

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?

