SCRIPTURE REFERENCE NOTES WOMEN IN THE WORD Fellowship Bible Church

The Grace of God Revealed

Lesson 3
God's Grace Revealed for Cain and Abel and Seth
February 27, 2024

Stage 1 - God planned for redemption through Christ

Stage 2 - Setting the stage - God created the earth

He created Angels - Lucifer and other angels fell into sin.

He created Adam and Eve - Adam and Eve both sin and become corrupt. Mankind now NEEDS a redeemer.

The stage is set for God's redemption plan. It is a plan for GRACE.

Remember that the wages of sin is death, and so God required the death of an animal as a demonstration of their understanding of God's redemption plan.

This sacrificial system that God set up was a demonstration of human dependence. It was a picture of the great redemption plan which was to come. By GRACE.

Genesis 4:3-5

Cain believed in God. But simply his belief that God exists is not enough.

Cain was born separated from God. A sinner just as Abel was. Their only hope was to come to God in the way that God had revealed.

Just as Adam & Eve's attempt to cover their nakedness with fig leaves was insufficient, so Cain's offering of plants was also insufficient. Separation from God is only reconcilable by the shedding of blood.

God made His instructions clear to Cain and Abel. GRACE!!

Cain brought the first born of his flock and the fat portions. - He did not think up this idea on his own. In Leviticus 3:16 we see that this is exactly what God required. Cain chose a "clean" animal and a lamb Leviticus 11

1 Peter 1:19-20 tells us that we have been ransomed— "with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you"

Leviticus 17:11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life.

Hebrews 9:22. Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

We know today that the blood of animals doesn't cleanse sin. But sacrificing a lamb was important for two reasons.

- 1. The wages of sin is death
- 2. And foreshadowing of the promised One, whose blood would cleanse us of our sin.

Hebrews 10:4 tells us that it is impossible to the blood of bulls and goats to take away sin, but verse **10** tells us we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Abel believed God!! - FAITH

Hebrews 11:4 By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks.

Cain did not believe God!!

Genesis 4:6-16.

This whole exchange between God and Cain reveals a few things to us about God and mankind.

- 1. We see faithful communication of God.
- 2. God also <u>provides a warning</u> to Cain of the "sin that is crouching at his door." Again, Cain disregards God and kills Abel.

God again approaches Cain and pursues him, but we see him wandering off from the presence of the Lord rejecting His grace.

The fact that <u>Cain turned His back and rejected God's grace ultimately</u> <u>led to him being judged.</u>

Romans 3:9-18. ... None is righteous, no, not one...

Without the divine intervention (grace) of God, man would be WITHOUT ALL HOPE!

God keeps His promises regardless of man's actions.

If you keep reading in the Romans passage above, there is HOPE

Romans 3:21-26 ...the righteousness of God through <u>faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe</u>. For there is no distinction: for <u>all have sinned</u> and fall short of the glory of God, and are <u>justified by his grace</u> as a <u>gift</u>, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith...

God faithfully keeps His promises.

Genesis 4:25. Seth is born.

Today we know that Seth was the one through whom God planned that the Deliverer would come into the world.

We know from Genesis 4:26 that Seth and his descendants followed God.

Without God's divine intervention and calling people unto Himself and creating that hunger to know Him, NO ONE would have ever turned back to Him! The eternal plan of redemption originated in God's heart before time began. The carrying out of that plan throughout history was ALL done by His divine intervention. **GRACE!**

God left only ONE thing up to mankind......**SIN**! God did all the rest! This is all for the GLORY of God!! Would we know that God was a gracious God unless He offered us grace??

He <u>predetermined</u> the plan, He <u>set up</u> the plan and He will <u>carry out</u> the plan regardless of man's actions. This is God's grace!!