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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A2173 ~ Cain & Abel.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

When we do wrong or make a mistake, how often do we want to hide our guilt and regret! In today's *Bible Adventure*, Cain tried to hide a terrible sin of killing his brother from God.

DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound.](#)

Although part of the actual history of the human race, the story of Cain and Abel can also be viewed as a parable. People who lived back then to nowadays can be divided into two groups: Cain can be viewed like the 'seed of the serpent' while Abel can be seen as someone who lived by 'faith in Christ' and is therefore in a spiritual sense, a 'seed of the woman'.

Although Genesis, Chapter 4, doesn't explicitly say this, it seems reasonable to infer that after Adam and Eve were sent out of the Garden as sinners, God graciously continued to reach out to them. He'd already shown Adam and Eve that to make amends for their sin, the shedding of innocent blood of an animal was required as a covering for the guilty person. There probably were a given time and place where people were able to meet with God but when seeking God they would've had to bring Him a proper offering that showed the principle of substitution, which is the innocent for the guilty.

Those who bowed down to God's will in this way were admitting their own guilt and helplessness to make amends for their own sin. They had to trust God alone for their complete forgiveness of their wrong doing. There was nothing appealing to human beings in the slaughter of an innocent little lamb. In fact, sacrifice showed people the awful consequence of sin in God's eyes.

When Cain and Abel were grown men, they followed the pattern given to their parents of bringing a lamb as a sacrifice before God. Cain was a farmer of fruit and vegetables and so to do this, he needed to buy a lamb from his younger brother, who raised sheep. There came a time when Cain began to resent this situation and finally decided to rebel against it. There seemed to be no good reason for him why he should be indebted to his younger brother each time he needed a lamb to sacrifice. So instead, he decided to start bringing God an offering of the finest fruits and vegetables that he had grown from the ground God had cursed.

Cain felt he could no longer buy and sacrifice one of his brother's sheep. This may have been due to pride in his fine produce that he had cultivated himself. Or it may have been a spirit of rebellion against the implication that God only accepted a blood covering to atone for sin in those days. Cain's heart wasn't right before the Lord, nor was his offering of produce given in faith, as was his brother's animal sacrifice. As a result, God rejected Cain's offering.

At this point, Cain became very angry and this showed the condition of his heart. Human nature appears when we are criticised or rejected. How do we react to issues then? When people are praising us, it's easy to be nice back, but when they disapprove of us, it reveals either a sweet character or a bitter one within us. Cain showed his bitterness, not only with God, but towards his brother. Cain was very jealous that Abel's offering was accepted by God but his wasn't.

God knew that Cain intended to harm Abel. So God warned Cain to master his emotions and resist the temptation Satan was presenting him. But Cain resisted God and gave in to Satan. Cain planned ahead and he lured Abel into the field and killed him there. Here were the first two brothers in history, and one killed the other! This was the result of Adam and Eve's sin in the Garden of Eden and not a good start for the human race.

Notice how sin begins in a small way and if not mastered, quickly grows and grows? Cain's sin started in carelessness and lack of faith, grew into jealousy and anger, and ended up in murder. In the New Testament book of James, Chapter 4, it says: "Humble yourself under God's mighty hand and He will lift you up in due time. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." We must be watchful and resist Satan, who is at the very beginning of every temptation. This is the easiest time to do so. It's our responsibility to oppose Satan in the Name of Jesus Christ, a Christian believer's Lord and Saviour.

No sooner had the awful deed been done, that God called Cain to account. This time, Cain hadn't gone to the place of sacrifice to seek God; it was God who sought Cain in the field. The Lord asked Cain where his brother was – not because God didn't know but to lead Cain into confessing his sin. But Cain told God a lie: "I don't know." Instead of reacting in humility and fear of God, Cain boldly questioned God's right to ask such a question! "Am I my brother's keeper?" This showed Cain's hardness and emptiness of heart.

