

Genesis Chapter 04 Commentary

1 And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD.

The birth of Cain is the beginning of fulfilling the commandment to be fruitful and multiply. We believe that is why she said "***I have gotten a man from the LORD***" Cain is the first person born of woman. God made Adam and Eve.

We see that God is still present with man. Think about the song "Cast down but not destroyed" (352 Lloyd Hymnal)

352 C. M.

Cast down, but not destroyed.

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| <p>1 NOW in thy praise, eternal King,
Be all my thoughts employed,
While of this precious truth I sing—
Cast down, but not destroyed.</p> <p>2 Oft the united powers of hell
My soul have sore annoyed;
And yet I live this truth to tell—
Cast down, but not destroyed.</p> | <p>3 In all the paths through which I've passed,
What mercies I've enjoyed!
And this shall be my song at last—
Cast down, but not destroyed.</p> <p>4 When I in heaven with God appear,
There I shall him adore;
Destroyed shall be my sin and fear,
And I cast down no more.</p> |
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Man is indeed fallen; but God is still with him. God has blessed him in procreation, because he has opened the womb and given a child. We see later in this chapter; there is one who is driven completely out of the presence of God and this is one who is "cast down and destroyed"

2 And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

We see the further fulfillment of God's commandment as Eve bears another child. We see also their different occupations.

We notice that Cain was a "***tiller of the ground.***" In Cain; I believe we see a type of the antichrist. How? How did satan begin his work of getting God's people to sin? He parleyed with the flesh. He played upon the vanity of the flesh, tilled the ground, and man fell for his guile.

We see in Abel a type of Christ. How? Abel was a keeper of sheep. We are taught by scripture that Christ is the good shepherd. See these references:

- ***Mr 14:27 And Jesus saith unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered.***
- ***Joh 10:2 But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.***
- ***Joh 10:11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.***
- ***Joh 10:12 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.***

- ***Joh 10:14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.***
- ***Joh 10:16 And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.***
- ***Heb 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,***
- ***1Pe 2:25 For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.***
- ***1Pe 5:4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.***

3 And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD.

"that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD" We do not see firstfruits here but a parable of the law. Cain was the first born and so was the law service. Just as God did not accept the sacrifice of Cain; so He did not accept the Jews' attempt to keep the law according to their hearts desire. Israelites were given forgiveness of sins with a sacrifice that was from a sincere heart and one that truly desired to please and be accepted of God. However, the real remission of sins only came through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. God was waiting for the acceptable sacrifice that was pure and holy. Remember that the letter killeth, but the spirit maketh alive.

4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering:

We have in Genesis 4:3-4 the first ritual of religion recorded in the bible, and that was acceptable to God. Abel's offering is an acceptable sacrifice to God and is a prophetic picture of Christ, demonstrated in scripture in:

- ***Mt 26:28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.***
- ***Ro 3:25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;***
- ***Heb 9:22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.***

We see that Abel brought the firstlings of the flock, and this is a type of Christ as we are told in:

- ***Mt 1:25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.***
- ***Lu 2:7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.***

Firstborn and the only one born of a virgin, seen in scripture in:

- ***Ro 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.*** Christ the firstborn of many brethren.
- ***Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:*** The firstborn of every child of God.

- **Col 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.** Firstborn from the dead to eternal life.

We see that God placed a difference between His people, and the world at large, by saving the firstborn of His people from death by the shedding of blood. Whereas, God slew the firstborn of the Egyptians demonstrated further in: **Heb 11:28 Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.**

The church of the firstborn is the church of Christ in this world, and in the eternal heaven. **Heb 12:23 To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,**

5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

Cain is a picture of the Pharisees, who were indignant at the coming of Christ? They lost their standing (their countenance fell) with God because they didn't believe on Jesus.

6 And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? 7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

"If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted?" God's favor was not procured by the sacrifices under the law; which had become just a ritual of religion to the Jews. These sacrifices became to the Jews their "own self-sufficiency."

