

Genesis 4

Title ideas:
Beginning to Call on the
Lord!
Guarding the Door!

Scriptures:

¹ Now Adam^A knew Eve^E his wife, and she^{A E}

3045 -

Notes:
It is possible that Eve believed that
Cain was the promised Seed who
would crush Satan's head.

conceived and bore Cain, and said,

2029 -

^E"I have acquired a man^{CAIN} from the Lord.^A"

7069 - create

Scriptures:

² Then she^E bore again, this time his brother Abel^{AB}.

Notes:

Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain^C was a

tiller of the ground.

Scriptures:
Jude 11 - Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.

³ And in the process of time it came to pass that

Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground

4503 -

to the Lord.

Notes:
'brought an offering' – From the very beginning, the practice of bringing offerings to the Lord was a part of life.

The first child conceived in this sin-cursed world manifested the self-will of the fallen nature.

It is very likely that Cain's offering cost more than Abel's in regards to human effort. The work of farming was likely harder than the work of tending the flocks. Cain's was a work-based offering. In essence he was trying to buy God's favor through his works.

Cain brought an offering which means he was willing to worship, but he wanted to do it on his own terms.

There is no sense that Cain realized that what he was doing was wrong. He sincerely believed that this would please God. It is his response that led to Cain's downfall.

"The millions who hurry down Cain's path perpetuate his errors. Their pious thoughts, good works, religious rituals, and social actions are valueless apart from the finished work of Christ." (Phillips, 1980) page 67

Scriptures:
Hebrews 11:4 - 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.

Romans 10:17 - So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Hebrews 9:22 - And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

⁴ Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock

and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and

8159 – to accept

his offering,

Notes:
Abel's offering was an expression of His faith (Heb. 11:4). This means God had told them how to come before Him and with what he expected as an offering (Rom. 10:17).

"It is obvious, therefore, that Cain and Abel were not left to their own ideas in deciding how God was to be approached. They had been told." (Phillips, 1980) page 65

Abel understood his fallen state and need for God's forgiveness. Cain did not. Abel's offering was a recognition of the cost for sin (Heb. 9:22).

Scriptures:

⁵ but ^AHe did not respect Cain and ^Chis offering.

And Cain was very angry, and ^Chis countenance

2734 -

fell.

Notes:
Cain probably looked upon his offering with great pride and satisfaction. In his heart he believed that this offering was pleasing to God.

“Cain came to God on Cain’s own self-prescribed terms, but Abel came to God on God’s terms.” (Hughes, 2004) page 103

“There are two ways to approach God. He can be approached the way of the cross, or He can be approached the way of Cain. The one way leads straight to heaven, the other directly to hell.” (Phillips, 1980) page 65

In Cain we find the world’s first false religion. All false religions since bear resemblance to Cain and his self-willed approach to God.

False religion: Worshipping the One True God, or an imagined deity or deities, or anything in creation utilizing man’s interpretation of Scriptures or rejection of God’s Word and adopting man’s idea for worship.

“Cain’s religion...was based not on divine revelation but on human reasoning.” (Phillips, 1980) page 66

Scriptures:

⁶ So the ^ALord said to Cain, “Why are ^Cyou angry?”

And why has ^Cyour countenance fallen?

Notes:
Cain’s response was anger. This is an evidence of pride and self-will. Abel trusted in God and brought an offering of faith and obedience. Cain trusted in his ability and brought an offering of self-willed pride.

Scriptures:
 Genesis 4:16 -
 To the woman He said:
 "I will greatly multiply
 your sorrow and your
 conception;
 In pain you shall bring
 forth children;
 Your desire shall be for
 your husband,
 And he shall rule over
 you."

⁷ If ^Cyou do well, will ^Cyou not be accepted? And if

3190 – to do
 uprightly

7163 -

Notes:
 'sin' First use in the Bible.

'desire – rule' same two words in the
 curse of the woman ([Gen. 4:16](#)).

To do well meant that Cain was to go
 to his brother Abel and ask from him
 a lamb for the offering, maybe even
 trading the things he offered to God
 for the lamb.

^Cyou do not do well, ~~xxx~~ ^{SIN}sin lies at the door. And its

2403 – 'An act or feeling
 that transgresses something
 forbidden or ignores
 something required by
 God's law or character;
 whether in thought,
 feeling, speech, or action.'

7257 – "to
 crouch" – to lurk
 – 'To lie in wait,
 in ambush, or
 behave in a
 sneaky and
 secretive manner.'

desire ^Cis for you, but you ^Cshould ^Crule over ^{SIN}it."

8669 - longing

4910 -

Scriptures:

⁸ Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it

Notes:

'killed' – first murder in the Bible

False religion reacts to true faith in God and His Word. And often, results in violence toward those of true faith. Before the end of the fourth chapter of the Bible the first martyr is killed by false religion.

came to pass, when they were in the field, that

Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed

2026 -

him.

Scriptures:

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

Notes:
Anger – then violence – now
deception!

This is brash – lying in the very face
of God. All false religion is based on
the propagation of a lie.

brother?”

He said, “I do not know. Am I my brother’s

keeper?”

8104 - guard

Scriptures:

¹⁰ And ^AHe said, “What have you ^Cdone? The voice

Notes:
“Abel’s blood rightly calls for vengeance. But Jesus’ shed blood shouts forgiveness to all who come to Him.” (Hughes, 2004) page 107

of your ^Cbrother’s ^{AB}blood cries out to ^AMe from the

ground.

