

Cain and Able

Genesis 4:1-7

Genesis 4:1-7 NKJV -

1 Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, "I have acquired a man from the LORD."

2 Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

3 And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD.

4 Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering,

5 but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.

6 So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen?"

7 "If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."

Have you ever been angry?

1 Corinthians 10:11-13 NKJV - 11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. 12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. 13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

Main Idea: The Lord loves us right where we are with true promises, warnings, and encouragement for our good.

1. The Lord Loves Us Right Where We Are.

v5b And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.

v6 So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen?"

Proverbs 15:11 NKJV - *11 Hell and Destruction are before the LORD; So how much more the hearts of the sons of men.*

2. He Gives Us True Promises for our Good.

v7a If you do well, will you not be accepted?

v3 And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. 4 Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, 5a but He did not respect Cain and his offering.

v3 And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. 4 Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat.

1 John 3:11-12 NKJV - *11 For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, 12 not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous.*

Hebrews 11:4 NKJV - *4 By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.*

Able offered a better sacrifice by faith!

Romans 14:23 NKJV - *...whatever is not from faith is sin.*

Mark 1:15 NKJV - *"...Repent, and believe in the gospel."*

John 6:37 NKJV - *37 "...and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.*

3. He Gives Us True Warnings for our Good

v7b And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you,

1 Peter 5:8 NKJV - 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Psalms 1:5-6 NKJV - 5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Proverbs 14:12 NKJV - 12 There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

4. He Gives Us True Encouragement for our Good

v7c...but you should rule over it (sin).

Revelation 12:11 NKJV - 11 "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

Colossians 3:1-11 NKJV - 1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. 5 Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, 7 in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. 8 But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, 10 and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, 11 where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

INVITATION:

The Lord loves us right where we are with true promises, warnings, and encouragement for our good.

1.) Rejoice in God's "Right-Where-We-Are" Love.

2.) Trust God's Promises.

3.) Heed God's Warnings.

4.) Submit to God's Encouragement.