

# Cherished Bible Stories

## Lesson 4



# A Story Of Hate & Murder (Genesis 4)

## Introduction

Whether one is a Bible believer or not, almost everyone would have to admit they've heard the names of Adam & Eve's first 2 sons – Cain & Abel. Theirs is a story of how man's relationship with his fellow man has a direct impact on his relationship with God. Cain's reply to God... "*Am I my brother's keeper?*"...has lived in infamy since the day he said it. "Brotherly love" is a prevalent N.T. theme that we must consider if we have any interest in pleasing God.

*Read the story and be prepared to answer the following questions.*

- 1) How are the brothers described in v. 2b?
  
- 2) "*In the course of time,*" what did the brothers begin to do? (vv. 3-4a) What did each one "bring" to God? What was God's reaction to what each one brought? (vv. 4b-5a)
  
- 3) One possible explanation for God's reaction was favoritism. How do we know that is not the reason? (Acts 10:34-35; Rom. 2:11; Gal. 2:6; Eph. 6:9; Col. 3:25; 1 Pet. 1:17)
  
- 4) Since God did not "like Abel more than He liked Cain," what was the reason for His actions in vv. 4b-5a? Please consider Heb. 11:4 & Rom. 10:17 in your answer.
  
- 5) How did Cain react to God's refusal of his sacrifices? (v. 5b) What did God choose to respond to Cain? (vv. 6-7) How might 1 Pet. 5:8 & Rom. 6:16 apply?

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- 7) What was Cain's attitude toward his brother? (v. 8) Why did he kill him? (1 Jn. 3:10-12, 14-15)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 8) What question did God have for Cain? (v. 9a) Why do you think God questioned Cain re: Abel? (cp. 3:9, 11) What was Cain's response? (v. 9b)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 9) What did God say about Abel's blood? (v. 10) How does Heb. 12:24 apply?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 10) What was a consequence for Cain's sin? (vv. 11-12) What was his reply? (v. 13)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 11) What was the "greater tragedy" Cain faced as a result of his actions? (vv. 14-16a) How might Isa. 59:1-2 & 1 Pet. 3:12 apply?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 12) How does 1 Jn. 4:20-21 apply?