

CAIN & ABEL - LESSONS ON SIN

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1 Corinthians 10:11 (NKJV) ¹¹Now £all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

Genesis 4:1-13 (NKJV) ¹Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, "I have acquired a man from the LORD." ²Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. ³And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. ⁴Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, ⁵but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. ⁶So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? ⁷If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire *is* for you, but you should rule over it." ⁸Now Cain talked with Abel his £brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him. ⁹Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where *is* Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know. *Am* I my brother's keeper?" ¹⁰And He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground. ¹¹So now you *are* cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹²When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth." ¹³And Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment *is* greater than I can bear!

Wrong Actions Exposed Can Lead To Anger (Gen. 4:5)

Genesis 4:5 (NKJV) ⁵but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.

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

Hebrews 11:4 - ⁴ **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.

OUR response to correction can either bring us closer or drive us further from God.

Proverbs 9:7-9 (ESV) ⁷ Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself abuse, and he who reproves a wicked man incurs injury. ⁸ Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you; reprove a wise man, and he will love you. ⁹ Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.

13:18 Poverty and shame come to him who refuses discipline, But he who heeds correction shall be honored.

15:10 There is stern discipline for one who forsakes the way: Whoever hates reproof shall die.

15:12 A scoffer doesn't love to be reproved; He will not go to the wise.

12:1 Whoever loves correction loves knowledge, But he who hates reproof is stupid.

GUILT: Judas vs. Peter

Matthew 27:3-5 (NKJV) ³Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, ⁴saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." And they said, "What is that to us? You see to it!" ⁵Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, **and went and hanged himself.**

Matthew 26:74-75 (NKJV) ⁷⁴Then he began to curse and swear, saying, "I do not know the Man!" Immediately a rooster crowed. ⁷⁵And Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." **So he went out and wept bitterly.**

Anger Unchecked Will Lead To More Sin (Gen. 4:6-8)

Genesis 4:6-8 (NKJV) ⁶So the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? ⁷If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire *is* for you, but you should rule over it."

OUR anger is a huge OPPORTUNITY for sin

Eph 4:26-27 Be angry, and do not sin: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil.

James 1:19-20 - So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Proverbs 16:32: Whoever is slow to anger is **better than the mighty**, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

Proverbs 15:1: A soft answer **turns away wrath**, but a harsh word **stirs up anger**.

Proverbs 19:11: Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to **overlook an offense**.

Proverbs 19:19: A man of great wrath will pay the penalty, for if you deliver him, **you will only have to do it again**.

Proverbs 29:22: A man of wrath stirs up strife, and one given to anger **causes much transgression**.

Matthew 5:21-22 (NKJV) ²¹"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' ²²But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.

Sin Un-Repented of Will Always Lead to More Sin (Gen. 4:8-9)

Genesis 4:8-9 (NKJV) ⁸Now Cain talked with Abel his ^fbrother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him. ⁹Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?"

What started out as One sin grew to Five!

- *offering > anger > murder > lying > trying God*
- *Sins became worse, harder to repent of*

OUR Unrepentant Sin will lead to more Sin

- One sin feeds another... *David - 2 Sam. 11-12*
- Sins chain together... e.g., forsake assembly – prayer – study – service – evangelism

We CAN Control Ourselves by Choice (Gen. 4:7)

Genesis 4:7 (NKJV) ⁷If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire *is* for you, but you should rule over it."

1 Corinthians 10:13 (NKJV) ¹³No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God *is* faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear *it*.

Job 31:1 - "I have made a covenant with my eyes; Why then should I look upon a young woman?

Genesis 39:9-10 (NKJV) ⁹*There is* no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you *are* his wife. **How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"** ¹⁰So it was, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he did not heed her, to lie with her *or* to be with her.

1 Corinthians 9:27 - But I **discipline my body and bring it into subjection**, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

Joshua 24:15 - "And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, **choose for yourselves** this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. **But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.**"

Nothing is Hidden from God (Gen. 4:10)

Genesis 4:10 (NKJV) ¹⁰And He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground.

Hebrews 4:13 (NKJV) ¹³And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things *are* naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we *must give* account.

Numbers 32:23 (NKJV) ²³But if you do not do so, then **take note, you have sinned against the Lord; and be sure your sin will find you out.**

1 Timothy 5:24-25 ²⁴Some men's sins are **clearly evident**, preceding *them* to judgment, but those of some *men* **follow later**. ²⁵Likewise, the good works of *some* are clearly evident, and those that are otherwise cannot be hidden.

Eccl 12:14 ¹⁴ For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.

Punishment for Sin will be Horrible (Gen. 4:11-13)

Genesis 4:11-13 (NKJV) ¹¹So now you *are* cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹²When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth." ¹³And Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment *is* greater than I can bear!

Luke 16:24 (NKJV) ²⁴"Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.'

Revelation 21:7-8 (NKJV) ⁷He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. ⁸But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."