"And unto thee shall be his desire," Christ came into this world to save sinners, and his desire was first to the Jews, and then the Gentiles.

"and thou shalt rule over him." Is not this what happened with the coming of Christ. He came under the law, lived by and under the law, and subjected himself to those, who thought they were the law. We see typified in the next verse that Christ submitted to them even unto death.

8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

The Jews talked to Christ at length many times, and made many "false" accusations against him. When they couldn't get him to do their will, they slew him; as is typified here: **Joh 8:44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.**

We know further; Cain is a type of antichrist in that he was a murderer, just as was the "satan" serpent in the garden. Remember this text; **1Jo 3:15 Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.**

9 And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper? 10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.

"thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground" We understand from this text that nothing is hid from God. The blood of righteous Abel is crying out to God. This is a prophesy of the blood of Christ; shed on the earth for the remission of sins, which God has recognized as an acceptable sacrifice for the sin of his people.

11 And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand; 12 When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth. 13 And Cain said unto the LORD, My punishment is greater than I can bear. 14 Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me.

"a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth" I believe that this is further evidence that everyone on earth is not a child of God. Why? ***"Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid"*** If one is ***"hid from the face of God"*** wouldn't that indicate that they were not a child of God?

15 And the LORD said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the LORD set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him. 16 And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.

- Nod means: *vagrancy, a person who wanders about idly and has no permanent home or employment; vagabond; tramp, not fixed or settled, especially in course; moving hither and thither.*
- In contrast to: Eden, the garden where God communed with man, means: *house of pleasure.* Isn't that a description of the eternal heaven, where God's people shall one day be?

It is sad that even today, in this age of salvation by grace, there are many like Cain, living in the land of Nod. Thankfully, there are many that dwell in the garden, the church of the saved by grace, God's people.

17 And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch: and he builded a city, and called the name of the city, after the name of his son, Enoch. 18 And unto Enoch was born Irad: and Irad begat Mehujael: and Mehujael begat Methusael: and Methusael begat Lamech. 19 And Lamech took unto him two wives: the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah.

We see here the beginning of bigamy. In Genesis chapter 1; God created man and woman, commanded them to be fruitful and multiply. In Genesis 2:20-25; we have the details of making of the help meet that Adam called woman. In Genesis 2:24-25 the woman is referred to as Adam's wife.

The marriage ceremony is not recorded until later on in scripture. The consummation of conjugal relations was the basis for a marriage, seen in: ***Ge 2:24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his***

mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. We notice; wife is singular in form, and denotes a female.

Wife means: *a woman*. A woman is in singular form; and means "one woman" This is substantiated in ***Matthew 19:8 He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so.***

20 And Adah bare Jabal: he was the father of such as dwell in tents, and of such as have cattle. 21 And his brother's name was Jubal: he was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ.

I believe that Cain is a type of the antichrist driven out from the presence of God into the earth. In his lineage we find Lamech, who begat Jubal, who was the daddy of musical instruments, and we see what destruction that has wrought in the church. Most people have forgotten, or despise, the old hymns sung from the heart with the voice. They would rather listen to the undulating beat of the musical instruments, which stirs up the fleshly desires, rather than, the biblically based hymns, sung by the voices that God created to praise Him. These hymns stir up the heart, but not the flesh.

22 And Zillah, she also bare Tubalcain, an instructor of every artificer in brass and iron: and the sister of Tubalcain was Naamah.

Lamech also spawned Tubalcain; who was the daddy of the idol industry, as a worker in iron and brass. We have many records of artificers that create gods in the scripture. Some of them are those who rose up against Paul and began the journey to his death.

23 And Lamech said unto his wives, Adah and Zillah, Hear my voice; ye wives of Lamech, hearken unto my speech: for I have slain a man to my wounding, and a young man to my hurt. 24 If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy and sevenfold.

