

Cain's Issues

Genesis 4:1–8

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Cain and Abel Were Men That Decided On Two Different Occupations

- ▶ Cain was a farmer
- ▶ Abel was a herdsman

Nothing initially wrong with their choices
Both seemed motivated to work
No “deadbeats” in Adam’s family



Verse 3 says “And in the process of time it came to pass,”



A Lot Happens to a Christian Over the “Process of Time”

- ▶ You can grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord
 - ▶ You can add virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, Godliness, brotherly kindness, love
 - ▶ Or you can become stagnant or bitter
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A Lot of Things Happen to Christians Over the “Process of Time”

- ▶ Adversity
 - ▶ Sometimes life doesn't go our way
 - ▶ We change due to life's challenges
 - ▶ We either become a **Better** servant or a **Bitter** servant (which happened to Cain)
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The Day Came to Show God Appreciation

- ▶ Abel gave God his best animals
- ▶ From the first born of his herd
- ▶ Choice cuts of meats

God was impressed with Abel's offerings to Him.

Through the process of time Abel had come to know God, to love God and to appreciate God. His gift was an outpouring of that experience.

Cain's Gift Was Ordinary

- ▶ No screening of the vegetables and fruits
 - ▶ Didn't check for ripeness
 - ▶ Didn't check for rotten spots or decay
 - ▶ He just “showed up” with no forethought
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When Cain Realized His Offering
Was Not Accepted

**He Got Angry and
Pouted!**



God Asked Cain 3 Questions

- ▶ Why are you angry?
 - ▶ Why are you dejected (why the pouting)?
 - ▶ If you had done right wouldn't your offering be accepted?
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Here Lies the Fundamental Problem

Hebrews 11:4 says “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.”



Here Lies the Fundamental Problem

Romans 10:17 “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

Cain knew what he was supposed to do and didn't do it

But when God confronted him, he got mad because God didn't accept what both he and God knew was wrong



God's Point to Cain

The attitude of knowingly and voluntarily doing wrong and getting mad because wrong is not accepted, has got to go!

That attitude happens at Home and Church!

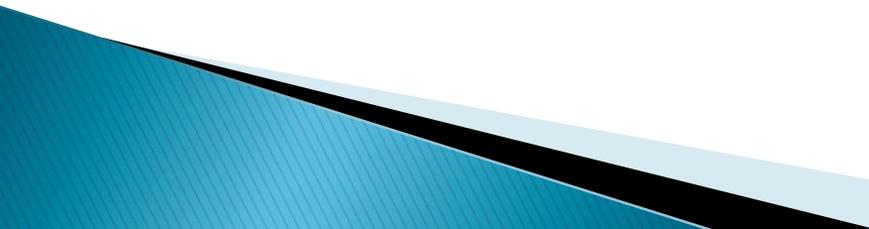


God's Point to Cain

“I don't prefer Abel
anymore than you, but
he **CHOOSES** to live
RIGHT and you **CHOOSE**
to live **WRONG!**”



***WHEN WE TRY TO
MAKE OUR WRONG
“THE NEW RIGHT”
GOD HAS A PROBLEM
WITH US!***



Self Denial is the Way of Holiness

Matthew 16:24 Jesus taught self denial

Matthew 26:39, 42 and 44 Jesus practiced self denial in the biggest challenge of His life

Cain Killed Abel But Abel Was Not His Problem

- ▶ People who are righteous in their living are not the problem with the wicked
- ▶ But people who are wicked think that righteous people are the problem

Cain REFUSED to Bend His Will to God's will!



The Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38

