

Genesis 4 Study/message

Cain and Abel

¹ Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, “I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord.” ² And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground.

- knew Eve— just like knowing good and evil. Intimate, one with.
- gotten a man – Cain sounds like “gotten” in Hebrew
 - Gotten: קָנָה – qânâh – kaw-naw' (Kah-Nah)
 - Cain: קַיִן – Qayin – kah'-yin (KIE-Yin)
- Abel – Uncertain: *breath, vanity, fragility, vapor* or *son* have been suggested
- First Jobs
 - Sheep were not for eating. They were probably for sacrifice and or clothing.

³ In the course of time, Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, ⁴ and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, ⁵ but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. ⁶ The Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? ⁷ If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, and you must rule over it.”

- brought to the Lord an offering – later in the law, there will be grain offerings, and first fruits. However, these were not offerings for sin. Sin always had a blood aspect.
- firstborn of his flock
 - Hebrews 11:4 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.*
 - Matthew 23:35-36 ⁻³⁵ *so that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the **blood of righteous Abel** to the blood of Zechariah the son of*

Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. ³⁶ Truly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.

- 1 John 3:11-12 –¹¹ For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. ¹² We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous.

- he had no regard – Somehow, he knew God didn't accept his offering
- Cain was very angry
- be accepted
- God is gracious and gives clear instructions on what He expects from man
 - Even today, man chooses to disregard God's instructions.
 - Mark 1:15 ^{NIV 15} “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”
- sin is crouching at the door
 - He had the power to open the door or keep it closed
 - God warned Adam, He warned Cain, He warns us today. We have the power to overcome sin.
 - **Sin** – 1st mention of the word.

⁸ Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him.

- Abel and killed him – 1st Murder/ human death

⁹ Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?”

- Then the Lord said to Cain – God enters the scene as soon as sin happens
 - He begins with a similar question to the one He asked of Adam, Gen 3:10

He said, “I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?”

- 1st Human lie – “I don't know.”
 - Imagine if Cain asked, “You don't know?”
 - God knows all things, and we cannot hide anything from Him.
 - God was giving an opportunity for confession & repentance (Like with Adam)

¹⁰ And the Lord said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother's **blood** is crying to me from the ground.

- **Blood** – 1st mention of blood

¹¹ And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹² When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength.

You shall be **a fugitive** and a wanderer on the earth.”

- Now you are cursed from the ground – The ground was cursed from Adam
 - Cain would have an even more difficult time getting anything to grow.
 - The Farmer who had no green thumb! That was terrible!
- a fugitive? – He had a very difficult time growing anything. He probably had to keep moving because people knew what he did.

¹³ Cain said to the Lord, “My punishment is **greater than I can bear**.

- **greater than I can bear** – Note: He is upset at the punishment, not the crime!

¹⁴ Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden.

I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.”

- Worried about justice
- If people understood the true punishment for sin, they would sincerely reconsider their rejection of Christ.
 - Romans 6:23^a – ²³ *For the wages of sin is death,...*
 - Romans 6:23^b – *but the **free gift of God** is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*
 - All have sinned – Romans 3:23

¹⁵ Then the Lord said to him, “Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold.” And the Lord put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him.

- Not so! – Mercy of God.

¹⁶ Then Cain went away from the presence of the Lord and settled in the land of **Nod**, east of Eden.

- presence of the Lord – [Quote] “the appointed place of worship at Eden. Leaving it, he not only severed himself from his relatives but forsook the ordinances of religion, probably casting off all fear of God from his eyes so that the last end of this man is worse than the first”¹ –Jamieson, Fausset and Brown: Commentary on Genesis 4

¹ Jamieson, Fausset, Brown, "Commentary on Genesis 4". "Commentary Critical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible". <https://www.studydrive.org/commentaries/eng/jfb/genesis-4.html>. 1871-8.

- Nod – Nod means wandering

¹⁷ Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore **Enoch**.

- his wife, – Where did she come from?
 - It was his sister – not a problem
 - The genetic pool was not yet corrupted as to cause the issues we have later with inbreeding.
 - Abraham married his ½ sister – [Genesis 20:12-13](#)
- **Enoch** – Not the same Enoch who was taken away ([Next chapter](#))

When he built a city, he called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch. ¹⁸ To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad fathered **Mehujael**, and **Mehujael** fathered **Methushael**, and Methushael fathered **Lamech**. ¹⁹ And Lamech **took two wives**.

- **Mehujael** – *smitten of God*
- **Methushael** – "Man of God" or "Who is of God,"²
- **Lamech** – Unsure meaning, maybe *strong man*, or *strong youth*³: 1st polygamist 🤪 – This is a greater departure from the original blueprint from God.
 - Marriage was originally between one man and one woman.
 - Marriage points to Christ and the Church; it was also God and Israel.

name of the one was **Adah**, and the name of the other **Zillah**.

