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CAIN & ABEL

By Gordon F. Nelson

Abel is a type of the true believer, being justified by faith (Rom. 3:28), by grace (Tim. 3:7), by fire (Heb. 11:4) and by blood (Heb. 9:22).

Cain, the true religionist, is justified by works (Gal. 2:16) alone.

Where did Cain get his wife? This is a question often asked a "Bible-thumper" to trip him up on the inerrancy of the Word of God. However, there is an answer! From reading the Bible, in Genesis, one could conclude there were only four living humans at that time.

It seems from scripture that whomever occupied this earth in the period of the dinosaurs, prior to Adam and Eve, were completely destroyed. Why else would God command Adam and Eve, "Be fruitful, and multiply, and <u>REplenish the earth</u>"? Gen. 1:28. After the earth was destroyed by water in Noah's day, God gave eight souls the identical command, "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth." Gen. 9:1.

But the hypothetical question is, How was this command by God to be obeyed with only three men and one woman on earth: Adam, Eve, Cain and Abel? After Cain murdered his brother, Abel, he went out from the presence of the Lord. "And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD (direct communication with God is cut off), and dwelt in the land of Nod (Heb.-exile, or wanderer)...And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch." Gen. 4:16-17. Cain took his wife with him to the land of Nod. It is strange indeed that the word "knew" is used instead of "sex." It is often said, one really doesn't know a person until they get married—then it is too late! Josephus says that Cain married his sister prior to "going out."

God started out the human race as a patriarchal society. If the rest of the world continues to follow the USA and Hillary Rodham Clinton, it will be a matriarchal society. The birth of a male to an agrarian farmer or sheepherder was a great event. To this day, women surrender their identity to some man by taking his name in marriage. The only hope to carry on the family name rests in the birth of a male.

In Genesis 5:2 it says, "Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created." Hence, in the genealogy, Eve's name would never be mentioned.

Our founding fathers didn't believe in woman's suffrage. Politics was not for a woman to clutter her mind with. "We've come a long way, baby!" A woman's right to vote has changed the character of America. California is now reaping the harvest of the voting rights of women through the Sierra Club and the environmentalists. Texas has eleven nuclear reactor plants. California has none. Will we see Boeing Aircraft move to Texas to obtain the energy it needs to build those planes?

George H. W. Bush said that he won the male vote in his last election against Bill Clinton. It was the women's vote that gave the Presidency to the biggest swindler ever to sit in the White House. In China, female babies are sacrificed to the gods of the Yangtze River. One reason the Muslim world must oppose America, The Great Satan, is because we can't keep our women covered. The very existence of the USA's rock and roll, half-naked women, threatens the religion of Islam, hence they murder Christians all over the world. We must repent or perish.

"And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou dost not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him." Gen. 4:6-7. Cain, like Esau, despised his own birthright. He killed a man, whose only purpose for living was to make God happy. Often men in their arrogance commit the same crime against their spouses. "And thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee." Gen. 3:16. Nowhere in the Bible does it say for a woman to love her husband, only submit unto him. But God has to command a man to love his wife! "Husbands, love your wives." Eph. 5:25. It is reiterated in Colossians 3:19. Your wife is exactly like Abel. God created her for one reason only. "And thy desire (longing) shall be to thy husband." Many a husband has killed his wife, spiritually, just as Cain killed Abel.

"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and (he) shall cleave (Heb.-stick, to catch, abide) unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." Gen. 2:24. The complaint of women today is that men, raised in a single parent home, are not real men, but mama's boys! They are incapable of making a decision or providing direction for the household. The entire family would gladly follow if he could bark an order. A mama's boy has been told by mama what to do all his life. In marriage, he'll still "cleave" to mama for direction.

"Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." Matt. 19:6. It is a warning to mankind to "bug off" and to honor a holy institution created by God. The state, in taxing marriage with a penalty, is attempting to "put asunder" the marriage of Adam and Eve to promote an Adam and Steve relationship, which is unholy. Bill Clinton and his liberal leftist politicians are guilty. One day, they will answer before God for such ridiculous "tom foolery"!

The Bible warns, "Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain." Jude 11. Do you know what "the way of Cain" is? It is the way of human reason. Cain believed God would accept a religion of "good works," or the work of his own hands. "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Pro. 16:25. Cain reasoned within himself what God would require in religion. Our minds can get us in trouble for our rationale about God. "The carnal mind is enmity against God." Rom. 8:7. It is not what we think, but what God declares. "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isa. 55:8-9. We are called upon to obey Him, not to question or understand Him.

"The way of Cain," is the direction the church of the third millennium is following. They are guilty of teaching for doctrine the commandments of men. "Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye." Mk. 7:13.

