## The Descendants of Cain

"17 Cain lay with his wife, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Cain was then building a city, and he named it after his son Enoch. 18 To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad was the father of Mehujael, and Mehujael was the father of Methushael, and Methushael was the father of Lamech. 19 Lamech married two women, one named Adah and the other Zillah. 20 Adah gave birth to Jabal; he was the father of those who live in tents and raise livestock. 21 His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all who play the harp and flute. 22 Zillah also had a son, Tubal-Cain, who forged all kinds of tools out of bronze and iron. Tubal-Cain's sister was Naamah. 23 Lamech said to his wives, "Adah and Zillah, listen to me; wives of Lamech, hear my words. I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for injuring me. 24 If Cain is avenged seven times, then Lamech seventy-seven times." (Genesis 4:17-24)

The Scripture from *Genesis 4* speaks about and narrates the descendants of Cain. We know that God approved Abel who offered to God his first fruit but disapproved Cain offering. Therefore out of anger and jealousy Cain rose and killed his brother Abel.

Cain was not willing to repent even when God faced him with his crime and ultimately he left God's presence and lived his life away from God. There are things we can see in Cain descendants that look good and we may even admire, but we need to be discerning and aware not to be deceived of how to evaluate things in the way that God wants us to evaluate.

Discernment is needed to live our life and serve Him. Therefore we need to see things in the way that God wants us to see them. God had put mark of Cain to be differentiated. The purpose of God was the following: "But the LORD said to him, "Not so; if anyone kills Cain, he will suffer vengeance seven times over." Then the LORD put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him." (Genesis 4:15) It is not God's purpose to protect criminals but God was giving chance to Cain to live hoping one day that Cain will repent.

Cain was marked with a mark so he will be recognized and those who recognize him will not kill him. Cain descendants and those who follow his way should also be recognized by us as a church to be aware of how to handle them and to give them the message and the teachings that they need in order for them to repent and follow God and live for him. They might be with us and among us in the body of Christ or they might be among the new people that we are reaching. From the life of Cain and from *Genesis 4:1-24* we can conclude the following points about Cain descendants:

1- They are not willing to give to God the first fruit and the best of their life or what they received from God: There are many who profess to be called Christians but they are not willing to tithe their income and offer their first fruit unto God. Therefore we need to continue to teach them about giving what is due for God.

**2-** *They are ruled with jealousy and act out of anger:* Many inside the body of Christ who move and act out of envy, jealousy and anger and harm others with spiritual murders. Therefore we need to teach them how to live and express the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

3- They may build great and magnificent buildings: "Cain was then building a city, and he named it after his son Enoch." (Genesis 4:17b) Many who believe that church is a building and stress and work hard to have a church building, and they will build good buildings, but their lives are not right with God. I am not saying to have a building for the church meetings is not correct, but to think that Christian life is well and we did well when the church has a building is not correct principle.

**4-** Those who are insensitive and condone immoralities: "19 Lamech married two women, one named Adah and the other Zillah." (Genesis 4:19) Lamech one of the descendant of Cain he is the first one who introduced multiple marriage, which is one form of immoralities. Other forms of immoralities are live in, sex outside marriage, divorce and remarriage. Those who live in such way would try to introduce these things into the body of Christ and corrupt those who are keeping themselves and their ministry pure. Therefore we need to be careful, discern and act promptly in appropriate and responsible way to handle those who do that.

5- They can be people who mimic the people of God: "20 Adah gave birth to Jabal; he was the father of those who live in tents and raise livestock." (Genesis 4:20) Here the descendants of Cain they were living in tents and the word of God also tells us that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob lived in tents, "9 By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise." (Hebrews 11:9) The point that we want to emphasize on here, that you may find people due to certain circumstances are living a life externally they look like the people of God but they are not a people of God. Discernment is so much needed to deal with people who are in oppressive situation. I am not saying that you should not sympathize with them but be discerning and do not overlook their willful sins. Present the gospel and God's message for them that will lead them to repentance.