God could no longer speak to Cain in mercy but now only in judgment. Cain wouldn't confess his sin and so was cursed; nor could he any longer produce the fruits that he had used to seek God's forgiveness and approval. God said that the earth would no longer yield its increase for him and that from then on, Cain must become a wanderer on the earth. Cain knew the right way of doing things to please God but instead, he turned from God's holy commandment to put his way as better than God's. And for this, he received condemnation. The curse God put on Cain didn't stop Cain from repenting at some future time either. God spared Cain's life on this occasion, as the penalty of capital punishment for murder wasn't introduced into society until much later.

Cain was driven out from the presence of the Lord. In 2 Thessalonians, Chapter 1, it says that likewise, all those who disobey the Gospel of Christ will be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord. All those who attempt to earn salvation by their own good works will find in the end that through themselves, they can only produce thorns and thistles, and works that will never make a person holy before God. True good works are only those which God works through us as we put our faith and reliance on the Lord Jesus Christ to be our substitute for our sin before God.

Just as God allowed Cain to live for a set time on the earth, so too today, He allows the wheat and the weeds, or the good seed and bad seed, to grow together until the time of the harvest comes. Cain responded to God's announcement of his punishment with self-pity and remorse, but he didn't truly repent of his evil deeds. Yet even then, God still showed mercy to Cain. Since Cain wouldn't have the protection of a settled community, he naturally feared for his life. God promised to protect him and He gave Cain a sign of this. Whatever the sign was, it didn't give Cain the real peace that he needed. But Cain left the Lord's presence and fellowship, and moved away from his parents to become a nomad, or a restless wanderer.

Cain's wanderings reminded all the people he met that sure punishment awaited the sinner, especially the one who murders and doesn't repent. God considers human life as very special, and will eventually require the blood of all those who unjustly shed other people's blood, unless true repentance in Christ is sincerely prayed for.

Cain survived long enough to start building a city, but he didn't finish it before wandering off, leaving it to his son Enoch to finish and to name it after himself. Although Cain became the ancestor of a large number of descendants, one of the common questions that arises from Chapter 4 is: "Where did Cain find a wife?"

The simple answer is that Adam and Eve had daughters and that Cain married one of his sisters. In that first generation, all marriages must have been brother-sister marriages. In that early time there were no mutant genes in the genetic systems of any of these children, so that no genetic harm resulted from such close marriages.

Adam and Eve had another son to replace Abel. They called him 'Seth' and Adam was about 130 years old. Don't be surprised by the long ages that people lived in those early Biblical days. According to Chapter 5, Adam lived for a further 800 years after the birth of Seth. The mild climate caused by the upper canopy of water in the atmosphere filtered out radiation from the sun, helping people and animals alike to live much longer than they do now. People were also healthier because of their pure genetic makeup and also the lack of disease-producing bacteria helped the people to live very old ages.

There is a marked change of emphasis in the record of the descendants of Adam through Seth. No more do we read of human accomplishments such as boasting but instead, the Bible speaks of men calling on the name of the Lord. Eve had faith that through Seth, God would eventually keep His promises. The name 'Seth' means 'appointed' or 'substituted'.

Seth's son Enosh seemed to be a leader of regular public worship of the Lord. This began the practice of public prayer, which also implies that God's immediate presence was no longer available to His faithful worshippers. Such times of worship may also have involved the building of an altar to offer sin sacrifices for the people. During the 4,000 years before the arrival of Christ, God's Redeemer for the world, the people had to shed the blood of animals again and again and again as a cover for their continuous sins.

It is at Calvary that God Himself provided the one perfect sacrifice for sins forever, and this was accomplished through the Lord Jesus Christ. To prove Jesus's sacrifice was acceptable to God, God raised Jesus from the grave. Everything Jesus did, including his death and resurrection, defeated Satan. Since Calvary, people need only to call in faith on the name of Jesus Christ as their Lord for eternal salvation. No longer do people need to bring the blood of animals to ask God for forgiveness.

In Joel, Chapter 2, Verse 32, it says: "And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." If you've never done this yet, set aside some uninterrupted time to do so. Read through the Bible verses found in the New Testament. Make sure that you are ready for when the Lord Jesus calls up His own beloved followers to be with Him for ever and ever.

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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