

Cain and Abel – Genesis 4:1-17

Two Sons, Two Different Paths

Cain's name means 'gotten'. What does Abel's name mean? _____

What would have impressed Adam and Eve to give such a meaning to his name?

What were Cain and Abel's occupations?

Cain was a _____. Abel was a _____.

What did Cain's work provide for the family? _____

What did Abel's work provide for the family? _____

In the Presence of the Lord

Gen 4:3 'And in the process of time' – Let's examine the Hebrew words of this opening phrase

'And in the process' - Hebrew → קֵץ (Strong's 7093), meaning "end, at the end of (of time) "
'of time' – Hebrew → יום (Strong's 3117), meaning "day, time, year" – a certain period of time

Literally translated 'At the end of the days' seems to imply that sacrifice was a regular occurrence.

What prompted Cain and Abel to bring a sacrifice to the Lord? _____

Do you think this was Cain and Abel's first such sacrifice to God? _____

Why did Cain's sacrifice make God angry? _____

What should have Cain presented as his sacrifice to God? _____

Where would Cain have gotten his pleasing sacrifice? _____

If God would be angry with Cain's sacrifice, then why did Cain bring his fruit of the ground?

The Faith of Abel

Heb 11:4 – By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks

Cain's heart was not right before the Lord. Cain's offering likely disobeyed God's specific instruction and was not offered in faith like Abel's.

God's displeasure caused Cain's inward nature to be revealed. The pride and resentment became manifest in Cain's face and was directed to both God and Abel.

Abel – God's Prophet (Luke 11:49-51)

Abel became the outward symbol of the fact that Cain's works were not adequate enough to get him into God's presence. For proud Cain, Abel's existence and probably his counsel became unbearable.

God's displeasure with Cain's sacrifice may have been public knowledge, if God consuming the sacrifice with fire indicated acceptance. Abel, as God's prophet, may have attempted to speak with Cain about the whole matter.

The Way of Cain (Jude 11)

What is the 'way of Cain'? _____
