

RIVERBANK NEWS

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WHY WAS A MARK PLACED UPON CAIN?

By Gordon F. Nelson

"And the Lord set a MARK upon Cain." Gen. 4:15

This MARK that was placed upon Cain was a mark of protection. *"Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold."* Gen. 4:15. In God's great love for earth's first grandchild, God sinned! Later God repents for not enforcing capital punishment. Tears touch the heart of God, believe it or not.

In the earth renovated after the flood, God repented of His own attitude toward capital punishment. God cannot be a respecter of persons! Granting clemency to Cain, the world's first murderer, opened the door for others to follow. Lamech confessed to being the world's second murderer. *"For I have slain a man to my wounding, and a young man to my hurt. If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy and sevenfold."* Gen. 4:23-24.

But Cain began to cry unto the Lord, *"My punishment is greater than I can bear...I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me."* Gen. 4:13-14. From the evidence, Cain apparently cried to the right person, Grandpa God. He saw his first grandchild in Cain. The emotion was so great that God hearkened unto Cain. The mark that was placed upon Cain reveals how much God loved Cain, even though he murdered his own brother, Abel. If God could love a criminal, He could surely love me. I need to know that!

I wonder if the absence of Grandpa is why kids choose the gangs for understanding when they have no other person to discuss things when life hurts. God created Grandpas. They are mellowed through age, and can listen to the young as to what hurts them. Just to vent their feelings to one who loves them is good therapy. Mom and Dad are usually too busy making a living to hear.

Someway, the devil has deceived the church completely in portraying the God of the Old Testament as a mean old man. A picture is painted that God the Father is a disciplinarian! You make one mistake, and Bam! You're out of here! That mark placed upon Cain is supposed to represent a side of God you have never ever considered. Here is a criminal! a murderer, and what does God do? He protects him from the rest of the world who wants him dead. Why? Because He loved Cain! Was Cain worthy of God's love? Cain was a criminal. If God didn't love sinners, Jesus would never have died. *"Let this cup*

pass from me.” Matt. 26:39. *“Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.”* Ps. 51:5. Does Father God love me? That is the question I need to know.

That mark placed upon Cain tells me that God loves sinners! God would never again love one man, as He did Cain, at the expense of the rest of the world. God has repented for loving Cain, and hence, *“for God so loved the world.”* Jn. 3:16. That is very important for me to comprehend. *“But God commandeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”* Rom. 5:8. God loved me before I surrendered to Him. He loves sinners!

This damnable heresy of “Jesus Only” hides this beautiful truth so you are in darkness relative to your Father’s great love for you.

Catholic Church dogma that teaches the immaculate conception of the virgin Mary, further clouds the love God the Father has for mankind. This church is often referred to as “The Cult of Mary,” due to their claim she was the “Mother of God.” In reality, the Holy Ghost chose her womb to produce the Son.

It was the Father’s love for sinners that caused Jesus Christ to be obedient unto death. *“For God so loved the world!”* It was God’s love for sinners that created Calvary. God the Father is the Captain of the ship! God is the great lover. Jesus said, *“I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.”* Jn. 8:28-29. If the United Pentecostals are correct, Jesus would never have prayed at Gethsemane, *“O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup (Calvary) pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.”* Matt. 26:39. If it was left up to Jesus, this cup would pass. But Jesus knew His Father loves sinners, and Jesus loves His Father. *“Nevertheless not as I will.”* My decision will be based on pleasing My Father.

If the church could get its theology together, men and women in the role of marriage would adjust accordingly. In loving God the Father according to scripture, the wife would in turn reverence her husband, who was created in His image. Every individual born into this world desires love from their father. *“God (the Father) is love.”* 1 Jn. 4:8. Man is made in God’s image, so has this expandable love that reaches out to all. A woman, who unknowingly challenges God as a creator, loves only that which came out of her stomach.

“As in the spiritual, so in the natural.” God the Father is ostracized in our churches because He used one of His fingers to write the Ten Commandments upon two tablets of stone; *“written with the finger of God”* (Ex. 31:18). All the world became conscious of sin, *“for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”* Rom. 3:20. We do not want to be even reminded of the fact that at best, we are still sinners. The only

real difference is, to those who are saved, we've accepted God's mercy and grace provided for us through Calvary's cross. Have you?

Husbands represent discipline! Thus, he is no more tolerated in the home than Father God in the church! Did you know that Jesus' only claim to fame was, *"I am the door."* Jn. 10:7. The door to where? The Father's kingdom.

