

Genesis: From Blood to Babel

Lesson Twelve • Genesis 4:1-16 The Way of Cain

Blood on the Ground

Cain killed his brother in the context of WORSHIP after rejecting God's warning and suffered the just consequences of his sin.

*Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous.
1John 3:12 NIV*

Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain... Jude 11 CSB

The Way of Cain

The way of Cain is the way to RUIN as a result of unchecked sin within.

*There is a way that seems right to a person, but its end is the way to death.
Proverbs 16:25 CSB*

The Way of Cain

1. The Way of Cain Is Characterized by an UNBELIEVING Heart!

Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, "I have gotten a man from the Lord." Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. Genesis 4:1-2

And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord. Abel also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. Genesis 4:3-5

2. The Way of Cain Is Characterized by an UNREPENTANT Heart!

God's Checkpoints of Grace

- God intervened lovingly with a QUESTION about Cain's sinful heart.

So the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted?" Genesis 4:6-7

- God intervened mercifully with a WARNING about the danger of sin.

"And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it." Genesis 4:7

3. The Way of Cain Is Characterized by an UNGODLY Heart!

Cain Rejects God's Authority

- Cain MURDERED Abel in anger.

Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose against Abel his brother and killed him. Genesis 4:8

- Cain MOCKED God in defiance.

Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" And he said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?" Genesis 4:9

God Rejects Cain's Autonomy

- God CURSED Cain as a restless wanderer.

And He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground. So now you are cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth." Gen. 4:10-12

- God MARKED Cain in an act of mercy.

And Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is greater than I can bear! Surely You have driven me out this day from the face of the ground; I shall be hidden from Your face; I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth, and it will happen that anyone who finds me will kill me. And the Lord said to him, "Therefore, whoever kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the Lord set a mark on Cain, lest anyone finding him should kill him. Then Cain went out from the presence of the Lord and dwelt in the land of Nod on the east of Eden. Genesis 4:13-16

Good News Written in Blood

Abel's blood was forcibly taken but Jesus' blood was freely given so our sins can be FORGIVEN through repentance and faith.

To Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. Hebrews 12:24 NIV

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1John 1:9 ESV