

# Genesis: God and the Originals

## TWO BROTHERS

### The First Murder (4:1-8)

#### Vv. 1-2

1. How does chapter 4 start off with hope considering what happened in chapter 3?
2. To whom does Eve attribute “help” to the birth of Cain? How does this reaffirm God as the giver of life and creator of all things?
3. What are Cain and Abel’s occupations and how does this reflect early Hebrew culture (much like Adam and Eve reflect humanity)?

#### Vv. 3-5

4. Why are Cain and Abel bringing offering to the Lord? What did each one bring? What is the point of the offering?
5. Which offering did God “look with favor” (“recognized” in Hebrew), and what are some of the mysteries/questions that come to mind when trying to answer this?
6. What did Cain do in response to the Lord’s response and what emotion was driving him to do it?

BONUS: How does the New Testament give us insight into this story? What does it tell us about Cain? See Hebrews 11:4; 1 John 3:12; Jude 1:11.

### The Consequences of Cain’s Actions (4:9-16)

#### Vv. 9-12

7. Why do you think God starts with a question? And how is Cain’s response the ultimate misunderstanding of God’s initial commissioning of humanity?

8. List the ways in which Cain is cursed in vv. 11-12. How do these curses impact his purpose on the earth?

### **Vv. 13-16**

9. List the reasons why Cain thinks God's curse is too much in vv. 13-14? How does God respond?

BONUS: What do you think the "mark" is that Cain receives in v. 15? How are "marks" going to be important in the rest of scripture?

### **The Rest of the First Originals (4:17-26)**

10. From where does Cain find a wife?

11. What does Cain accomplish in vv. 17-18 and how is this more fulfillment of God's original commission of humanity?

12. What does Lamech and his family represent according to their occupations in vv. 19-24? And what does Lamech represent by his actions in vv. 23-24?

BONUS: How is Lamech's marrying of two wives part of the breakdown in humanity?

13. What is the concluding note of hope in vv. 25-26?

### **Concluding Question:**

What do you do with your anger? What do Jesus and the Apostle James have to offer on the subject? See Matthew 5:21-22 and James 1:19-21.