

Genesis 4:1-14 Life in the Exile part 1  
The Land and the Exile—2:25-4:26

- 1) Life in the Exile—4:1-26
  - a) The First Worship—4:1-8
    - i) The first children born—4:1-2
      - (1) The first baby—4:1 (cf. 3:15-16; same verb as Psalm 139:13)
        - God made the first man and now Eve has made the second man.
      - (2) The birth of Abel—4:2a
      - (3) The difference in occupations for Adam's sons—4:2b
        - (a) Abel raised sheep/goats for milk, wool, and sacrifices, but not meat
        - (b) Cain cultivated crops (cf. 2:15; 3:24)
    - ii) The first recorded offerings—4:3-5
      - (1) The offerings [*minchah*]*—4:3-4a*
      - (2) God's response to the offerings—4:4b-5a
        - (a) Abel's offering was brought in faith (Hebrews 11:4); Cain's was not
        - (b) Cf. Micah 6:6-8
      - (3) Cain's angry, resentful, selfward response to God—4:5b
    - iii) Yahweh confronts Cain—4:6-7
      - (1) Three rhetorical questions—4:6-7a
      - (2) A statement about sin—4:7b
        - (a) Some see this as a statement about the dangerous potential of sin
        - (b) Some see this as a statement that a sin-offering has been provided
    - iv) Cain's sinful response—4:8 (the first murder/fratricide)
  - b) Repentance—4:9-14
    - i) Yahweh confronts Cain (again)—4:9-12
      - (1) Yahweh's simple question—4:9a
      - (2) Cain's lying, evasive response—4:9b
      - (3) Yahweh clarifies things for Cain—4:10-12
        - (a) With a question—4:10a (cf. 3:13)
        - (b) With a statement revealing Yahweh's knowledge of the past—4:10b
        - (c) With a curse—4:11 (cf. 3:14, 17)
        - (d) With a prophecy revealing Yahweh's knowledge of the future—4:12
          - (i) Sin impacts his relationship to work and to others
    - ii) Cain's unrepentant, resentful, selfward response—4:13-14
      - (1) Cain accuses Yahweh of being unjust—4:13
      - (2) Cain mixes his imagination with Yahweh's revealed truth—4:14
        - (a) Someone might do to me what I did to my brother! (cf. 5:4)
  - c) The ways of the brothers contrasted
    - i) *Wickedness*—Cain (cf. 1<sup>st</sup> John 3:12; Jude 1:11)—rejecting God's revealed way and then, while lingering in unrepentance, becoming angry and resentful when God does not accept our own attempts to worship Him.
    - ii) *Righteousness*—Abel (cf. Matthew 23:35; Hebrews 11:4; 1<sup>st</sup> John 3:12)—submitting to God's revealed way in faith and humbly embracing God's work in one's life.