

A Child Gives Hope

Introduction & Review

- Cain committed the first murder & was the first human being cursed – unproductive labor & an unstable lifestyle (4:11-12).
- Cain's response to the curse is filled with pride & selfishness – no concern for murder's effect on God or parents (Gen. 4:13-14).
- God provides protection for Cain in judgment (Gen. 4:15).
- God provides the necessities for Cain's survival in judgment (Gen. 4:16-17).
- Even though we deserved the curse & to be cast away from God's presence like Cain, Christ has delivered us (Gal. 3:10-13).

I. God Gives Hope (Gen. 4:25-26)

A. Hope & encouragement in a son (Gen. 4:25)

Adam & Eve lost both sons who were the hope of their future – murder & banishment. Parenting often involves deep hurts & disappointments. But grief, discouragement & even death do not change God's plans. God encouraged them to rebuild their family & gave them another faithful son – Seth. God is faithful to provide righteous people to do His will. Opposition, persecution & even death of the righteous cannot stop the Almighty, Omnipotent God from carrying out His plans.

B. Hope & encouragement in a grandson (Gen. 4:26)

God continues to fulfill His plans through a righteous grandson – Enosh. Adam & Even have two grandsons: Enoch (Cain-4:17) & Enosh (Seth). Enoch & his descendants are innovators in arts & science, but they are unbelievers who reject God. Enosh and his descendants are innovators in public prayer & worship.

APPL: Parents, grandparents & those who raise children must accept God's sovereign rule over them – desires, talents, skills, occupation, salvation, length of life, etc. Adults must not lose hope when children disappoint. **God is always at work carrying out His plans, will & purpose through trials, difficulties & circumstances of life. He never sleeps, tires or changes....**

II. God Keeps His Promise (Gen. 5:1-32)

A. The promise kept through people

Even though people may fail miserably, God continues to use people in His redemptive plan. God kept His promise through the 3rd son of Adam & Eve (Gen. 5:6-7). God kept His promise through faithful men from Adam to Noah – “he had other sons and daughters” (Gen. 1:28).

B. The promise kept over time

God kept His promise through 10 generations of people from Adam through Seth to Noah. God kept His promise for 1500 years from Adam to Noah. This was the beginning of the chosen line of people from which Christ was to come!

APPL: Every believer's life & contribution is significant – Adam, Seth, Enosh, etc. The life & role of every believer is “appointed” or “ordained” by God (4:25b) – when & where born, ministry, length of life. The deadly consequences of Adam's sin permanently remains with humanity in this life – “and he died”. **But their lives and deaths were not in vain; they trusted in the Living God. They prayed to Him, worshiped Him & served Him in faith. And so we read about the faith of Abel, Enoch & Noah in Hebrews 11.**