

Genesis - God and Man

What's relevant for us from God's perspective

Real God. Real people. Real problems. Real promise.

Creation at a distance > Creation up close > The Fall > The curse > The Promise > The promise taken in van (cain and abel) - > Now

Genesis 4:16-26 Men began to call on the name of the LORD

They were looking for the messiah

It didn't take long to do so

[Rom 8:19-28 NKJV] 19 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. 20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected [it] in hope; 21 because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. 23 Not only [that], but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. 24 For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for [it] with perseverance. 26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit [is], because He makes intercession for the saints according to [the will of] God. 28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to [His] purpose.

Despite all that's happened

All that they've done - Adam, Even, Cain, Abel, God still had a plan.

His promise wouldn't be deterred, derailed, or cancelled

God would bring it about through another son, another way

God would not and could not be stopped by man -

Neither his rebellion, his transgression, his doubt, his pride, nothing can stop God. NOTHING

- **At what point in our situation/problem do we call on God?**
- **How long does it take?**
- **Do we believe He will answer?**
- **Do we believe He will come through?**

16-24

Things were not perfect anymore.

The first murder, death happened as a result of sin

Now things just get messed up all over

It was Cain who went out from the presence of the Lord

It started in his heart. It affected his brother. It resulted in his loss of the blessing - the firstborn - now under a curse.

Unrepented. Unregenerated. Lost.

The Land of Nod [Wandering]

Have we ever be citizens of Nod?

Probably before you knew God. Maybe after in backsliding.

This seems to be a theme in the Bible...wandering in the wilderness...not ever what God intended. **A far cry from a walk with him in the garden**

The wilderness is OK if God leads you there, it is good - Moses, Egyptians, John the Baptist, Jesus

It's a prerequisite for the real **life** of ministry to begin

But wandering in the wilderness...not what God has for you.

It's always what we have for ourselves.

"Not all those who wander are lost" - yeah, you know exactly where you are, and you even want it that way...

Do we not think redemption is good enough for us?

Did Nod exist already? Was it a city yet? We're not told, but again, this was written down post-facto. Eventually it was settled.

Even not, we're not told every son and daughter of Eve, but Just those relevant to the story God is telling in the Bible.

No need for extraneous characters.

People don't read the Bible already, imagine if God filled it with stuff we really didn't need to know.

What an awful place to be, away from the presence of the Lord. We all know that was like before coming to the Lord. That's what brought us to him.

Believer, I don't know that you can go from the presence of the Lord. Cain wasn't repentant. Cain was Cain

[Psa 139:7-18 NKJV] 7 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? 8 If I ascend into heaven, You [are] there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You [are there]. 9 [If] I take the wings of the morning, [And] dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, 10 Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me," Even the night shall be light about me; 12 Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, But the night shines as the day; The darkness and the light [are] both alike [to You]. 13 For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. 14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully [and] wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And [that] my soul knows very well. 15 My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, [And] skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. 16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When [as yet there were] none of them. 17 How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! 18 [If] I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still with You.

Cain's wife...his sister, duh. Not a problem then. Now, it is. Then, nope. Who else are you going to marry?

Enoch born - again, not told all their kids, just the important ones. The ones of the promised lineage.

Cain builds a city. Not the empty city down in Inception's limbo
There were people there.

Size is relative. NYC vs other cities. First visit to other cities.

God said fill the earth 1:28 - don't start settling too close just yet...plenty of room still available
Earth filling up now...yeah right...plenty of room left

Cain's children, children's children, nieces, nephews, cousins
Long lives, better living conditions, nothing else to do but make babies...not long until you've got a city going

Enoch - HHHAA-NOKE
 Firstborn, eldest
 "Dedicated"

I have to wonder if things began to change for Cain...he was flipping out about being a wanderer and a bum the rest of his life, now he's having kids, starting cities...is he shunning God's judgment? Was God being gracious?

Was he just back to his old ways doing things the Cain way.

Who was Enoch dedicated to? What was this dedication? Did he still feel like he had a sense of birth right? That the promise would still come if he just dedicated himself to it?

There is restoration, but when one falls from a certain "height" of leadership, too many things get broken...pro athletes getting serious, career-ending injuries...the same can happen for us spiritually.

Maybe we'll play football on the weekends, maybe we'll still have our Nike contracts, or being the sports caster, but we'll never play pro ball again. There's that distinct possibility.

