

SIN
under
the
microscope

Genesis
Chapter 4



Adam lay with his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, "With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man." Later she gave birth to his brother Abel.

What's in a name?



Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil.

As time goes by ...



An honest trade !

In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. And Abel also brought an offering-- fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock.

As time goes by again ...



What's the motive behind the gift ?

The LORD looked with favour on Abel and his offering, but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favour.

What did God see ?

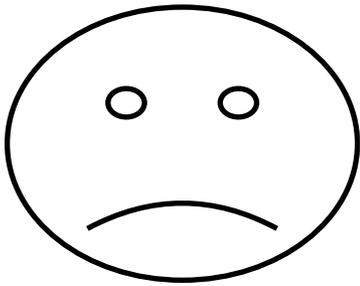
How did they know what was accepted ?



God sees us on the inside too !

So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

It shows !



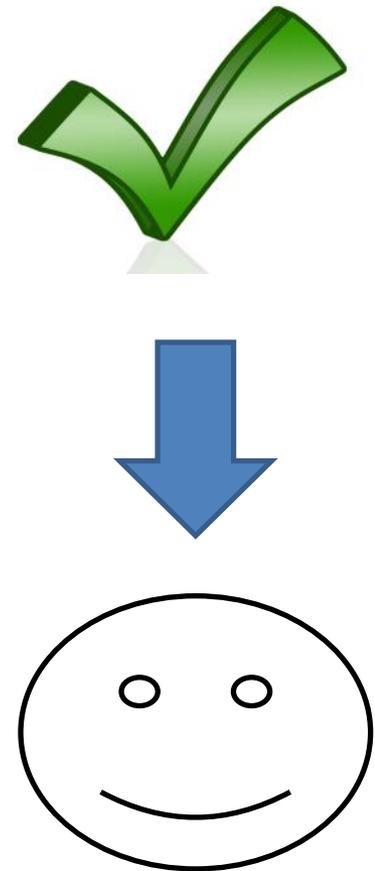
How do you respond to proper criticism ?

Who gets the blame - even if he didn't admit it ?

Then the LORD said to Cain,
"Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast?
If you do what is right, will you not be accepted ?"



God tries to help him ...



"But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door."



Sin is
Real, Powerful, Present

"it desires to have you, "



How?

"but you must rule over it."



How?

**For if you live according to the
flesh, you will die;**

**but if by the Spirit you put to
death the misdeeds of the
body, you will live.**

Romans 8: 13

Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field."



Sin in disguise ! - the hypocrite

While they were in the field,
Cain attacked **his brother** Abel and killed him.

Why ?



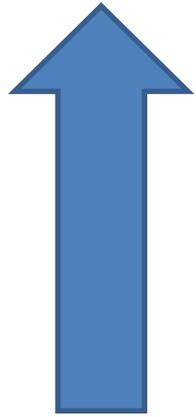
SIN multiplies itself

Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

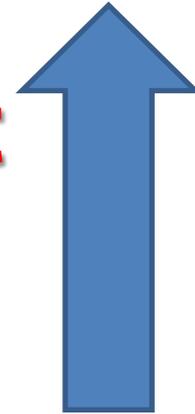


Why does the LORD ask him the question since He already knows the answer ?

"I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?"



**Cain's unrepentant
insolence**



It's a LIE !

It's nothing to do with me !

Am I my brother's keeper?

**Carry each other's burdens,
and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.**

Galatians 6:2

The LORD said, "What have you done?
Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground.



There is no escape.

How did Abel's blood "speak"?

Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand."



GUILTY !

**Why not the death penalty
as in Genesis 9:6 ?**

Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand.

When you work the ground,
it will no longer yield its crops for you.
You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."

Under a curse :

- 1. driven from the ground**
- 2. no longer productive farming**
- 3. A restless wanderer**



SIN'S
results

Cain said to the LORD,
"My punishment is more than I can bear."

**He isn't sorry for what he did.
He's only sorry for himself.**

*"Godly sorrow brings
repentance that
leads to salvation,*

*but worldly sorrow brings
death."*

1 Corinthians 7:10

Godly sorrow

Sin's sorrow

Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is more than I can bear. Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me."



But the LORD said to him, "Not so; anyone who kills Cain will suffer vengeance seven times over."



