

## Are You, Your Brother's Keeper? – Genesis 4 - Biblical Discussion

- What are the names of the first 2 sons of Adam and Eve? **Gen 4:1**  
What was the two son's job? **Gen 4:2**  
Why did God favor Able offering over Cain? **Gen 4:3-5 (2 Timothy 2:15, Romans 2:6)**  
What are some of the reasons God will not favor our offerings? **Gen 4:3-5**  
How often do you do your best? **Gen 4:7**  
Why did Cain attack his brother? **Gen 4:8**  
Are you, your brother's keeper? **Gen 4:9**  
What is this "mark" God puts on Cain? **Gen 4:15 (Ezekiel 9:3-4, Revelation 7:3-4)**  
Where is Everybody? Cain afraid that someone might kill him, Cain's wife? **Gen 4:13, 18**



### Cain and Abel

4 Adam<sup>[a]</sup> made love to his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain.<sup>[b]</sup> She said, "With the help of the LORD I have brought forth<sup>[c]</sup> a man." <sup>2</sup> Later she gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. <sup>3</sup> In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. <sup>4</sup> And Abel also brought an offering— fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, <sup>5</sup> but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast. <sup>6</sup> Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? <sup>7</sup> If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it." <sup>8</sup> Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field."<sup>[d]</sup> While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him. <sup>9</sup> Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?" <sup>10</sup> The LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. <sup>11</sup> Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. <sup>12</sup> When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth." <sup>13</sup> Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is more than I can bear. <sup>14</sup> Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." <sup>15</sup> But the LORD said to him, "Not so<sup>[e]</sup>; anyone who kills Cain will suffer vengeance seven times over." Then the LORD put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him. <sup>16</sup> So Cain went out from the LORD's presence and lived in the land of Nod,<sup>[f]</sup> east of Eden. <sup>17</sup> Cain made love to his wife, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Cain was then building a city, and he named it after his son Enoch. <sup>18</sup> To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad was the father of Mehujael, and Mehujael was the father of Methushael, and Methushael was the father of Lamech. <sup>19</sup> Lamech married two women, one named Adah and the other Zillah. <sup>20</sup> Adah gave birth to Jabal; he was the father of those who live in tents and raise livestock. <sup>21</sup> His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all who play stringed instruments and pipes. <sup>22</sup> Zillah also had a son, Tubal-Cain, who forged all kinds of tools out of<sup>[g]</sup> bronze and iron. Tubal-Cain's sister was Naamah. <sup>23</sup> Lamech said to his wives, "Adah and Zillah, listen to me; wives of Lamech, hear my words. I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for injuring me. <sup>24</sup> If Cain is avenged seven times, then Lamech seventy-seven times." <sup>25</sup> Adam made love to his wife again, and she gave birth to a son and named him Seth,<sup>[h]</sup> saying, "God has granted me another child in place of Abel, since Cain killed him." <sup>26</sup> Seth also had a son, and he named him Enosh. At that time people began to call on<sup>[i]</sup> the name of the LORD.

### EVALUATING OUR ROLE AS OUR BROTHER'S KEEPER

#### A. WHEN ONE BECOMES A BROTHER...

1. Do we receive them into the family of God, or ignore them? - **Romans 15:7**
  - a. Are they properly integrated in the family life of the congregation?
  - b. Do they remain on in the outlying?  
-- If we do not even know their names, we can be sure that we are failing as our brother's keeper!
2. Do we edify them, or put stumbling blocks in their way? - **Romans 14:19**
  - a. As individuals, are we "body-builders", encouraging the members of the body?
  - b. Or are we like a cancer, weakening the members of the body of Christ?
    - 1) By our own example
    - 2) By our words, attitudes, etc. -- It was said of Philemon that he refreshed the hearts of the brethren; do people say the same of us?
3. Do we submit to them, or arrogantly rule over them? – **Ephesians 5:21**
4. Do we serve them in love, or expect them to serve us? - **Galatians 5:13**
5. Do we demonstrate hospitality to them? – **1 Peter 4:8-10**
  - a. By visiting them in their need?
  - b. By inviting them into your home (or accepting invitations to their home)?

