



Genesis 4:17-26—Families
From sermon 7.19.20

Read *Genesis 4:17-26*

Review from Sunday's sermon: the devil has sold man a lie that there are all kinds of people in the world with just as many options and destinies. This is a fatal lie. God, through the Scripture, says there are only two: the elect and the lost. Everyone ever born is in one of two families: God's or Satan's. Additionally, all of mankind is born into Satan's family. Becoming a member of God's is by adoption only. Genesis 4 shows us a portrait of both sides. One trusting in God; the other in self.

1. From sources like eastern religions, many have come to believe there is a cosmic balance between good and evil. Even in the Church, many believe there are as many saved people as there are lost. Read *Matthew 7:13-14*. What did Jesus say, however, about vast size discrepancy of the two groups? They aren't even close to equal. Very, very few will be repent and be saved. Most go to destruction.

2. One point that was stressed, again, on Sunday, is that there was/is nothing inherently wrong with the crafts and trades of Cain's line. See *Colossians 3:22-24*. The fact that Scripture points out their occupations, however, and none of those of Seth's line, shows us they were worshipping wealth and pleasure. See *Philippians 3:18-19*. Discuss and compare to our day. Various answers. We live in a very spiritual culture. But, with the dismissal of absolutes, our world rejects the God of the Bible and the exclusivity of Salvation in Jesus Christ alone. Universalism and Relativism reign.

3. The beautiful trait that marked Seth's line, however, is that they "began to call on the Name of the Lord". Use the following passages to explore what this means and why is it significant?

- *1 Kings 18:22-24*—great story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal. The Name of the Lord carries His power and sovereignty. Israel was trying to have Baal and God.
- *Psalms 116:17*—Calling on the Name of the Lord is an act of submissive worship.
- *Proverbs 18:10*—The Name of the Lord is the believer's refuge and peace.
- *Joel 2:32*—The Name of the Lord is the sole source of Salvation. See also *Acts 4:12*
- *Zephaniah 3:9*—The Name of the Lord is required for authentic repentance (vs. moral reform).
- *1 Corinthians 1:2*—The true Church is identified in the Name of the Lord: Jesus

4. On Sunday, it was mentioned that God always keeps a true, believing remnant of His people. How does this bring you comfort in these dark days? Various personal answers.
Share how it leads you to trust in Him and His promises. Various personal experiences.

5. In the Genesis account (chapter 3-5), everything setting up for the next major event: cataclysmic judgment. What are the parallels to our day? What warning signs are we seeing that point to the final judgment and Christ's return? Almost everything revealed in end-times prophecy is being, at least, previewed. The labor pains have begun. While we cannot set dates and times, we can compare the nightly news with Scripture and see that judgment is coming. As the world dismissed the warnings and the signs in the pre-Noah days, they will do the same today.