The modern church cries out for a female goddess. This is an extreme hatred for the opposite sex! In a movie video entitled, "Entity," a woman is shown being raped by a demon. This is a documentary of *"giving themselves over to strange flesh."* Jude 7. Why does marriage no longer work? The answer is simple, women will no longer tolerate being "ruled over." But, they don't mind ruling over you! God settled that issue in Genesis 3:16. *"And thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee."*

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." 1 Jn. 3:2. Apostle John declares, *"NOW are we the sons of God."* It is difficult for a human to fully comprehend that he is a son of God.

My first training in a church was in Catholicism. I spent four years under their tutelage, from kindergarten through the third grade. "Give us a child until he is eight years old, and he will die a Catholic." This is the challenge of Catholicism! They had me during those most formidable years. I will not die a Roman Catholic. They prey on youth, rather than adults, to accept their idolatry at every statue within the church. A child goes "gaga" over statues!

Long after being converted to Jesus Christ, I had difficulty in accepting the fact that the Bible says, *"sanctified in Christ Jesus, CALLED TO BE SAINTS."* 1 Cor. 1:2. As a Catholic, I prayed to saints. We are not only saints of the Most High God, but now we are the sons of God. Absolutely unbelievable!

There is a mark that has been placed upon every true believer in Jesus Christ. *"Now, we are the sons of God,"* and saints as well! We are marked by God for eternity. *"If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you."* Jn. 15:18-19.

We are also marked by our mode of water baptism. Do you want to ignore Father God in your immersion? Jesus said, *"Go ye therefore, and TEACH."* Matt. 28:19. That is exactly what the *RIVERBANK NEWS* is all about--to teach you to be baptized *"in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."* Matt. 28:19. Mark says, *"He that believeth AND IS BAPTIZED shall be saved."* Mk. 16:16. Have you gone into a watery grave with your Lord to be resurrected in newness of life? *"Behold, all things are become new."* 2 Cor. 5:17.

It is Father God that places a mark upon us! Not only do we identify ourselves in water baptism, but in “Holy Ghost and fire” baptism (Matt. 3:11). The churches that reject these initial marks, we turn away from. *“Having a form of godliness, but denying the power (Gk.: dynamos, or dynamite) thereof: from such turn away.”* 2 Tim. 3:5.

“Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled. Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: FOR HIM HATH GOD THE FATHER SEALED.” Jn. 6:26-27. *“Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his.”* 2 Tim. 2:19. If you are one of His, you’ll *“labour therefore to enter into that rest.”* Heb. 4:11. The children of Israel did not cross the Red Sea, and immediately arrive in Canaan, the promised land (type of the baptism of fire and REST).

You had a wilderness to go through upon crossing the Red Sea (type of the blood of Calvary). *“For if Jesus had given them REST, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day.”* Heb. 4:8. The “other day” was the day of Pentecost, the birthday of the church. No one joined the church. They were immersed into it by His Spirit. *“For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body.”* 1 Cor. 12:13. You never join God’s church, you are baptized into it. When that happens, you are now “sealed” for delivery. You have entered into rest. *“For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, This is the REST.”* Isa. 28:11-12.

Did you know we are to constantly remind ourselves, *“NOW are we the sons of God.”* 1 Jn. 3:2. This constant confession will keep you “on the beam”! Armed with this confession, you have little room left for Kenneth Copeland’s “Ye are little gods!” doctrine.

“And every man that hath this hope (I am a son of God) in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.” 1 Jn. 3:3. You must confess you are a son of God until you firmly believe it! This confession of faith will cause one to rely less upon your five senses and to rely more upon God.

The Son of man gives you everlasting life, but it is not “unconditional” until the Father has sealed us. *“Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God (the Father); who hath also sealed us, and given the EARNEST (down payment for your inheritance) of the Spirit in our hearts.”* 2 Cor. 1:21-22.

Have you asked God the Father for your “earnest money” for your mansion in glory? *“In my Father’s house (not the Son’s) are many mansions...I go to prepare a place for you.”* Jn. 14:2. God the Father owns the title deed to all the land in heaven. Jesus is still a carpenter’s son preparing a place for you.

“Verily, verily I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.” The sheep know the voice of the true shepherd for he entereth in by the door. *“To him the porter (the Holy Spirit) openeth; and the sheep HEAR HIS VOICE: and he (the Holy Spirit) calleth his own sheep by NAME, and leadeth them out (Out of where? Babylon)...And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall HEAR MY VOICE (What will the voice say?); and there shall be ONE FOLD, and ONE SHEPHERD (Jesus Christ).”* Jn. 10:1,3,16.