- **Adah** – adornment or beauty⁴
- **Zillah** – Just a name

²⁰ Adah bore **Jabal**; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. ²¹ His brother's name was **Jubal**; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe.

- **Jabal** – the first to adopt the nomadic lifestyle, a practice still common in Arabia and other regions world,
- **Jubal**– "the **father** of all who play the harp and flute"
 - **Side note:** [Isaiah 9:6](#) calls Jesus the "...everlasting **Father**..."

² <https://biblehub.com/topical/m/methushael.htm>

³ <https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/encyclopedia-of-the-bible/Lamech>

⁴ <https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/encyclopedia-of-the-bible/Adah>

- From a trinitarian Christian view, this does not point to THE FATHER but emphasizes what Jesus is: The Father of Everlasting.

²² Zillah also bore Tubal-cain; he was the forger of all instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubal-cain was **Naamah**.

- **Naamah** – From the root: pleasant, delightful, sweet, similar to Naomi

²³ Lamech said to his wives: “Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; you wives of Lamech, listen to what I say: I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for striking me. ²⁴ If Cain's revenge is sevenfold, then Lamech's is seventy-sevenfold.”

- [Matthew 18:21-22](#) – ²¹ Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, *“I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.”*
- How can he multiply greater than God? The arrogance! This is a bad direction for mankind

²⁵ And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and called his name Seth, for she said, “God has appointed for me another offspring instead of Abel, for Cain killed him.” ²⁶ To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time people began to call upon the name of the Lord.

- This does not mean that Adam & Eve did not have other children
- Adam was 130 years old at this time, [Genesis 5:3](#)
- His directive from God was to be fruitful & multiply on earth.
- The genealogies up to chapter 5 are not necessarily comprehensive.
- [Genesis 5:4](#) – and he had other sons and daughters.
- Bible example – Jacob had 12 sons. The first sinned against his father, and the fourth down the line received the blessing and promises. This is probably what happened here.
- There could be unimaginable numbers of people at this point.
 - 130 years of pristine alpha humans without the full effects of corruption we endure.
 - The woman probably gave birth for an extremely long time.
 - Fertility was probably not an issue.
- call upon the name of the Lord?
 - Was this a revival? Did man notice he was far off from walking with God?
 - Did the rot in the culture cause men to seek God?

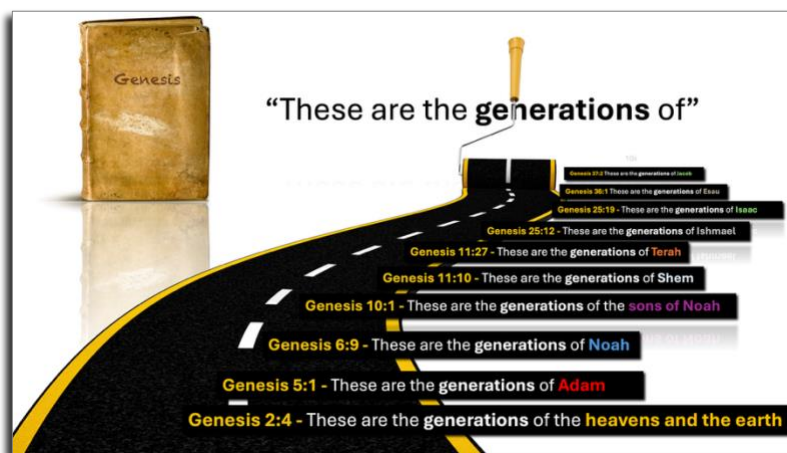
- Perhaps, but only 8 would be saved

Genesis 5

Adam's Descendants to Noah

¹ This is the book of the generations of Adam.

- “This is the book of the generations” 10x in Genesis 



When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. ² Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them Man when they were created. ³ When **Adam** had lived 130 years, he fathered a son in his own likeness, **after his image**, and named him **Seth**. ⁴ The days of **Adam** after he fathered Seth were 800 years; and he had other sons and daughters. ⁵ Thus all the days that Adam lived were 930 years, and he died.

⁶ When Seth had lived 105 years, he fathered **Enosh**. ⁷ Seth lived after he fathered Enosh 807 years and had other sons and daughters. ⁸ Thus all the days of Seth were 912 years, and he died.

⁹ When Enosh had lived 90 years, he fathered **Kenan**. ¹⁰ Enosh lived after he fathered Kenan 815 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹¹ Thus all the days of Enosh were 905 years, and he died.

