



GO BACK TO THE BEGINNING

GENESIS 4:1-26

The Tale of Two Paths

I. Sin desires to _____ you, but you must rule over it. (vv. 1-16)

- A. Two sons are born to Adam and Eve. (vv. 1-2)
- B. Two sacrifices are offered by the two men. (vv. 3-4a)
- C. There are two responses by the Lord to the offerings. (vv. 4b-5)
- D. The Lord clarifies two paths as a warning to Cain. (vv. 6-7)
- E. Cain willfully disobeys God’s warning and sin controls Cain. (v. 8)
- F. Cain refuses to accept responsibility for his actions. (v. 9)
- G. God issues divine judgment upon Cain. (vv. 10-12)
- H. Cain protests that the punishment is too great to bear. (vv. 13-14)
- I. God provides divine protection for Cain. (vv. 15-16)

II. Unchecked sin leads to widespread _____ . (vv. 17-24)

III. Contained sin leads to _____ upon the Lord. (vv. 25-26)

**YOU DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM OF SIN
ONLY THROUGH THE _____ OF CHRIST.**

Application

1. You can’t fix the problem in the _____ !
2. Listen to God’s _____ through Scripture.
3. Depend upon Christ’s _____ .
4. Make _____ choices.

WHICH PATH ARE YOU GOING TO CHOOSE?

GO BACK TO THE BEGINNING

DEVOTIONAL & HOME GROUP STUDY

“... sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.”
GENESIS 4:7

“When God rejected his offering, Cain became very angry. God spoke to him personally and tried to lead him back to the way of faith, but Cain resisted. It’s just like the Lord to give us another opportunity to obey Him, and it’s just like stubborn sinners to refuse His gracious help. The Lord warned Cain that temptation was like a fierce beast crouching at the door of his life, and he had better not open the door. It’s dangerous to carry grudges and harbor bitter feelings in our hearts, because all of this can be used by Satan to lead us into temptation and sin.”

J. VERNON MCGEE

“The consequences of his reaction to God’s correction are more far-reaching than the initial sin itself, for if he pursues sin’s anger, it will result in sin’s mastery over him. This is his decision. It is possible for Cain to recover from sin quickly if he chooses the right thing.”

KENNETH MATHEWS

“If you want to find out Cain’s condition of heart you will find it after the service which he pretended to render; you know a man best out of church”

JOSEPH PARKER

“It is important that people understand this basic concept of the gospel. There are not ‘many paths’ to God—there is only one way, and that is through the blood of Christ. There are no exceptions. God’s grace is freely available to all, without restrictions. Just as God is no respecter of persons concerning sin, so also He is no respecter of persons concerning grace. Cain had the opportunity to receive God’s grace when he brought the wrong sacrifice—and he rejected that opportunity. Yet even then God did not completely cut him off. As we will see in the next study, even after Cain murdered his brother, God gave him another opportunity to repent and ask for grace. Even the sin of murder can be forgiven! The truth is that there is no sin that cannot be covered by the blood of Christ. God is eager to extend His grace—without restrictions.”

JOHN MACARTHUR

A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn’t based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God’s love for us. Here’s how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.” (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:

“Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen.”

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal His truth and wisdom as you go through this lesson.

1. Read Genesis 4:1-26. Describe how Cain treated God in this chapter.

2. Why did Cain become so angry when God rejected his sacrifice? How might he have chosen to respond differently?

3. Why would the Lord go out of His way to warn Cain about his attitude? What does this teach us about the grace of God?

4. How can you be sure to follow God’s plan and not write your own?

5. How is a modern life without God similar to Cain’s situation after his sin?

6. In light of Cain’s example, evaluate your own attitudes about God and about your brothers and sisters in Christ. After this evaluation, do you believe your worship, which is linked to your attitudes about Him and others, has been pleasing to God? Why or why not?

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Read Isaiah 1:10-20, Jeremiah 7:21-24 and Amos 5:21-24. Under what circumstances does God reject acts of worship?

Read Hebrews 4:3-7 and 1 John 2:9, 3:12. What wrong attitudes in Cain might have made God reject his act of worship?

Does the story of Cain suggest any matters for prayer, repentance or action on your part? How do you need God’s help in this area? (See Eph 3:16-21; Phil 2:12-13.) What are your plans for prayer and/or action?

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here’s a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you’d like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events.



JESUS IS ALIVE and we’re excited to celebrate this truth with you during Easter weekend! We’ll be having worship services on Saturday, March 30, and Sunday, March 31, across all three of our locations. If you’ll be gathering to celebrate with us, please visit www.ccbcfamily.org/easter and let us know by setting up a Reservation Reminder.

BE A PART OF AN AUTHENTIC PASSOVER EXPERIENCE, and join us, along with David Teitelbaum, D.O., as he leads us through Seder, the ceremonial beginning to Passover. We hope to see you there! We’ll gather in The Oak Room on Tuesday, March 26, at 7 p.m., and if you would like to learn more, please visit www.ccbcfamily.org/easter.

TENEBRAE which means “the darkening,” is a moving Good Friday service recounting Jesus’ life and death through music and communion. Join us on Friday, March 29, at 6 or 7:30 p.m. as we prepare our hearts and minds for Easter. Please note that we recommend children ages ten and under not attend due to the dramatic nature of the service. Learn more by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/easter.

LET’S ASK THIS EASTER! Our prayer is for more people to come and see that Jesus is alive. So, let’s ask! Invite someone to join the Easter celebration this year and watch what God does. One invite to Easter could be someone’s start to knowing Jesus as Savior. If you invite someone and they have questions, let them know they can find out all the details about our celebration at www.ccbcfamily.org/easter.

KIDSCAMP IS COMING UP! The gospel is for everyone—and that’s why KidsCamp exists! We’re on a mission to tell every boy and girl that God’s invitation of forgiveness and love is for them! From the joy-filled games with friends to the discovery of God’s Words in the Bible, one week of KidsCamp could begin another chapter of deeper faith. Register today at www.ccbcfamily.org/kidscamp.

SPECIAL ONE-DAY EMBARK CLASS
Embark is our new “Get to know Christ Chapel” class—great for anyone who wants to learn more about us or is considering membership. This month, we’re offering three sessions of Embark in one Saturday morning! Join us on Saturday, March 23, from 9 a.m. to noon to learn about our beliefs, vision and values. Register or get more info at www.ccbcfamily.org/embark.



LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD? Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

IF YOU’D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE. The process is quick and easy—text GIVE to 24253 to get started.