In verses 17-24 we have the lineage of Cain. We see that Cain's lineage is not included in the lineage of Christ Jesus. We see from this lineage that came from the one driven completely from God's presence:

- We have the beginning of the industrial world of enterprise and entrepreneurship. (the love of money)
- We see also the beginning of the entertainment industry. (lust of the flesh, the eye, and etc.)
- We see the beginning of the idol making industry and its ill effects.

Through the love of money, the entertainment industry, and idolatry, satan has indeed bruised the heel of man. Look at our very nation today and how so many are only interested in these things, and even deny the very existence of God in all they do and say.

We are reminded of the curse God laid upon the serpent in: ***Ge 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.***

25 And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.

Seth means: *substituted*. We notice here that Seth, according to his mother, was appointed me instead of Abel. We also note that it was through the lineage of Seth, that Jesus Christ came into the world.

26 And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the LORD.

"Then began men to call upon the name of the Lord." After the resurrection of Jesus Christ men began to call upon the name of the Lord indeed. The called without the offering of sacrifices as delegated by the law, because the sacrificial law was fulfilled in Christ's self-sacrifice to God.

This appointed son is a type of the church of Christ in the world. We, like Seth, were given Jesus Christ, who took our place and died in our stead. We have being because he lives today. Just as in the days of Seth men began to call upon "**the name of the Lord**," so Christ began for us the call to "**call on the name of the Lord**" by saying "**ask in my name**" as seen in:

- **Joh 14:12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. 13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.**
- **Joh 16:23 And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. 24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. 25 These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father. 26 At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you: 27 For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. 28 I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father.**

"Call upon the name of the LORD:" Ge 4:26 And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the LORD. As we consider this text we need a bit of background to bring us to the point.

- **Ge 4:1 And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD.** We see here that the first person born as a type of darkness. Just as the evening and the morning were the first day so darkness came first in Cain, who is a type of satan.
- **Ge 4:2 And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.** We see in Able, the 2nd born, the prophesy, in time, of the coming of Christ. Able offered to the Lord an acceptable sacrifice; Christ was the only acceptable sacrifice for the atonement of sin. Cain rose up against Able and slew him in his own hot displeasure. The satanic church rose up against Christ and slew him on Calvary's cross. Remember that darkness was first then light. Man in his own strength cannot approach unto God, but through Christ, who is the light and type of day, we can do all things.

As we consider these things in relation to our text above we find this correlation.

- Seth was the 3rd named son of Adam and Eve.
- Adam and Eve are the 1st generation

- Cain, Able and Seth are the 2nd generation
- Enos is the 3rd generation.

Think now of the biblical divisions of time.

- Creation to the flood is the 1st generation.
- The flood to Christ is the 2nd generation.
- From Christ to the end of time is the 3rd generation. This is the age of the grace church in this world.

Just as the 1st named son slew the second named son, so in the progression of time the first named son, satan, rose up against the 2nd named son, Jesus Christ, and slew him. Then there went out from God a curse upon the 1st named son that he was banished from the face of God forever. So, with the crucifixion of Christ, the sacrificial law was fulfilled and banished forever, and the age of grace (the 3rd generation) ushered in, in which men might call upon the name of the Lord. That is where we are today in the 3rd generation, as the grace church, and we look forward to the fulfillment of time, and the prophesy that the evening and the morning were the 1st day.

When Christ came it fulfilled the prophesy of scripture: ***Joh 1:5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.*** Also, the hidden mystery of scripture in:

- ***Mt 27:51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;***
- ***Mr 15:38 And the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom.***
- ***Lu 23:45 And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst.***

Christ is the light of the world, and he came to earth and accomplished the Father's will, and hath returned to heaven from whence he came. This signifies that with the coming of Christ, the day, the beginning of a new age, the 3rd generation, and the veil of the temple being rent in twain typifies the opening of the way of grace for man to be able to appeal to God through Christ. ***"then began men to call upon the name of the LORD."***

What great prophetic mysteries God is revealing to his people today through Holy Spirit. What a wonderful privilege to be enabled by the power of Christ to be called the sons of God and to live in the light. Praise and glory to God!