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Departing Under A Curse; Cain Builds A City (Genesis 4:16-17)

16 Then Cain went out from the presence of the LORD and dwelt in the land of Nod on the east of Eden. 17 And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. And he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son—Enoch.

- Cain became a wanderer; he was now under a curse.
- What is a curse? Most simply, it’s the opposite of a blessing.
- Blessings come when we stand on God's Word in faith. But a curse may come to one who violates God's word, bringing loss or judgment. Breaking certain commandments brings on a divine sentence.
- The example of the rebuilding of Jericho:
 - Joshua said that whoever rebuilt the city would lay the foundation in his firstborn and set up its gates in his youngest son.
 - If the offender had stopped rebuilding the city, he would not have lost a second child. God corrects and brings discipline, out of love.
 - The Bible says various things will bring a curse, such as: occult practices; shedding innocent blood; trafficking in drugs and alcohol; and so on.

The Land of Nod (“Wandering”)

Saints of God have places they feel comfortable, and so do the children of darkness.

- Cain was the first man who built a city. Building cities on Earth was man's idea. Cities like Enoch, and later Babel and Nineveh, were places to defy God.
- Cain had a mark, but it’s also true that men always want to *leave* a mark.

The Ungodly Line of Cain (Genesis 4:18-22)

18 To Enoch was born Irad [fleet or fugitive]; and Irad begot Mehujael [smitten by God], and Mehujael begot Methushael [man of God], and Methushael begot Lamech [despair?]. 19 Then Lamech took for himself two wives: the name of one was Adah [ornament, beauty], and the name of the second was Zillah [Tsillah: shade]. 20 And Adah bore Jabal [Yabal: stream of water]. He was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. 21 His brother's name was Jubal [Yubal: stream]. He was the father of all those who play the harp and flute. 22 And as for Zillah, she also bore Tubal-Cain [Tuval-Cain: the smith or metal-worker of Cain, or the perfecter or Cain], an instructor of every craftsman in bronze and iron. And the sister of Tubal-Cain was Naamah [loveliness].

- Obviously these names, taken as a whole, are not very happy.
- Lamech (not the father of Noah) had three sons by two wives. Two sons are connected with the idea of streams.
 - Yabal was the father of nomads. He would need to find streams.
 - Yubal was the father of musicians. His name points to the fact that musicians are able to bring forth a stream.

Tuval-Cain

- His name may indicate that he perfected the sin of Cain: he made it easier for them to kill, and thus replicate the sin of Cain.
- Rashi says Tuval-Cain refined Cain's craft to make weapons for murderers.
- Tuval-Cain's name gave rise to the name of Vulcan (and volcanoes!)

Lamech's Song (Genesis 4:23-24)

23 Then Lamech said to his wives: "Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; wives of Lamech, listen to my speech! For I have killed a man for wounding me, even a young man for hurting me. 24 If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, then Lamech seventy-sevenfold."

- A picture of the development of Man's sin; no accident that he is the 6th man in the line of Cain. Six here speaks of the fullness of Man's nature and sin.
- Lamech exemplifies the many evils that now were now spreading.
- He was perhaps the first polygamist.

The Vengeance of Lamech

- His comment about being avenged 77 times can mean several things.
 - First, he is a man of violence; he has chosen to be vengeful and merciless.
 - Second, he sees himself as more important than Cain. While God will avenge Cain, Lamech will avenge himself — but he will kill anybody who even hurts him.
 - Finally, he does not fear God's judgment either —he is contemptuous of it.
 - Lamech mocks God's words and God's lenient judgment, being merciless himself.
- Ecclesiastes 8:11: *Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.*

The line of Cain reveals that human culture is indeed; there is music, technology, and industry, but there is also polygamy, murder — maybe even warfare.

The Birth of Seth (Genesis 4:25-26)

25 And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth [Sheth — compensation], “For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed.” 26 And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh [man]. Then men began to call on the name of the LORD.

- The name of Sheth means compensation was a reminder but also a comfort.
- Seth called his son Enosh, which means “man” in the poetic sense of referring to the whole human race. (Example: *What is Man that You are mindful of him?*)

Calling on the Name of the Lord

Some see here the beginning of organized prayer, and so the two lines of Cain and Seth began to be distinct. It could mean that they called themselves by the name of YHWH.

- However, in Hebrew, “began” there means *began in a bad way*. So this might actually have been the beginning of idolatry. It is said that Enosh sinned by encouraging worship of the heavenly bodies.

The Generations of Adam; the godly “Sethite” line (Genesis 5)

1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God He made him; 2 Male and female He created them, and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.

- There are ten generations here, a number of testing and trial in the Bible.
- God’s design for marriage set forth again.

3 And Adam lived a hundred and thirty years, and begot a son in his own likeness, after his image, and called his name Seth. 4 And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years, and he begot sons and daughters. 5 And all

the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years, and he died. 6 And Seth lived a hundred and five years, and begot Enos. 7 And Seth lived after he begot Enos eight hundred and seven years, and begot sons and daughters, 8 and all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years, and he died.

- Adam creates in his own likeness; we are still made in God’s image. (James 3:9)

9 And Enos lived ninety years, and begot Cainan [“possession”]. 10 And Enos lived after he begot Cainan eight hundred and fifteen years, and begot sons and daughters, 11 and all the days of Enos were nine hundred and five years, and he died.

12 And Cainan lived seventy years, and begot Mahalaleel [“praise of God”]. 13 And Cainan lived after he begot Mahalaleel eight hundred and forty years, and begot sons and daughters, 14 and all the days of Cainan were nine hundred and ten years, and he died.

- Amazing lifespans, with intriguing overlaps!

15 And Mahalaleel lived sixty and five years, and begot Jared [Yered: “descent”]. 16 And Mahalaleel lived after he begot Jared eight hundred and thirty years, and begot sons and daughters. 17 And all the days of Mahalaleel were eight hundred ninety and five years, and he died.

- Traditionally, Jared’s name derives from the story that during his lifetime, fallen angels descended and further corrupted humanity.

18 And Jared lived a hundred and sixty-two years, and he begot Enoch [Hanoch: “dedicated”]. 19 And Jared lived after he begot Enoch eight hundred years, and begot sons and daughters, 20 and all the days of Jared were nine hundred and sixty-two years, and he died.

21 And Enoch lived sixty and five years, and begot Methuselah [Methushelach: possibly “at his death it is sent”]. 22 And Enoch walked with God after he begot Methuselah three hundred years, and begot sons and daughters; 23 and all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years, 24 and Enoch walked with God and he was not, for God took him.

- The oldest man ever. His name may have been a Flood prophecy!

Enoch – Taken Away, By Faith

- *“Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.” (Jude 1:14-15)*
- Often thought to be one of the Two Witnesses who will oppose the Antichrist.

25 And Methuselah lived a hundred and eighty-seven years, and begot Lamech. 26 And Methuselah lived after he begot Lamech seven hundred and eighty-two years, and begot sons and daughters. 27 And all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred and sixty-nine years, and he died. 28 And Lamech lived a hundred and eighty-two years, and begot a son. 29 And he called his name Noah [Noach: “rest”], saying, “This one shall comfort us concerning our work and toil of our hands, because of the ground which YHWH has cursed.” 30 And Lamech lived after he begot Noah five hundred and ninety-five years, and begot sons and daughters. 31 And all the days of Lamech were seven hundred and seventy-seven years, and he died. 32 And Noah was five hundred years old, and Noah begot Shem [“name”], Ham [Cham: “hot” or “brown”], and Japheth [Yepheth: “open” (with the idea of extending widely)]. (Gen. 5:1-32 para.)

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