

"To Build, Two Brides, and Second Chances"  
Genesis 4:17-26

v. 17a Q. What happens next in the life of Cain?

A. He has a son whose name was to be \_\_\_\_\_.

Note: Cain clearly marries an immediate family member. It could have been his \_\_\_\_\_, his niece, or great-niece. We simply do not know when Cain and Abel married and how many children they had prior to the murder. Genetic \_\_\_\_\_ would not have been an issue so close to the original creation of humankind nor would their have existed the social/legal \_\_\_\_\_ of incestuous relationships. The text assumes that Cain was married when he was exiled.

Note: "Enoch" means "instructed, \_\_\_\_\_, consecrated, or initiated." Some scholars hold that this indicates Cain's repentance in that he appears to have dedicated his son to God with the hope that he may minister \_\_\_\_\_ sacrifices unto God – restoring the family standing.

v. 17b Q. What is the significance of this action?

A.

1. Cain is going against the express \_\_\_\_\_ to fill the earth. (1:28)
2. He is looking to provide for his own \_\_\_\_\_ outside of the mark he was given. (4:14)

3. His curse was for him to be a \_\_\_\_\_ – to essentially live in tents, but we see him trying to get around the \_\_\_\_\_ God levied upon him and seeks to settle down in one place. (4:15)

v. 18 Q General observations?

A. Successive \_\_\_\_\_ are being brought into the world.

v. 19 Q. What “first” is involved in this passage?

A. We have the first act of \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ marriage.

Note: This is going against the \_\_\_\_\_ set forth at the beginning – one man entering a \_\_\_\_\_ with one woman for life. Cf. 2:23-24.

Note: This is the first time where \_\_\_\_\_ are named in Genesis outside of Eve.

Adah means “\_\_\_\_\_.”

Zillah means, “\_\_\_\_\_.” (Perhaps speaking of her being the second wife).

Note: The social argument for polygamy was that a man \_\_\_\_\_ as many children, especially sons, so that his estate could be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ appropriately from others.

Note: A later argument would come after the Flood – that being that the \_\_\_\_\_ rate for women and children would be exponentially higher and therefore a man would \_\_\_\_\_ to have more wives and children just to maintain his family line.

Note: The Law of Moses would address the multiple wife issue by not \_\_\_\_\_ it but acknowledging it and giving \_\_\_\_\_ to protect the often innocent wife from neglect (physically or financially). Cp. Exodus 21:10; Deuteronomy 21:15

Note: It is also worthy of note that most often when multiple wives are mentioned, it does not end \_\_\_\_\_. Ex. Abraham and Sara (Hagar), Jacob, Leah, Rachel (deception, jealousy), Elkanah, Hannah, Peninnah, (jealousy, rivalry), David and Solomon (sons killed each other; spiritual adultery introduced because of foreign wives).

Q. What were their children associated with? (vv. 20-22)

v. 20 Jabal = Father of \_\_\_\_\_

v. 21 Jubal = Father of \_\_\_\_\_

v. 22 Tubal-Cain = Father of \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Tubal-Cain's sister was Naamah. She is traditionally believed to be the wife of \_\_\_\_\_. (Rashi).

vv. 23-24 Note: The following is the earliest form of poetry found in the Bible. It is written in seven stiches (lines). Q. What is it about?

A.

1. Alleviating the \_\_\_\_\_ of his wives that the family avenger will not harm him for defending himself.

2. Affirming the curse and \_\_\_\_\_ that was on Cain.

3. Conveying that a universal \_\_\_\_\_ was in place (murder/self-defense/punishment)

4. Conveying that each man applied that universal law to \_\_\_\_\_ himself.

Q. How does Jesus pick up on this poetic verse in Matthew 18:21-22?

A. Peter assumes, per tradition, that a person is only committed to forgive seven times. On the surface it displayed an overabundance of \_\_\_\_\_ but internally it revealed a lack of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ before God. Jesus basically said, "Forgive them as many times as they sincerely ask. This is the love of God."

Note: Lamech is the 7<sup>th</sup> generation including Adam. Q. Who is his contemporary? Look at 5:19 (cf. Jude 14).

A.

Q. What does this tell you about the society Noah will be born into?

A. It is quickly becoming \_\_\_\_\_ and full of violence.

v. 25 Q. What is the significance of this birth? Cf. Luke 3:38

A. Seth would be the divine \_\_\_\_\_ moving forward to the Messiah.

Seth =

Enosh =

v. 26 Q. What does this statement mean?

Note: A marginal Hebrew reading says, "And men began to call themselves by the name of the Lord." This could mean that men began to \_\_\_\_\_ themselves out from each other as followers of the Lord or not.

A. In light of the above and a simple rendering of the text, it probably means that some men sought to \_\_\_\_\_ a proper relationship with God through \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.