The story of Cain and Abel is primarily teaching that God's acceptable worship reveres a blood sacrifice, preferably a lamb. Abel, by looking forward, saw a type of the Lamb of God who would be slain by the Romans, for the propitiation for all our sins.

The church teaches a doctrine that says, in effect, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." Acts 16:31. It did not hold true in the case of Cain and Abel. Pastors teach this erroneous doctrine because of tradition. Cain was lost and went to hell from a Christian home. Jacob and Esau had a similar fate.

"Knowing this <u>first</u>, that no prophecy of the (one) scripture is of any private interpretation." 2 Pet. 1:20. In a court of law, a single witness often isn't conclusive proof to warrant capital punishment. "He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses." Heb. 10:28. Using only one scripture to establish a doctrine, I can prove the earth is flat. "And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth." Rev. 7:1.

"And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises to God: and the prisoners heard them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open" contemplated suicide, for as a Roman guard, he was responsible if they escaped. "...But Paul cried out with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here." Acts 16:25-28

It is strange indeed what a single earthquake can do! I have an older daughter that I'm sure is like this Philippian jailer after an earthquake. God knows your address and where you live. He knows the particular bait to use to get you to come to Him. "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." 2 Pet. 3:9.

"Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas...and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." Acts 16:29-31.

Paul and Silas "spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night…and was baptized, he and all his, straightway (Gk.-immediately)." Acts 16:32-33.

If you'll read this account carefully, Paul preached the way of salvation to each member of the jailer's house. They all accepted Christ and were baptized that same day. Salvation is an individual experience of the soul, made real only by one's accepting Christ and making the decision.

To establish this as a normal everyday occurrence for every family in accepting Christ, is erroneous. This was the recorded experience of the Philippian jailer, not yours! Look at Jacob and Esau! God is on record as saying He hated Esau while yet in the womb of Rebecca. Why don't you claim that one for yourself? "(For the children [Esau and Jacob] being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth.) It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated." Rom. 9:11-13. That, my friend, is Esau's experience, not yours! He was hated by God before he was ever born, but he was reared in a Christian home. "Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth." Rom. 9:18.

Do you wish to know your experience? It is described in the words of Jesus. Isn't it strange how we pick and choose what we want to believe! We choose to believe the Apostle Paul on a one time, one man's experience after an earthquake. "Thy and thy house shall be saved." Then, we give our interpretation! Much of this is like the Prosperity Gospel of today, founded by Oral Roberts. Oral Roberts' family of children, Kenneth Copeland, Marilyn Hickey, etc., carry on this "give to get" message. "Name it and claim it," "Gab it and grab it," is the message of the "little gods" of Pentecostalism. Every one of them can fall into the same bed as Jesse Jackson and his religious non-profit incorporation. These Pentecostal gods and goddesses own their own kingdom. Because they are on the "right" politically, they could go to prison.

Oral Roberts built on one scripture, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper (Gk.-to help on the road, have a prosperous journey, succeed in reaching) and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." 3 Jn. 1:2. I recall the story vividly of Oral and his wife sitting in a coffee shop over a cup

of coffee. While sipping on his coffee and looking out the window, Oral's eyes were peeled on a brand new car parked across the street. The light of 3 John 1:2 suddenly flashed into his mind. "Evelyn," he said, "lookie there across the street at that beautiful brand new car! Now look at our old hack that we drive on this side of the road. Do you think God is pleased in my driving my old hack? Especially in the light of 3 John 1:2, "Beloved I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." From that day, none of the "little gods," or "lords" of Pentecost ever had to drive an old hack again.

I'm sorry, but I happened to watch one of these "little god" kingdoms of Pentecostalism in operation.

Jim Bakker sold a couple of extra stays at his hotel and went to prison. It is all up to the IRS and the District Attorney who they want to bring down.

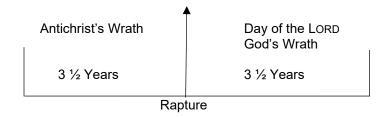
Tom Patten said, "If you are in religion (a religious non-profit family incorporation), have plenty of money and smart lawyers, you can do anything and get by." Tom Patten, alias Jack Groves of Lyles, TN, had no more than said those words to an auditorium of about 2,500 people, when God spoke to me, "And you're going to bring him down!"

It is difficult for people to believe that God can communicate with man. There is just something about hearing the voice of God! Who was I to bring such a man down? I had no smart lawyers, no money, that I could perform battle.

But, I learned not to go "the way of Cain." If God said it, than I am at His disposal! No story of David taking on Goliath could challenge my spirit any more than this one! I carry about with me the head of Goliath!