But if the fall wasn't from that high, it might have just been a bump in the road

[Pro 24:16 NKJV] 16 For a righteous [man] may fall seven times And rise again, But the wicked shall fall by calamity.

Sadly, as we see some fruit in the next verses, I don't think Cain was getting back on the right track. Maybe he was, I hope he was, but truly, without the Lord, people's roots don't change. Circumstances change, but Cain was Cain everywhere he went

Cain [possession] -> Enoch [Dedicated] -> Irad [fleet, fugitive]] -> Mehujael [Smitten of God] -> Methushael [Who is of God] -> Lamech [Powerful?]

On one hand, like God honoring Ishmael, the line of Cain in a sense, spells out the coming Messiah, but with twist in it, it's not the picture God intended

A lot of people claim Christianity, claim divine inspiration, use scripture, pop culture, "musicians," teachers, but there life shows a distinct perversion of what God truly intended

Real physical gifts/talents...used for anything but God. Artists in the World, famous, gifted, great music, lost lyrics, lost lives, influence others to continue wandering...how they could have been

used by God...and more than that...were INTENDED, CREATED, FORE ORDAINED BY GOD, to be used for holy things, but were instead given over to themselves and the unrighteous

[2Ti 2:15-21 NKJV] 15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 16 But shun profane [and] idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness. 17 And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, 18 who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some. **19 Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity."** 20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. 21 Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.

God wants everyone to be a vessel for honor...

but it's going to take some personal preparation in Him, through Him, by Him, for that to happen

We can't continue down our own ways thinking we're going to be used by God in the way he intended. In the best way.

Oh yes, our life will always be used by him, reveal a picture of him, even complete mistakes reveal the truth

But do we want to be the bad example or the good example?

Abel did everything right, and the first part of this chapter doesn't focus on him, it focuses on cain, the one who despite everything being in his favor, went his own way

God did not intend this life for Cain and his children

[Phi 3:16-21 NKJV] 16 Nevertheless, to [the degree] that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind. 17 Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern. 18 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, [that they are] the enemies of the cross of Christ: 19 whose end [is] destruction, whose god [is their] belly, and [whose] glory [is] in their shame--who set their mind on earthly things. 20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who

will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

[Heb 3:12-19 NKJV] 12 Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; 13 but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, 15 while it is said: "Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." 16 For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, [was it] not all who came out of Egypt, [led] by Moses? 17 Now with whom was He angry forty years? [Was it] not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? 18 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey? 19 So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

Be conformed to belief. Do not let unbelief form any part of you. Don't be marked like Cain.

19 - Then Lamech took for himself two wives.

Was this the first guy to do this? Did he look around and go, hey, no one else has two, this is a great idea, why didn't anyone think of this before? I'm so modern, so progressive, so enlightened. Two babes, one Lamech.

I'm god's gift to women! One of me is too much for one woman!

Sounds funny, but there's really "nothing new under the sun"
If you think it, feel it, want it, you're not the first one around the block. **Sin is old guys.**

**Sin is not new. It is not the latest achievement of the human race.
It's about the only thing we've ever gotten right ... doing the wrong thing.**

Adah - pleasure, ornament. The first trophy wife! Nice to look at, maybe not so much of a conversationalist...

Zillah - shade - long hair - his side chick! One he finds rest in maybe?

[1Pe 3:1-6 KJV] 1 Likewise, ye wives, [be] in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; 2 While they behold your chaste conversation [coupled] with fear. 3 Whose adorning let it not be that outward [adorning] of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; 4 But [let it be] the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, [even the ornament] of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of

God of great price. 5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: 6 Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.

Be Godly, gals. It's far more beautiful, and it won't get you into lasting relationship trouble

Jabal - stream of water

Nomads, livestock - first cowboys

The curse Cain brought on himself being carried out in his descendents...still nomadic peoples today

Jubal - stream

Were these guys twins? Jabal was the first out?

Musician, you know the type

Maybe Just a stream of emotion

Tubal-Cain - sounds like a disease - do you really want to be named after Cain?

There are certain historical people you DO NOT want to be named after

thou will be brought of Cain

Carrying on his great, great, great, great grandfather's legacy

Bronze and iron - these guys were smart back then. Seriously, you're teh guy who figures out blacksmithing

Or invent musical instruments

Or how to properly raise cattle

People were smarter then. Plus, you've got a lot more time on your hands. No one telling you you can't.