¹² When Kenan had lived 70 years, he fathered **Mahalalel**. ¹³ Kenan lived after he fathered Mahalalel 840 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹⁴ Thus all the days of Kenan were 910 years, and he died.

¹⁵ When Mahalalel had lived 65 years, he fathered **Jared**. ¹⁶ Mahalalel lived after he fathered Jared 830 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹⁷ Thus all the days of Mahalalel were 895 years, and he died.

¹⁸ When Jared had lived 162 years, he fathered **Enoch**. ¹⁹ Jared lived after he fathered Enoch 800 years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁰ Thus all the days of Jared were 962 years, and he died.

²¹ When Enoch had lived 65 years, he fathered **Methuselah**. ²² **Enoch walked with God** after he fathered **Methuselah** 300 years and had other sons and daughters. ²³ Thus all the days of Enoch were 365 years. ²⁴ Enoch walked with God, and he was not, **for God took him**.

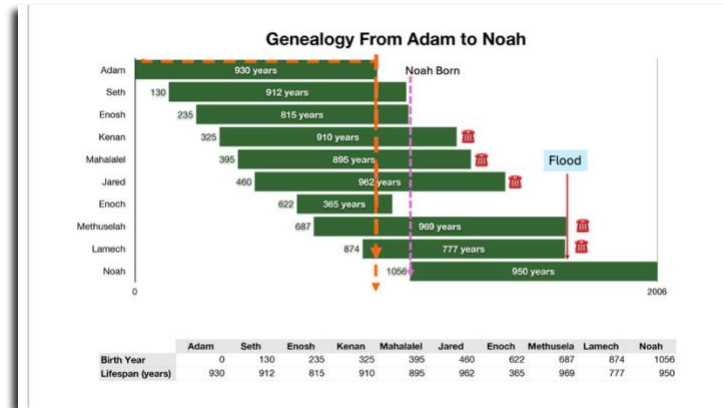
- **Enoch walked with God** – The personhood of God. You cannot walk with an idea, concept, or energy force. You can walk in those things, but to walk with points to two distinct individuals.
- Ephesians points out how we are to walk because of who we walk with, [Ephesians 4-6](#)
- What a great testimony it is to “Walk with God.” Many are against Him.

²⁵ When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he fathered **Lamech**. ²⁶ Methuselah lived after he fathered Lamech 782 years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁷ Thus all the days of Methuselah were **969** years, and he died.

²⁸ When Lamech had lived 182 years, he fathered a son ²⁹ and called his name **Noah**, saying, “**Out of the ground** that the Lord has cursed, this one shall bring us relief from our work and from the painful toil of our hands.” ³⁰ Lamech lived after he fathered Noah 595 years and had other sons and daughters. ³¹ Thus all the days of Lamech were **777** years, and he died.

³² After Noah was 500 years old, Noah fathered **Shem, Ham, and Japheth**.

- Transmission of truth was ensured because of the long life spans
 - Noah had at least five people who could have known Adam and the story.



- Chart from Adam to Noah

Adam – Man

Seth – Appointed; The name "Seth" is derived from the Hebrew word "sheth," meaning "appointed" or "granted,"⁶

Enosh – Subject to death, Mortal⁷

Kenan – Sorrow; Dirge from the noun קִינָה (*qina*), lamentation or sad poem which is sung (Ezekiel 2:10)

Mahalalel – Blessed God, Ma-halal: praised or blessed; El: God

Jared – Shall come down⁸

Enoch – Teaching⁹

Methuselah – His death shall bring¹⁰

Lamech – The despairing¹¹

Noah – Rest, comfort¹²

⁵ <https://hopefromthebible.com/genealogy-from-adam-to-noah>

⁶ https://biblehub.com/topical/naves/s/seth--the_third_son_of_adam_and_eve.htm

⁷ <https://www.studylight.org/lexicons/eng/hebrew/582.html>

⁸ From the root: <https://www.studylight.org/lexicons/eng/hebrew/3381.html>

⁹ From the root: <https://www.studylight.org/lexicons/eng/hebrew/2596.html>

¹⁰ https://www.bibleref.com/biblepassage/Printer?section=Genesis_5:27&lang=en

¹¹ https://www.khouse.org/personal_update/articles/2000/meanings-names-genesis-5

¹² <https://www.studylight.org/lexicons/eng/hebrew/5146.html>

Adam	Man
Seth	Appointed
Enosh	Mortal
Kenan	Sorrow;
Mahalalel	The Blessed God
Jared	Shall come down
Enoch	Teaching
Methuselah	His death shall bring
Lamech	The Despairing
Noah	Rest, or comfort.

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.