When the Pharisees, Sadducees, and scribes heard this VOICE screaming, “ONE FOLD and ONE SHEPHERD,” they remarked, *“He hath a devil, and is mad; why hear ye him?”* Jn. 10:20. Let me paraphrase, “Why do you continue to read the *RIVERBANK NEWS*?”

I’ll answer my own question for you. There is no VOICE, except *RBN*, crying in the wilderness, “one fold and one shepherd.” The church has been caught up in the ecumenicalism of our day to enshrine the Pope as the False Prophet. In the Lord’s prayer of John 17, Jesus Christ is praying for the eleven disciples to be one with each other. *“Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that thy may be one, as we are one.”* Jn. 17:11.

Apostle Jude challenges the church to *“earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.”* Jude 3. Everyone that simply says, “Lord, Lord” shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven, *“but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.”* Matt. 7:21. This portion of scripture certainly is describing the modern Pentecostal-Charismatic Revival. *“Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?”* (Many of these could very well be United Pentecostals, because of this statement.) *“And then will I profess unto them, I NEVER KNEW YOU: depart from me, ye that work iniquity (lawless).”* Matt. 7:22-23. Water baptism is crucial to salvation!

The first Christians were all Jews! *“They (the Jews) answered and said unto him (Jesus), Abraham is our father.”* Jn. 8:39. *“Then they reviled him, and said, Thou art his disciple; but we are Moses’ disciples. We know that God spake unto Moses: as for this fellow (Christ), we know not from whence he is.”* Jn. 9:28-29. The Jews already believed in the God of the Old Testament. Their problem was “Did that God have a Son?” I’d baptize all United Pentecostals in the name of God the Father. They don’t believe Jesus had a Father. Jesus was a ventriloquist when he cried out on the cross, *“My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”* Mk. 15:34.

The woman at the well in Samaria, is a type of Jesus choosing a bride. The Bible says, *“And he must needs go through Samaria.”* Jn. 4:4. Why? To meet a Gentile woman at Jacob’s well! Jesus asked her,

“Give me to drink!” She retorted, “How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.” Jn. 4:7,9.

This woman thought surely she was being propositioned. Why else would a Jew speak to a Gentile? Gentiles were considered “dogs” by Jewry.

Jesus explains more about true worship to this one woman than he ever did to his own disciples! The story is consistent with the idea that Jesus needs a Gentile bride! All Gentiles are looked upon as sinners according to the Torah!

But this woman had five husbands, and was presently “shacked up!” *“And he whom thou now hast is not thy husband.” Jn. 4:18.*

Even though Jesus may choose this woman for his bride, there will be no marriage until the Father looks her over! That is the custom of the Jews.

“Verily (Gk.: truth, this is truth) I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration (Gk.: re-creation, making new) when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one that hath forsaken (that which he loves the most) houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name’s sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.” Matt. 19:28-30.

The ones that are first in this life are those that manage to survive with the flesh family intact for whatever reason. But most of us experience the family as some kind of war zone. *“Think not that I am come to send peace on earth (the earth family): I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance (Gk.: alienate) against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man’s foes shall be they of his own household...And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.” Matt. 10:34-38.*

It was a mild statement when the Apostle Paul said of marriage, *“Nevertheless such shall have trouble in the flesh.” 1 Cor. 7:28.* God still wants you to marry, but it is a testing ground for your heart. *“He that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.” Matt. 10:37.*

In the regeneration, our attitude toward the flesh family can determine whether or not we sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel when we come into Christ’s kingdom. Please compare Mark 10:28-31, with Matthew 19:28-30, in context with the one-hundredfold blessing. In comparing Matthew and Mark, you’ll find they are talking about the exact same thing. That is how I came to the conclusion

that following Christ through the regeneration was standing firm for Christ in the family, allowing Him to prepare a table in the presence of His enemies.

“Remember Lot’s wife.” Lk. 17:32. She was unqualified to sit upon the twelve thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. *“He that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.”* Matt. 10:37. Lot’s wife failed in the test of going through the regeneration. Lot’s wife was a grandma! She had two daughters that were married to Sodomites. The Bible doesn’t tell us the exact number of grandchildren. She had to look back, yet was helpless to help them! She went to hell because she disobeyed an angel. *“Escape for thy life; look not behind thee.”* Gen. 19:17. *“No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom.”* Lk. 9:62.

In a previous issue, we delved into the personage of Lot. *“And Lot lifted up his EYES, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where...even as the garden of the LORD (Eden), like the land of Egypt...Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan.”* Gen. 13:10-11.

Usually, you can tell by a man’s EYES how fat his head is swelled! Did you know your eyes are the windows of your brain? *“For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.”* Rom. 8:6-7. I’m convinced we’d have a lot more men in the church, if God would just change the rules to reason and not faith.