6- They can do well in playing instruments: "21 His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all who play the harp and flute." (Genesis 4:21) Many churches now a day allow people to play instrument and be part of praise and worship just because they have talents in playing instruments. Many ministries are now based on music instruments, dancing, drama and other activities that moved with music instruments and voice and light system influences.

7- They can do well in manufacturing and arts: "22 Zillah also had a son, Tubal-Cain, who forged all kinds of tools out of bronze and iron." (Genesis 4:22) That is another way that Cain descendents will enter and be part of ministries and churches by their talents and not their repentance or faith.

8- They abuse the grace of God: "23 Lamech said to his wives, "Adah and Zillah, listen to me; wives of Lamech, hear my words. I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for injuring me. 24 If Cain is avenged seven times, then Lamech seventy-seven times."

(Genesis 4:23-24) As we explained the Lord put mark on Cain in order to protect him that no one will kill him, perhaps he repent. Now Lamech did the same sin and murder a man. Instead of learning a lesson from Cain's life he abused the grace of God and proclaimed 24 If Cain is avenged seven times, then Lamech seventy-seven times." (Genesis 4: 24) As if he was saying the following: As God protected Cain who murder his brother, the Lord also will protect me. There are many now they use the word of God and they interpret the scriptures in shrewd way to justify their sins and wrong doings. The Scriptures warn us of such kind of people who are even endeavour to be inside the people of God as we can read in the following Scriptures:

A- "4 For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord. 5 Though you already know all this, I want to remind you that the Lord delivered his people out of Egypt, but later destroyed those who did not believe. 6 And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their own home--these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day. 7 In a similar way, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns gave themselves up to sexual immorality and perversion. They serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire. 8 In the very same way, these dreamers pollute their own bodies, reject authority and slander celestial beings." (Jude 1:4-8)

B- "11 Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain." (Jude 1-11a)

C- "1 But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them--bringing swift destruction on themselves. 2 Many will follow their shameful ways and will bring the way of truth into disrepute. 3 In their greed these teachers will exploit you with stories they have made up. Their condemnation has long been hanging over them, and their destruction has not been sleeping." (2Peter 2:1-3)

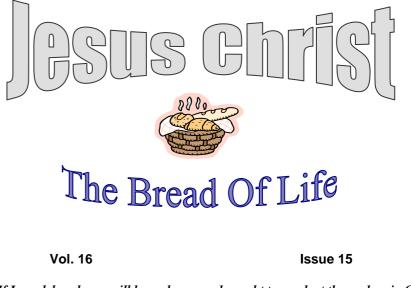
D- "3 If anyone teaches false doctrines and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, 4 he is conceited and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions 5 and constant friction between men of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain." (1Timothy 6:3-5)

E- "15 Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him. 16 He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction." (2Peter 3:15-16)

God wants you to be discerning and responsible on what is going on around you. The Lord even may allow people who teach wrong to enter into the church in order to test your faithfulness to Him as you can read here: "1 If a prophet, or one who foretells by dreams, appears among you and announces to you a miraculous sign or wonder, 2 and if the sign or wonder of which he has spoken takes place, and he says, "Let us follow other gods" (gods you have not known) "and let us worship them," 3 you must not listen to the words of that prophet or dreamer. The LORD your God is testing you to find out whether you love him with all your heart and with all your soul." (Deuteronomy 13:1-3)

*My Dear and Beloved:* The word of God is a lamb unto our feet and a light for our path, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path." (Psalm 119:105) As you are receive clear things from the Scriptures therefore you need to be discerning, taking the right decision and the correct step of how to live and how to serve God and how to handle the people who are with you as you agree to pray.

**My Prayer:** Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your word that had opened my eyes to see new things. Lord gives me discernment how to apply the message of yours into my life and to serve you in more effective and fruitful way. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.



"If I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth."

(1Timothy 3:15)

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