Then the LORD put a mark on Cain
so that no one who found him would kill him.



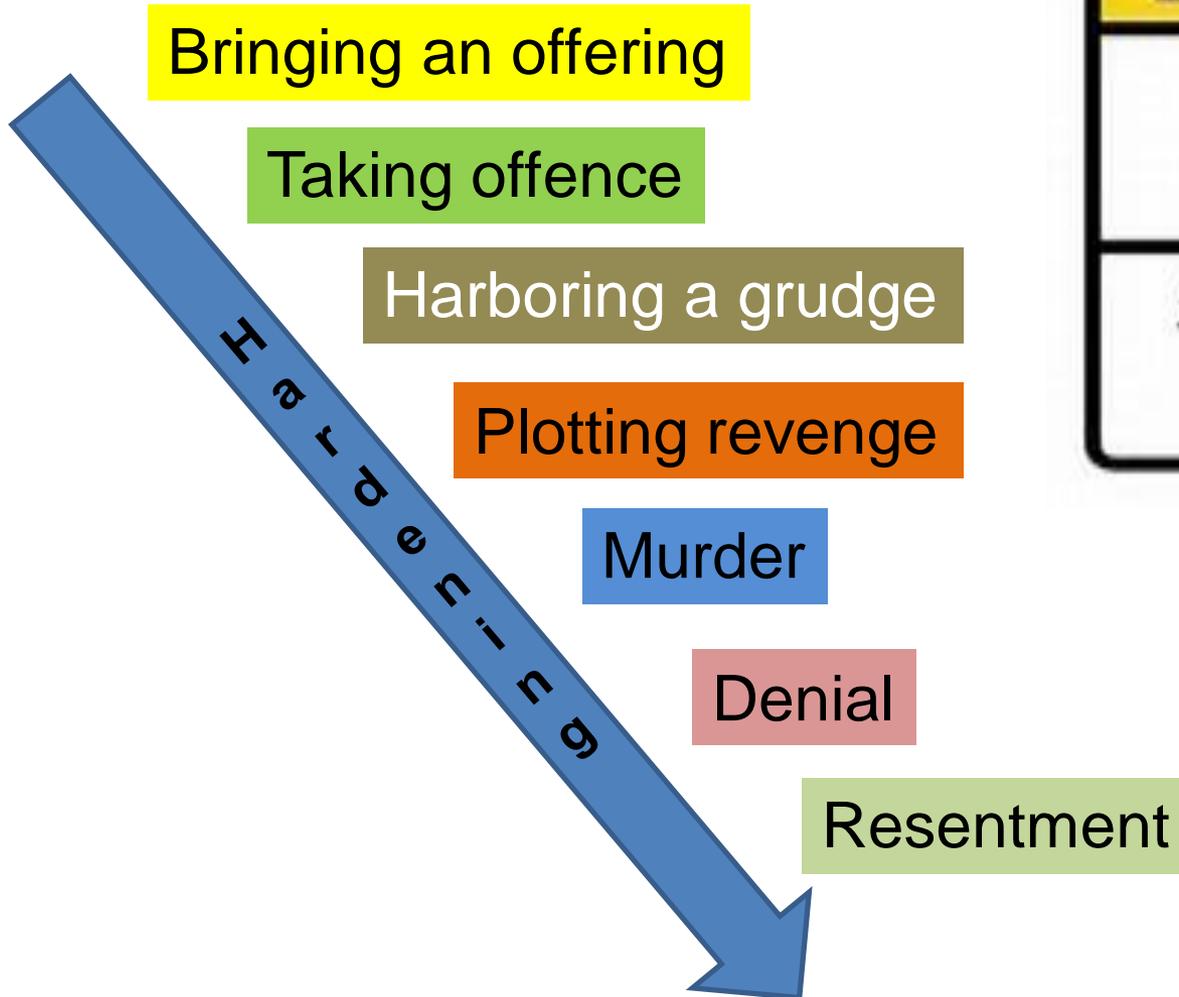
We don't know what "put a mark on Cain" means
but the message is clear "Leave well alone" !

Cain went out from the LORD's presence and lived in the land of Nod (wandering), east of Eden.



Sin's bitter harvest !

Are there any warnings for us here ?



But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven.

You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven?

Hebrews 12:22 - 25