Scriptures:
Isaiah 48:22 - “There is no peace,” says the LORD, “for the wicked.”

¹¹ So now you ^Care cursed from the earth, which

779 -

Notes:
Cain would find no peace on the earth (Isa. 48:22; 57:21).

He would find no satisfaction in his work. He would spend his days wandering away from God.

The consequence of his rebellion is separation from God.

has opened its mouth to receive your ^Cbrother’s ^{AB}

^Bblood from your ^Chand.

Scriptures:

12 When you till the ground, it shall no longer

Notes:

yield its strength to you. A fugitive and

5128 -

a vagabond you shall be on the earth.”

5110 - wanderer

Scriptures:

13 And Cain said to the Lord, “My punishment is

Notes:

5771 -

greater than I can bear!

Scriptures:

¹⁴ Surely You have driven [△]me out this [Ⓢ]day from

Notes:
Cain's response is fear, not humility, remorse, and repentance. He is only thinking of himself.

"God cannot allow the sinner to be at peace, in his innermost soul, while enmeshed in error." (Phillips, 1980)

the face of the ground; [△]I shall be hidden from

[△]Your face; [△]I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond on

the earth, and it will happen *that* anyone who

finds [△]me will kill [△]me."

Scriptures:

15 And the Lord said to him, “Therefore, whoever

Notes:
'mark' What was that? What did it
look like?

kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him

5358 -

sevenfold.” And the Lord set a mark on Cain, lest

226

anyone finding him should kill him.

Scriptures:

¹⁶ Then Cain went out from the presence of the

3942 – 'The presence or proximity of someone understood in terms of the face; with the implication of being before or in front of them.'

Notes:

All false religion, even those that claim to worship the One True God, lead 'from the presence of the Lord'.

Lord and dwelt in the land of Nod on the east of

Eden.

Scriptures:

¹⁷ And Cain knew ^hhis wife, and she conceived and Notes:

bore Enoch. And ^hhe built a city, and called the

name of the city after the name of ^hhis son—

Enoch.

Scriptures:

¹⁸ To Enoch was born Irada; and Irada begot

Notes:

Mehujael, and Mehujael begot Methushael, and

Methushael begot Lamech.

Scriptures:

Genesis 2:24 - Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

¹⁹ Then Lamech took for himself two wives: the

Notes:

First occurrence of polygamy in the Bible. That was a part of God's plan for marriage. This was a departure or rebellion from God's design and word ([Gen. 2:24](#)). From the beginning God's design for marriage was one man and one woman for a lifetime.

name of one *was* Adah, and the name of the

"...as civilization advanced, rebellion against God's Word advanced." (Hughes, 2004) page 111

second *was* Zillah.

Lamech is establishing a new morality based upon his own desires. He is redefining marriage in direct defiance of God's Word.

Scriptures:

²⁰ And Adah bore Jabal. He was the father of

Notes:
Civilization advanced quickly and brought many useful things to humanity.

those who dwell in tents and have livestock.

Scriptures:

²¹ His brother's name *was* Jubal. He was the father

Notes:
Music has been a part of human life since they very beginning.

of all those who play the harp and flute.

Scriptures:

²² And as for Zillah, she also bore Tubal-Cain, an

Notes:
Through Cain's descendants an
industrial evolution was spawned.

instructor of every craftsman in bronze and iron.

And the sister of Tubal-Cain *was* Naamah.

Scriptures:

²³ Then Lamech said to his wives:

Notes:

“Adah and Zillah, hear my voice;

Wives of Lamech, listen to my speech!

For I have killed a man for wounding me,

Even a young man for hurting me.

Scriptures:

24 If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold,

Notes:
Focuses on human independence and
vengeance.

All of their advances led them further
from the presence of the Lord.

Then Lamech seventy-sevenfold.”

Scriptures:
Genesis 3:15 - And I will
put enmity
Between you and the
woman,
And between your seed
and her Seed;
He shall bruise your
head,
And you shall bruise His
heel.”

25 And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a

Notes:
In a way when Cain murdered Abel,
Eve lost both her sons. Cain was
‘cursed’ of God and separated from
God and his family. Eve expresses
her faith when she refers to Seth as
‘another seed’ believing that God
would keep His promise ([Gen. 3:15](#)).
The promised Seed would descend
from the line of Seth.

son and named him Seth, “For God has appointed

another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain

killed.”

Scriptures:
Acts 4:12 - Nor is there
salvation in any other, for
there is no other name
under heaven given among
men by which we must be
saved.

26 And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and

Notes:
What does it mean to 'call on the
name of the Lord'?

As the godless descendants of Cain
multiplied on the earth, Seth's
descendants proclaimed the name of
the Lord. From a spiritual
perspective the unbelieving world are
the descendants of Cain. We are the
physical and spiritual descendants of
Seth. It rests upon us to follow their
example and proclaim the name of
the Lord to the world.

he named him Enosh. Then *men* began to call on

7121 -

Even with all that is gained through
technology, art, music, and material
abundance, there is also much that is
perishing because of sin. In fact, the
more our culture advances, the
greater the pain and suffering that is
experienced in the world around us.

the name of the Lord.

The only hope there the world has is
to call on the name of the Lord ([Acts
4:12](#)).

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