

Cain

I. The Dispensation of Conscience.

1. One's 'conscience' is one's rationale based upon one's individualized perception of reality. 'Consciousness' is one's perception of reality.
2. Humans now, after the fall, had an ego-centric knowledge of what, or would not, be pleasing to them.
3. With no rules, what would be the outcome?
4. One's natural conscience is unreliable (Gen. 6:5; 1 Tim. 4:2; Heb. 9:14; 10:22).

II. Cain (Gen. 4:1-24).

1. His brother Able.
 - 1) A prophet (Mt. 23:35; Lu. 11:51).
 - 2) Walked with God (Heb. 11:4-6).
 - 3) Had revelation from God as to how to please God.
 - 4) Most likely told Cain what God said.
 - 5) Able was a believer before his sacrifice.
 - 6) Able pleased God using God's values.
2. Cain copied Able's sacrifice wanting to have God's favor.
 - 1) He had no direct revelation from God.
 - 2) Cain used a sacrifice that he valued, thinking God would show him favor.
 - 3) God did not look favorably upon Cain's sacrifice.
3. God gave Cain a second chance (4:6-7).
 - 1) God was not providing a sin offering (Rom. 5:13).
 - 2) The primary meaning for "sin" is '*something lacking*.'
 - 3) A sheep sacrifice was available just outside the door.
 - 4) God gave Cain rule over the sheep.
 - 5) Cain rejected God's offer.
4. Cain murdered his brother.
 - 1) Kills Able like a sacrifice (1 Jn. 3:12).
 - 2) Kills thinking God should have conformed to his values (Jude 11).
5. God protects Cain, since sin was not being counted by God, he broke no rules.
 - 1) Makes the earth unfruitful for Cain.
 - 2) Tells Cain to keep moving around.
 - 3) Cain responds by settling down and building a city.
 - 4) Satan begins to develop the World System (Lu. 11:50).