



"The First Murder in Human History!"

Genesis 4:1-16

God made man in His image! **There was never supposed to be murder!** Yet, the curse of sin unleashed every type of evil in the human heart! Ever since Cain's parents sinned...sin began to do horrific things.

1. Cain was the older brother of Abel!

- **Genesis 4:1-2** (Eve thought that "this man" could be the prophecy in 3:15)
- Cain was to be the leader for his older brother! He was supposed to make amazing memories growing up together with him! Yet, at some point Cain's heart turned evil!
- **Verse 3-5** – take a look at the breakdown here.
- From the very beginning, God set up that mankind offers and returns the **FIRST FRUIT** back to Him...the best! **First Fruit = 10%...this is the starting point of giving back to God!**

#1. It's an obedience issue!

#2. It's a trust issue!

- Abel became a shepherd and Cain grew crops.
- Did God love flocks more than fruits and veggies? **No!** He accepted anything that comes from the heart back to Him as He instructed!
- **The issue? Cain's heart!** Cain's heart was not for God!

A. What was it that Cain allowed to happen in his heart?

- **Proverbs 4:23** – Cain did not guard his heart! Jealousy became hatred, and that hatred became murder!
- When you do not guard your heart...your heart is capable of anything! **Matthew 5:21-22 / Matthew 5:19**
- When selfishness goes unchecked...self takes over and a person ignores God's commands! He allowed anger to take root and get out of control!
- **Genesis 4:3** – Cain did not offer his best! Abel did!
- **Genesis 4:7** – God tells Cain that **IF** you do what is right you will be accepted! **IF** you do not do what is right...**SIN IS KNOCKING AT THE DOOR!** *But, YOU must master it!*

- **What does that mean?** That you have the choice to do what is right or wrong...you open the door to sin or not! **Don't become Isaiah 5:20!!!**
- **Verse 5** – “This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected.”
- Yet, **verse 7** comes after **verse 5**! **What is the deal?** God gave Cain a choice to live and stay in his anger or give it to God by repenting and doing what was right!
- **Matthew 5:21-22** ****Verse 8** is very scary! **A pre-meditated murder!!!****

B. When we give our First Fruits back to God...it is a GIFT to Him!

- **Verse 4** – “Abel also brought a GIFT...the **BEST** portions of the **Firstborn** lambs of his flocks.”
- **The First Fruit Principle is still here today!** This has never ceased in God's set up! To give God back your best...**FIRST** portions of what you receive!
- We see this all throughout the Bible! **Exodus 23:19**, **Deuteronomy 18:4**, **Proverbs 3:9-10**.
- You see Abraham give 10% to the High Priest Melchizedek in Genesis **BEFORE** the Law was ever put into place in **Genesis 14:18-20**
- We see that Jesus is our High Priest in Hebrews, and that **Jesus is also the FIRST FRUIT Himself!** **I Corinthians 15:20** & **Romans 8:23**! **James 1:18** talks of **us being a First Fruits!**
- **Point? God is a God of FIRSTS!** Just look at **Mark 12:30**! Keep Jesus FIRST!
- **The First Fruit** is the **Starting Point** of **our giving back to God!**
- How do we know what to purpose in our hearts on what to give as Paul instructed us in **2 Corinthians 9:7**? **Well, you have to KNOW what the Bible says and then decide!** **The entirety of Scripture is the basis of our giving.**
- **Key** - I purpose in my heart what to give when I **KNOW** what God has said to do!

C. “Am I my brother's keeper?”

- **Genesis 4:9**
- The disregard for God, and then Abel's life shows us the result of giving into sin!
- **First of all he lied! Second, he had no regard for bloodshed!**
- **Verses 10-11** – the blood cried out for justice! Cain ends up banished and cursed!
- **The worst thing that can happen to a person? Being banished from God's Presence!** **Verse 13-14** take a look!
- **Verse 15** – God put a mark on Cain. **Why? There is no scriptural evidence that Cain ever repented.**
- **Verse 16** – When you leave the Presence of God...you just settle in life! How sad!
- **I John 3:12** shows us that Cain remained having an evil heart! He never got back in right fellowship with God.
- Back to **Genesis 4:7**...God had warned Cain that sin would overtake him! That it would destroy him! Cain's life shows that when you ignore God you will pay the ultimate price.

Closing: Be sure to look at the Bible's warning and take the opportunity to change!

****Do it before the sin. If you do have sin, have a heart of repentance quickly!**

- **Jude 1:11** / **I John 3:15** / **I Timothy 5:8** / **John 14:15** / **I John 1:9**