



Genesis 4:1-5—The Sinner—Part 1
From sermon 7.5.20

Read *Genesis 4:1-5*

Review from Sunday's sermon: The fall and the Curse now take their effect on man. Hereditary sin is proven. Man fails at being governed by God's first ordained restraint: Conscience. As the first family emerges, we discover the new reality that the lost and the elect will have to live together in both the family and society. It will be a point of conflict for both.

1. Several truths were pointed out, on Sunday, about the conflict with the offering. Review and discuss each.

- There has been an historical misunderstanding that there was something wrong Cain's occupation = God favors ranchers over farmers. Simply not true. See *Colossians 3:22-25*
- The Wording [Cain brought "an offering". Abel brought "the firstborn and of their fat"] reveals that Cain brought the ordinary—the leftovers. But, Abel offered God his best—a sacrifice. See *2 Samuel 24:24*
- The real issue was Relationship through Faith. Cain had no faith in God = Lost. Abel was in a saving relationship with God = Elect/Saved. See *Hebrews 11:4 & 6*

2. When God rejected Cain's offering, what should have been his reaction? Various answers. Brokenness of spirit leading examination and repentance. Worship and praise of God's grace and forgiveness. Coming under his parent's or brother's leadership to be disciplined in the truth of God.

3. Instead, what was Cain's reaction, according to the Scripture? Anger. Not with himself, but with his brother and with God. How did that anger first manifest itself? In Resentment

4. Cain is the prototype of all future lost sinners. Therefore, his multi-layered resentment is also the pattern of the lost. Review the various resentments presented on Sunday and give examples of where you've experienced/viewed each. The Lost Resent...

<u>Resentment</u>	<u>Scripture</u>	<u>Example</u>
• ... <u>True Worshippers</u> of God		
• ...The Word of God—	<i>John 3:20</i>	
• ...The Church of God—	<i>John 15:18-19</i>	
• ...The <u>Absolutes</u> of God		
• ...God's Exclusive Redemptive Plan	<i>John 14:6</i>	
• ...Their Own Condition [more so, the Doctrine of their Condition]		

5. Even as Elect, Saved Children of God, what is the danger for us in Cain-like reactions? Various Answers, but include: it is easy for us to resent what God requires of us (service, ministry, righteous life and speech, weekly corporate worship, and giving). We can easily compare ourselves to others and resent that they don't "do enough" or lack our commitment. We can lack faith and bring/offer God our leftovers or scraps. We can give with false motives: gain favor, in place of repentance, to acquire more, to be seen by others...