

E2E: Part 11

Genesis 4

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1. Atonement is only possible through the shedding of blood. (Hebrews 9:22)
2. Life with Cain starts hopeful. Even if they did incorrectly presume God's plan by thinking he was the promised one, they were focused on God's plan. (Genesis 4:1)
3. Who better understands what it means to be a target of Satan than Adam & Eve? They had been at the pinnacle, yet completely lost it all because of rebellion.
4. God did not accept the way Cain came before Him. God has standards as to who qualifies and who does not. God's standard is that the privilege of being acceptable in His sight happens in a specific way. (Genesis 4:5)
5. Abel offered his first & best offering in respect of the Lord. God demands our very best. (Genesis 4:4, Hebrews 11:4)
6. It appears that Cain didn't think he needed a substitutionary death on his behalf, failing to recognize the reality that he was a sinner worthy of death who needed an innocent substitute to die in his place.
7. God faithfully and gravely warns Cain of the consequences that will follow a refusal to come to Him in the right way. (Genesis 4:7)
8. It appears Cain reasoned there would be a change in the order & role of the firstborn, that his younger brother would become his ruler. He was willing to commit premeditated murder rather than submit to Abel. (Genesis 4:8, 1 John 3:12)
9. Cain chooses to live apart from God, without expressing repentance. (Genesis 4:13-16)

HEBREW WORDS

Kaphar (kaw-far´) [atone]; to cover; to placate or cancel :—appease, (cleanse, disannul, forgive, be merciful, pardon, purge (away), (make) reconcile (-liation)

Charah, (khaw-raw´); to glow or grow warm; figuratively to blaze up, jealousy:- burn, (wax) hot, x very wroth

Paniym (paw-neem´); the face (as the part that turns)

QUOTES

"...the [fallen] human heart rebels against the idea of the impossibility of approaching God save through a bloody sacrifice." **Dr. A.W. Pink 1930**

"...refusing to sacrifice according to God's requirements, and fearing that Abel would now be his ruler, he decided that rather than submit to this, he would kill his brother." ~**Dr. A.W. Pink 1930**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What do you tend to do when you feel guilty about something?

- Do you rationalize your actions? Do you tell yourself that it doesn't really matter? Or do you try to make up for it in some way?
- How has God been brought into how you tend to handle your guilt?
- How do you think he would want to be brought into it?

2. Mark said that "The revelation of personal character shows up in how someone reveres God - especially in how they treat worship." Worship is not just singing praise songs to God on Sunday mornings, or an emotional response to having spent time in your Bible and thinking about God (although they are aspects of it). Worship is our godly (or God-aligned) response to who we know him to be with every aspect of who we are - beliefs, choices, actions, desires, etc. (see Luke 10:27 & Romans 12:1-2)

- Where in your life are you currently struggling most to worship him in the way that you know he desires?
- Where is God not getting the "first or best" of your life?
- What would it take to see that change?