You may have your worldwide this and that. But the head of Goliath gives me the authority from God to speak on non-profit religious incorporations granted by the Secretary of State. If you are a good boy and say all the right things, the IRS will reward you with a "tax exempt status" for donations. If you don't obey Caesar, you'll be another Texe Marrs, Indianapolis Baptist Church or a Bob Jones University. You'll be an unregistered church. In China they are beginning to follow the example of the USA, by only persecuting the underground, or unregistered churches.

Someone must "Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm...for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand." Joel 2:1. This coming "day of the LORD is described in the next verse. "A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness." Joel 2:2. Joel is speaking and prophesying, not of the rapture, but the "day of God's wrath"!



I believe in the "pre-God's wrath rapture" doctrine. God will have an army that is described in Joel 2:2-11. "For the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?" Those words, almost verbatim, are found in Revelation with the opening of the sixth seal. "For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" Rev. 6:17. "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood...And the heavens departed as a scroll." Rev. 6:12-14. Why should the heavens "depart as a scroll"? To allow the saints entrance into heaven. This is the rapture!

"And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the lamb." Rev. 7:13-14. All these are the "great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; and cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb." Rev. 7:9-10.

You have been lied to from the pulpit! This "pre-trib" doctrine is incorporated into John Darby's (the father of fundamentalism) teachings. Dr. C.I. Scofield bought the entire ball of wax and incorporated "the lie" into his footnotes. The Scofield Reference Bible permeated every Bible college and seminary known to man. It is just too bad that both John Darby and Dr. C.I. Scofield had not met the God of the burning bush.

The entire story of Cain and Abel is about sacrifice. The church today has a similar problem, only it is not the circumventing of the blood, as it is the circumventing of the "fire." If you circumvent the "fire," you must seek another "way which seemeth right." Pro. 14:12. This is what the church has done. "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." Jn. 10:1.

Do you know what a dead man is? "How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death." Rom. 6:2-4.

Why would a dead man be interested in "enlarging his borders"? Bruce Wilkinson has written a book titled <u>The Prayer of Jabez</u>. Do you know what this book really is? It is the prosperity message of Kenneth and Gloria Copeland designed for those circumventing the fire. Those in my generation that seek for their "borders to be enlarged" engage Christian Science and Eddyism. Christians are taught "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Phil. 4:11. This was Paul's message to the church. "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content." 1 Tim. 6:6-8.

In this 3rd millennium, this doctrine of contentment is seldom preached. As man's mind explodes, so does his greed for "things," so that he can't afford to pay tithes. "Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit to his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: and yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?" Matt. 6:25-30.

"By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he OBTAINED WITNESS that he was righteous." Heb. 11:4. How did Abel obtain witness that he was righteous? The fire of God came down and consumed the sacrifice. "And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings (the first born) of his flock (a tithe) and of the fat (included an offering) thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: but unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect." Gen. 4:4-5.

We are supposed to be "set for the defense of the gospel" (Phil. 1:7), along with our beloved Apostle Paul. In the four Gospels, no one preached in His Name until they were singled out and sent out by Jesus Christ. "Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick." Lk. 9:1-2. Next, "After these things the LORD appointed other seventy (the exact number of the Sanhedrin Court) also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come." Lk. 10:1.

After the ascension, the disciples were to go to Jerusalem and tarry until they were endued with power from on high. Lk. 24:49. These disciples had no authority to preach or teach in His Name until

they were first "baptized in the Holy Ghost." Acts 1:8. Then, they had the authority to be His witness, and preach in "His Name."

This is why the church is in trouble! They have been hearkening unto men that have never been authorized to "speak in His Name"! Principally, all the church hears from is the voice of the "hireling" (Jn. 10:12), or the voice of the "lord over God's heritage" (1 Pet. 5:3). Apostle Paul said, "For if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ." Gal. 1:10. A politician needs to be a "people-pleaser" to get your vote. Bill Clinton was a politician elected by the people. He is a hireling, hired by the people for a salary. How is that any different than the way your church selects their pastor?

"The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors (Gk.-philanthropist; a worker of good). But ye shall not be so." Lk. 22:25-26.

In Matthew's account, Jesus said, "Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you." Matt. 20:25-26. Mark reiterates the same "hireling system" of government in Mark 10:42-43.

The Assemblies of God and the Baptists have invoked a system of government that Jesus denounced and emphatically declares, "But so shall it not be among you!" Mk. 10:43. No good can emerge from this organizational system copied from the way the Gentiles bear rule over the masses.

The fruit from all this plain disobedience to Jesus Christ's command, is the inevitable "lord over God's heritage." 1 Pet. 5:3. What does a preacher do with these scriptures? He had better repent. Quit being a part of the problem, but ask God's guidance in being a help to the solution.

"And he shall pass over to his strong hold for fear, and his princes shall be afraid of the ensign, saith the LORD, whose fire is in Zion, and his furnace in Jerusalem." Isa. 31:9