

## Genesis 4-5 – 29 August 2019

### “Overcoming the Poison of Rebellion”

#### Introduction –

Chapter 3 brought us the initial sin from Adam and Eve with its eternal consequences.

Chapter 4 brings us the first example of a lifestyle of sin and rebellion in the life of Cain.

It's one thing to sneeze at the dinner table, it's quite another thing to continuously & purposefully keep doing it! That's outright rebellion to table etiquette!

Rebellion, from the root “to be bitter” poisons every good thing you've been given a life for.

QUOTE – “Bitterness is like drinking poison and waiting for the other person to die.”

**Today we'll see 4 things poisoned by rebellion.**

Read Vs 1-5

## **1<sup>st</sup> thing poisoned by rebellion is your relationship with your Maker**

1. Cain knew that the right way to worship God was with a blood-sacrifice
  - a. God covered Adam/Eve's sin with a blood.
  - b. Read Jude 4-11 – Cain was intentionally despising God's dominion & rule in his life.
2. Rebellion doesn't start by walking away from God, starts by serving God the way YOU want to.
  - a. Korah in the wilderness
  - b. Ananias and Sapphira
3. *Rebels need to know that there's satisfaction in life when we accept God's authority over us.*
  - a. R u bitter about the life God has given you?
  - b. Trust that He has the best planned for you.
  - c. Stop striving with God and accept His love.
    - i. Eyes are windows to the soul -...crying little boy who just wants to be loved.

## Read Vs 6-7

1. How to please God is not a mystery.
  - a. Micah 6:8
2. “Why won’t God just accept me way I am?”
  - a. He made you and has the right to set things.
3. “Yeah, but He made me this way (tiller of the ground), He should just accept that.”
  - a. We’re all born with a type of sinful tendency toward rebellion. That’s why we need to be born again!

## Read Vs 8-10

### **2<sup>nd</sup> thing poisoned by rebellion is your relationship with the helpful people in your life**

1. God asks questions, not b/c He doesn’t know the answers, but to get our confession/agreeance
2. The fruit of rebellion can’t be hidden.
  - a. Murder and lying now are exposed from the heart where it has been living already.
  - b. Read Matt 15:19

- c. Spiritual rebellion to God comes out of the heart in the form of crimes against mankind.
    - i. I John 3:10-12 – He killed Abel not b/c Abel did anything but b/c he was seen as different than his righteous brother.
  - d. It's not the tool or rock that killed Abel, it was the rebellion in Cain's heart.
    - i. There is a discussion to be had regarding gun rights and gun control....
    - ii. But to lower the murder rate, we need to address the rebellion in the heart of man.
3. *Rebels need to see that there is love and grace in a relationship with God and with us.*
- a. Your kindness and readiness to forgive is the open door for rebels to repent (Rom 2:4)
  - b. Rebels are scared of being seen as failing, make it acceptable to not be perfect!
    - i. D. Guzak – “I'm not afraid of failure, I'm afraid of people seeing me fail.”

- ii. Car Accident: When someone wants to try serving God, be ready to heal as a paramedic not judge as the policeman.

Read Vs 11-16

### **3<sup>rd</sup> thing poisoned by rebellion is your very purpose in life**

1. Mark on Cain – don't know what it was, but even if it was passed to his descendants, they perished in the Flood..... no more mark.
2. Notice in vs 13 even working is now harder.
3. Rebellion to God gives you a purposeless life.
  - a. Notice especially in vs 14 that all Cain has left to care about is his own physical life.
  - b. Having a broken relationship w/ God, he has no eternal purpose
  - c. Having broken his trust with man, he can't now always looking over his shoulder.
4. Is this physical life all you're living for? To go to work, to have a house, to have some downtime?

- a. Read Ecc 1:14, 2:1, & 2:11
  - b. Rebels need to come to the end of themselves & look to God for things greater!
5. *Rebels need to experience God's great purpose for their lives.*
- a. Luke 5:4-11 – Peter w/ the catch of fish
    - i. Peter is shown dissatisfaction in his earthly pursuits
    - ii. Peter is also shown a vision for a great spiritual pursuit!
  - b. In times of despair, even we Christians retreat to earthly, meaningless goals.
    - i. John 21:3-17
      - 1. God, in His grace, is always pleading with us to come back to the eternal!

Read Vs 17-24

### **4<sup>th</sup> thing poisoned by rebellion is your legacy**

- 1. Where did Cain get his wife from?

- a. This is circa the year 120, lots of people by now with no genetic problems.
2. Notice there was iron, they already had smelting before the Flood.
  - a. Man wasn't stupid long ago and getting smarter. Quite the opposite.
3. Rebellion becomes a culture
  - a. Although materially prospering, Cain's descendants were prideful, fleshly.
  - b. Lamech, the 1<sup>st</sup> polygamist, boasting of his murders and expecting protection.
  - c. The culture and legacy of rebellion has no respect for God's mercy in extending Cain's life and their life.
  - d. The culture and legacy of rebellion has no future and is cut off at the time of the Flood.
4. *Rebels need to consider their influence on the generations to follow them.*
  - a. What are you leaving behind for those around you to learn from?

- b. Rebels need ‘just one more day’, ‘just one more day’ to do what they want.
- c. Heb 11:4 – Although Abel died young, his life continues to speak to generations about what a full purposeful life looks like.
- d. The righteous man leaves a legacy that the rebellion strove for their whole life and never obtained!

## Read Vs 25-26

1. This is about year 225, lots of people and time to have fallen away from God.
2. Grace and hope are always glimmering in the background ready for all who desire it.



## Read Chapter 5

1. Vs 21-24 – Enoch was taken by God
2. Life spans of 900 years
  - a. Noah's father Lamech lived during Adam's life.
  - b. Noah's son Shem lived during Abraham's life.
3. God has put great meaning into every Word.
  - a. Adam Human
  - b. Seth Appointed
  - c. Enos Mortal
  - d. Cainan Acquisition of home (like birds)
  - e. Mahalael Praise or fame to God
  - f. Jared To descend
  - g. Enoch Dedicate/Initiate (to narrow)
  - h. Methuselah Of Full Age/Weapon
  - i. Lamech Wildman
  - j. Noah Rest

- k. People are appointed to be mortal, but to acquire a heavenly home praise God He will descend and initiate action to narrow the human race by a disaster when Methuselah is of full age. This will cause the Wildman to rest.
4. This genealogy leads us to the time of the Great Flood.
5. *Rebels need to know that the godly lineage will be spared, by God's grace, while they are wiped out.*
6. Just like Stephen was proclaiming in Acts 7, it's the second time that will be the finale.
7. You are being given a 2<sup>nd</sup> chance today!!!

## Conclusion –

We've seen how rebellion poisons everything that matters in life and we've seen how to overcome it.

1. **1<sup>st</sup> thing poisoned by rebellion is your relationship with your Maker**
  - a. There's satisfaction in life when we accept God's authority over us.
2. **2<sup>nd</sup> thing poisoned by rebellion is your relationship with the helpful people in your life**
  - a. There is love and grace in a relationship with God and with the church.
3. **3<sup>rd</sup> thing poisoned by rebellion is your very purpose in life**
  - a. There is great purpose in life lived for God.
4. **4<sup>th</sup> thing poisoned by rebellion is your legacy**
  - a. We are influencing the generations that will follow us.
5. God great grace offers us a second chance!!!