

The Worship of Cain and Abel

Introduction:

- A. Text – 1 Jn.3:10-12.
- B. We will study the worship of Cain and Abel to see the reasons for the attitude which led to murder.

I. Gen.4:1-8 – An Analysis Of The Account.

- A. Abel was a keeper of sheep and Cain was a tiller of the ground– v.2.
- B. Cain made an offering to God from the fruit of the ground– v.3.
- C. Abel offered of the firstlings of his flock– v.4.
- D. God had respect to Abel and his sacrifice. If God accepts our worship, He accepts us.
- E. God had no respect to Cain and his offering– v.5.
- F. Why did God accept Abel and not Cain? v.7
- G. Cain was not accepted because he did not do right, and was, therefore, guilty of sin.

II. The Sin Of Cain.

- A. 1 Jn.3:4-(KJV)– *"sin is the transgression of the law."*
- B. Without a doubt, God had spoken to them.
 - 1. Abel's sacrifice was offered out of faith– Heb.11:4,6; Rom.10:17.
 - 2. Abel's works were righteous– cf.Heb.11:4; 1 Jn.3:12; cf.Lk.1:6.
 - 3. Abel's offering was pleasing to God– cf.Gen.4:4; 1 Jn.3:22.
- C. Cain's sin is summed up in his desire to: be himself – do as he pleased; be acceptable to God by works of man's imagination.

III. Why Each Man Did As He Did.

- A. **First, Abel.**
 - 1. He Feared God– cf.Heb.12:28,29.
 - 2. He Respected God – revered Him– cf.Heb.12:28.
 - a. Obedience to the law shows respect for the law and the lawgiver.
 - 3. He Believed God– Heb.11:4,6.
 - 4. He Loved God– 1 Jn.5:3; Jn.14:15.
 - 5. He Came To Know God– 1 Jn.2:3,4.
- B. **Cain's Offering Demonstrates:**
 - 1. That he did not fear, respect, believe, or love God and did not wish to know Him.
- C. **Cain's problem.**
 - 1. Cain's problem was his attitude.

IV. Applications To The Worship That Pleases God Today.

- A. **We must worship Him acceptably.**
 - 1. Jn.4:24– *"God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship in spirit and truth."*
- B. **Acceptable worship together.**
 - 1. cf.1 Cor.14– When the whole church was together, they sang, prayed and taught.
 - 2. 1 Cor.11:17-34– The Lord's Supper.
 - a. Acts 20:7– They partook of it while they were gathered together.
 - 3. 1 Cor.16:1,2– We are to give upon the first day of every week.
 - 4. Heb.10:25– We are not to forsake these assemblies.

Conclusion:

- A. Are you a Cain or an Abel?
- B. What has been your attitude toward the worship?