

Envy is a sin that breaks both tables of the law at once; it brings in discontent against God, and ends in injury against man, as we see in Cain. Envious Cain was first discontented with God, by which he broke the first table, and then fell out with his brother and slew him and thus broke the second table. Anger is sometimes soon over, like fire kindled in straw, which is quickly out; but envy is deep rooted, and will not quench its thirst without blood. "Who is able to stand before envy?" Proverbs 27:4. - Thomas Watson, The Ten Commandments

Hebrews 12:24, "...and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel."

Assignment:

1. Jude 11 mentions the "way of Cain." What is that way? And, where does that way lead to?
2. Read Hebrews 11:4. What was the difference between Cain's sacrifice and Abel's sacrifice?
3. Read James 1:14-15. How did this play out in the life of Cain?
4. Why can we say that murder is an act of hatred towards God?
5. Do you think that God's mark on Cain was gracious? Why or why not?

Cain and Abel

I. The OFFERINGS of Cain and Abel (4:1-5)

- A. Cain's offering: REJECTED!
- B. Abel's offering: WELL - REGARDED!
- C. The foreshadowing of REDEMPTION.

II. The BLOOD of Abel (4:6-16)

- A. Cain DESPISED God.
- B. Cain is CURSED by God.
- C. Cain is MARKED by God.
- D. Cain is PROTECTED by God.

III. The FAMILY of Cain (4:17-24)

- A. Cain builds a CIVILIZATION.
- B. Cain's family brings POLYGAMY into the world.
- C. Cain's family is known for:
 - 1. REVENGE
 - 2. UNFORGIVENESS

IV. The PROMISE of Hope (4:25-26)

- A. The line of PROMISE is preserved!