We need to be more like that in a sense, God has given us physical, mental and spiritual gifts, talents and abilities...we can learn to use them. Don't look around and think you'll never be like them and just go back to watching TV. You're right, you will never be THEM, but they will never be YOU. BE THE YOU GOD DIED AND ROSE AGAIN FOR YOU TO BE.

Sister mentioned by name here, Naamah (reminds me of how Pam sings mention of your name.. :-)) love you Pam)

Means loveliness

**Again, a society already caught up in the outward beauty of a woman.
Adam got caught up for an afternoon, look where that got us**

And yes, women can be beautiful, it's a picture of God, but let it not be the main focus of either our lives men, or your lives, women!

23 - oh boy, Lamech is giving a speech to his wives. Can you picture this?

Go watch fiddler on the roof...

Hear my voice

Wives of Lamech (speaking in third person, as if kingly speaking to his prized possessions)

Don't us guys love to brag to our wives? I said to Ashlee recently I feel like a little kid talking to you excitedly about silly stuff sometimes like a kid "Mom, watch me watch me jump"

But what does he say, two things:

1 - "I have killed a man, a young man, for hurting me"

2 - calls up Cain and says even more so for himself,

1 - slain a man to his bruising - maybe means two or three things, 1, he killed a man for barely touching him - like how tough he is and for how little someone does something to the great Lamech they deserve death

2 - he was getting revenge on someone and it was duly justified to bring escalation of force

3 - maybe he was just braggadocious and didn't kill anyone, but I think he probably did

But this man...would have been family at some point. Even this far back, people might say "we're all the human family" but other people didn't really matter

The second part- **Cain should be avenged sevenfold** - he missed the point, it was God's limitation of God's own judgment on Cain, that people would not carry out further capital punishment on Cain that God himself stopped short of.

But he says, Cain was so great, we're so great, but I'm even greater - look, I took two wives, look I killed a guy, no one else mess with me, I'm so great 77x judgment on anyone who comes with me

The first megalomaniac? A little Kim Jong Un of the 4th millennium B.C.?

Was it a threat? Was it announcing to the city that he was the man and don't mess with him?

I think he was a regular biff tannen in alternate 1985. Living his own fantasies but he's really just a washed up person inside

For all that, that's the last we hear of him.

Good job Lamech, you've cemented yourself in the halls of Biblical history as a big jerk.

25-26

Adam and Eve pick up where they left off. They lost both sons we're told of. Both sons of the promise. What a tragic consequence of their sin they've got to live with.

But they go on. They trust God's promise.

Some would give up at this point. Would be too hurt to trust God again for another promised son, so-to-speak

**God gives them Seth
Compensation**

She even says it here, that God was restoring to them what was stolen from them

Man to know that

My firstborn Mia, but not my first child, but she is bitterness turned to God's grace in my life
That God would give me her and two more just as special after all I did in my life.
That's not compensation...that's dispensation of Grace. God owed me nothing, and he gave me the most wonderful riches I could ever ask for, more than I could ask for

We continue down the line of those that are important to the fulfilling of God's promise to Adam and Eve for a savior to come...

**Seth has a son named Enosh
Man - son of seth**

Jesus loved being called the Son of Man.

**Man has a fresh start down the road of God's promise again
The way of the Messiah**

**It comes through His way
Not Cain's way, certainly not Lamech's way**

**What is the result of this continued outpouring of God?
This continued, renewed devotion by God to fulfill his word?**

Men begin to call on the name of YHWH

**There's only one way that begins to happen - and that's God doing
what only God can do**

Here it's through people who knew it could only happen if God saw it through

People will call out to God.

Sometimes it takes a long time. Sometimes it takes quite a lot of hurt.

Quite a lot of tubalcain.

But it has to come about through God's promise the way God prescribed

**We cannot manufacture a revival. Scratch that. We can manufacture revival, we
cannot manufacture resurrection.**

Read GENESIS 15, emphasis vs 8

There's only one who brings life back from the dead

Only one who breathes life into the dry bones. Into the dirt.

Who makes something from nothing.

God WILL do it. Will we look to HIM and HIM ALONE to? Trust him to today.

While it is yet today.

**Don't let the sun go down on today without allowing him to work out his promise
to you in you.**

...

The contrast between God ... and Man