them (vv. 17-22).
v. 17 _____

v. 18 _____

v. 19 _____

v. 20 _____

v. 21 _____

⁸ Nod - Hebrew *Nowl*/vagrancy: wandering; a district east of Eden to which Cain went from the presence of the LORD.

v. 22 _____

3. What violent act did Lamech, Cain's descendant commit (vv. 23, 24)? _____

SECTION IV - Seth, the Godly Line Restored

READ Genesis 4:25, 26.

1. Adam again knew Eve and she bore another son. What was his name (v. 25)? _____⁹

What did she say about this son? _____

2. Seth had a son and named him Enosh¹⁰. What did mankind begin to do (v. 26)? _____

Though Satan set out to thwart God's plan of salvation for mankind by enticing Cain to murder Abel, God gave Eve another son, Seth, through whose line came the promised Messiah, Jesus Christ the Lord; *Jesus . . . the Son of Joseph . . . the Son of Seth, the Son of Adam, the Son of God* (Luke 3:38).

THEME SCRIPTURE

WRITE out the THEME SCRIPTURE.

_____ (Genesis 4:4).

*And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh.
Then men began to call on the name of the LORD.*

Genesis 4:26

⁹ Seth - Hebrew *Sheth* substituted: placed instead of another; compensation.

¹⁰ Enosh - Hebrew *Enowsh* man: mankind, from mortal.

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