



THE BOOK OF BEGINNINGS – Genesis 4:1-8, Message 16

There is a clear relationship between Genesis 3 and 4. In Genesis 3 we see sin; in Genesis 4 we see the results of sin. In Genesis 3 we see sin enter into the human race through the _____ of Adam and his wife; in Genesis 4 we see the fruit of that sin pass on to their first generation (*sin is like a virus...it spreads and contaminates everything it comes in contact with; Ex. 20:5; 34:7; Nu. 14:18; Deut. 5:9*). In Genesis 3 man chooses his own way and _____ intimacy with God; in Genesis 4 fellowship with God is possible, but it will only come God's way. In Genesis 3 we learn of the pair—Adam and Eve; in Genesis 4 we learn of the pair—_____ and _____.

Today's text will reveal another pair—the two ways men seek fellowship with the Creator. One way is through _____ and includes a more excellent sacrifice; the other is through _____ and includes human works. One is God's way; the other is the _____ of _____.

THE WAY OF CAIN – RELIGION VS RELATIONSHIP

1. Historical analysis – Genesis 4:1-8

- Adam and Eve reproduce – verses 1-2

Cain is the firstborn child

Eve apparently believes him to be the promised _____ of Genesis 3:15

Abel is the second child

Cain and Abel are likely _____

Abel is a keeper of _____

Cain is a _____ of the ground

- Fellowship with God is possible – verses 3-4

It comes through a _____

Cain and Abel _____ of the need for a sacrifice – “through process of time”

- There is an acceptable sacrifice – verse 4

Abel offers a _____ sacrifice

Abel's sacrifice was a _____ from God – it was firstlings of his flock

Abel's sacrifice was by _____ – Hebrews 11:4; Romans 10:17

Abel's sacrifice was _____

- There is an unacceptable sacrifice – verse 5

Cain offered a bloodless sacrifice – Hebrews 9:22

Cain's sacrifice was the result of his own _____ – Titus 3:5

Cain's sacrifice was the fruit of the _____ – Genesis 3:17-19

Cain's actions revealed his sacrifice was offered by _____

Cain's sacrifice was _____

- **Pride is consuming** – verses 6-8

God gives Cain an opportunity to _____ – verse 6-7

God _____ Cain of the consequences of not offering an acceptable sacrifice – verse 7

Anger and hatred fill Cain's _____ – verse 5

Cain does not want to _____ to Abel

Cain slays Abel – the _____ death in the Bible is not natural...it is murder!

2. Devotional application – Genesis 4:1-8

- **Religion**—the way of Cain – Jude 11

He was _____ an infidel or atheist

He acknowledged God's _____

He recognized his _____ to give an offering

He knew where to go to _____ with God

He _____ prepared himself to go and meet with God

He brought a sacrifice that he _____ would please God; He offered his personal best to the Lord

He knowingly violated the pattern that God himself established; he did _____ obey God's word

Although he was a sinner and disobedient, the problem was with his _____ – it was unacceptable

He was offered a chance to get right with God _____ his offering was rejected

He deliberately refuses God's reconciliatory offer; he disregarded God's _____

He was so prideful about his _____ that he killed the only man who was actually right with God

- **Relationship**—Abel's offering, a more excellent sacrifice – Hebrews 11:4

He was _____ an infidel or an atheist

He acknowledged God's existence

He knew that at the place where he was to meet God there was an _____

He came prepared to offer a _____ sacrifice as his _____

He presented the firstlings of his flock (a spotless lamb) as his _____

He believed God's word by _____ and followed God's pattern

He was _____ excellent, his offering was more excellent

His sacrifice was _____ to God

God had respect unto him _____ his offering

He was persecuted for his faith and obedience to God – Revelation 20:4

His righteousness and gifts still speak today – Hebrews 11:4