Cain, due to his separation from God, became the father of loneliness. To cure his extreme loneliness, he fathered the very first city, named after his eldest son, Enoch.

The “sons of God” were all agrarian farmers from Seth’s church. In visiting the city of Enoch on a Saturday night, *“the sons of God SAW the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.”* Gen. 6:2. Nothing has changed! If you rely on your eyes to select your wife, you’ll get the wrong mate. The Bible commands, *“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers.”* 2 Cor. 6:14. The sons of God ignored the teachings of Pastor Seth, and sinned by marrying the heathen. It proved to be the straw that broke the camel’s back. They had committed what proved to be the unpardonable sin, by marrying these daughters of Cain. After this sin, *“the LORD said, my spirit shall not always strive with man...I will destroy them (mankind) with the earth.”* Gen. 6:3,13.

Lot’s second step in backsliding was he *“pitched his tent toward Sodom. But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the LORD exceedingly.”* Gen. 13:12-13. Our five senses go to work on our flesh! *“For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.”* 1 Jn. 2:16. *“But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.”* Jas. 1:14. Lot lost fifty percent of his family, and all his earthly possessions

went up in smoke. He escaped annihilation because God had mercy. *“And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?”* 1 Pet. 4:18.

There are two laws created by God that America violates that are more deadly to society than either abortion or gun possession.

#1 - Capital punishment: God had to repent and lay down the rules for the renovated new earth destroyed by the flood. *“And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man’s brother will I require the life of man.”* Gen. 9:5. God had repented!

#2 - Law of restitution: Ex. 22:1-12. *“If a man shall steal an ox, or a sheep, and kill it, or sell it; he shall restore five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep.”*

Capital punishment and the law of restitution are like twins! They should be invoked in our churches first. We are the salt of the earth! When we lose our savour we are good for nothing but to be trodden under foot of man (Matt. 5:13). The church is the preservative to preserve civilization.

Pentecostalism justifies itself on emotional highs! All is well because they feel so good! Feeling is not forgiveness for robbery. Zacchaeus understood the law of restitution! *“Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I will restore him fourfold.”* Lk. 19:8. Zacchaeus was a tax gatherer for Rome, a type of our own IRS. As a Jew, he knew the law of restitution.

“Ye shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child. If thou afflict them in any wise, and they cry AT ALL unto me, I will surely hear their cry; and my wrath shall wax hot, and I will kill you with the sword; and your wives shall be widows, and your children fatherless.” Ex. 22:22-24.

No wonder the church and society resents God the Father. They will not be ruled over by this God! God says, if you afflict the widow or the fatherless, He won’t wait for the civil authorities to deal with you. He’ll take care of this person all my Himself! *“It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”* Heb. 10:31.

Rev. Kenneth Logie of Oakland, CA, convicted Sodomite for propositioning a plainclothes detective at the Lake Merritt men’s toilet, preyed on the elderly continually! Often, he wouldn’t leave their bedside while they were dying, until all their possessions were willed to his “non-profit (three-man) religious, incorporation.”

C. (for Cash) Thomas Patten cleaned out “whole widows houses” to support his phony radio stations and orphanages that never materialized. *“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye*

devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation. " Matt. 23:14.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Cor. 5:17. Old things are passed away! God forgives and forgets those things. When you were baptized in water, those things went into a watery grave. But, you become responsible for all your sins after you become a new creature in Christ.

When you are first "born again," you became a new creature! A creature that never existed on planet earth. Before I was converted, I was meek and mild as a lamb. God gave me my new nature with the new creation. I'm as bold as a lion! *"Blessed be the LORD my strength which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight."* Ps. 144:1. *"Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed (thieves in the church oppress the poor and widows), judge the fatherless, plead for the widow."* Isa. 1:17.

The Bible clearly teaches us, *"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."* Heb. 13:17. Through these three-name, non-profit religious, incorporations, preachers are creating churches without any membership. The only legal members are the three who formed this ungodly document. We are allowing the IRS and the Secretary of State to define a church for us.

How many Jim Bakker's, Robert Tilton's, Carl Thomas Patten's, Kenneth Logie's, do you need to go to jail before you cry out, "Enough!" Organization is not the answer, but organism is! Without government, you have no church! We have virtual dictators running our churches--how can you then believe in a republic (representative government)?

Anarchy rules in most of our Pentecostal churches with the pastors as the Captain of the ship. The people rebel against being "ruled over," thus join nothing. "We are free spirits!" We need to pray that conviction of sin might descend on the church.

***"For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth."* Isa. 62:1**