

"The First Society"

Part 2

Genesis 4:17-24

Introduction: The last time we were in our study of the book of *Genesis* we looked at part 1 of the study of the first society. Today we shall look at part 2 of that study but before we do I need to review some thoughts for the last study so as to prepare our minds for what we are about to consider.

The section we are about to look at is one that is of great importance and the reason I say that is because this is the only record of what life was like before the flood. This is what is known the antediluvian society. You see when the flood of Noah's day came it completely destroyed all remains of this society. Archeologists have nothing from this time and so all we have is the account that is recorded here.

Now in *Genesis 4:17-5:32* the Spirit of God traces 2 lines; we have the line of Cain and then we have the line of Seth. We have more details about the line of Cain than we do the line of Seth however. There are several reasons why that is true but one of the reasons is because God desires for us to see how devastating it can be when one man turns his back on God. The consequences reach further than we can ever begin to imagine.

In our present study we are looking closely at the line of Cain and in this section the Spirit of God is showing to us the cost of living a life without God.

Let me retrace some thoughts from Cain's life:

Notice Genesis 4:6-7

Here we see that he was confronted by God and given an opportunity to repent and be forgiven. But he chose his own path and sin began to control his life. He then killed his brother and God confronted him again.

Notice Genesis 4:9

He was then handed a judgment but his heart continued to grow harder.

Notice Genesis 4:13

Cain never repented of his sin.

Sunday October 27, 2013 Recorded 7/1/15 Aired 7/5/15

Genesis #26

AM Service

Notice Genesis 4:14

I told you the last time how this could read;

"So, God, I can't get anything out of the ground. You've cursed me, and I'm going out and I'm gonna hide from Your presence. This is what You're doing to me. And I'm just gonna wander all over the place all my life as a vagrant and a wanderer in the earth and it'll come about that whoever finds me will kill me." "I know what'll happen. Whoever finds me will kill me."

Cain then married and attempted to settle down by building a city.

Notice Genesis 4:17

He named the city after his son, Enoch which means Cain never was able to finish the city. This city was built in an attempt to prove God wrong when God told him he would dwell in the land of Nod which meant, "Wondering". God was telling him that he would never find peace and contentment with Him in his life. That is a result of the curse. But Cain tried his best to prove God wrong but he found out he could not find peace in the building of the city.

He was left with an emptiness which was the grace of God reaching out to him.

I. The Line of Cain

Part 2

Notice Genesis 4:17-18

Now the Holy Spirit takes us through the offspring of Cain and stops on a man by the name of Lamech.

But before we get to Lamech there are 2 names here that I think we need to give some attention to.

Mehujael and Methusael both of these names end in "El" which is a reference to the name of God (Elohiym).

Mehujael - Means *"Smitten by God"*.

Methusael - Means *"Who is of God"*.

Sunday October 27, 2013 Recorded 7/1/15 Aired 7/5/15

Genesis #26

AM Service

Now allow me to put something together here. I believe at this time the people had come to a major crossroads. Some were looking around and they had become concerned about the direction in which the society was going. Let me show you a verse from Noah's day which was spoken while these people were alive.

Genesis 6:3a

³ *And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man...*

Now please allow me to share 2 thoughts from Genesis 4 and Genesis 6:3.

1. The Spirit of God was at work in the hearts of the people but they continued to suppress the Truth.
2. Genesis 4:18 seems to be the place where this society crossed the line and found themselves on the slippery slope of no return.

As we continue on in Genesis 4 I believe we can see the fact that society had crossed the line. Before we continue though let me stir your memory.

Romans 1:18-24

¹⁸ *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who **hold the truth in unrighteousness**;*

¹⁹ *Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.*

²⁰ *For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:*

²¹ *Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.*

²² *Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,*

²³ *And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.*

²⁴ ***Wherefore God also gave them up** to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:*

Let us now see what happened to these people because they had suppressed the Truth. When we do a little searching we can make some discoveries.

1. Adam
2. Cain
3. Enoch
4. Irad
5. Mehujael
6. Methusael
7. Lamech

From the list we can see that Lamech was the 7th from Adam through the line of Cain. There was also a 7th from Adam in the line of Seth.

Jude :14-16

¹⁴ And **Enoch** also, the **seventh** from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,

¹⁵ To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

¹⁶ These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage.

This Enoch is not the son of Cain but we will see later he is in the righteous line of Seth. His words found in the book of Jude give to us great insight as to what life was like in the days of Lamech. Enoch uses the word "ungodly" 4 times to describe the people who are around him.

Now as we continue on in Genesis 4 we shall see exactly what Enoch was speaking about.

Notice Genesis 4:19

Here we begin to see the wickedness of the society. Lamech has taken 2 wives which was completely contrary to the plan of God.

Genesis 2:24

Sunday October 27, 2013 Recorded 7/1/15 Aired 7/5/15

Genesis #26

AM Service

²⁴ Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

Notice that the verse tells us that a man shall leave his father and mother and shall cleave unto his wife not wives!

So from this account we can clearly see that there was no respect for God or His plan. Lamech was a very ungodly man and the guidelines which God had established meant absolutely nothing to him. He was not the only polygamist but we are just told of him to give to us a picture of what society was like. There were no Ten Commandments at this time but there were certain standards which were known and the plan for the family was one of the things which were clear.

The 2 women which Lamech married were named Adah and Zillah. Their names may shine a little light upon what they were like and the attitude of Lamech.

Adah means "ornament" which probably means she was a beautiful.

Zillah means "sweet sounding voice" or "seductress".

Lamech seems to have found these 2 women irresistible. In Adah he embraced the lust of the eyes. In Zillah he embraced the lust of the flesh. We do know that Lamech was ungodly and for these women to enter into a double marriage with him tells us they were the same way.

Notice Genesis 4:20

Here we are introduced to one of the sons of Lamech whose name was Jabal. This man seems to have broken away from the city life and he became a business man.

The word "cattle" has a very interesting meaning.

The word does refer to "livestock" but the root word means "owner or possessor". It seems that Jabal cornered the market when it came to the selling of beef. Now on the surface this does not seem to be rebellion against God but if we search a little deeper we will see some interesting thoughts.

Genesis 1:29

Sunday October 27, 2013 Recorded 7/1/15 Aired 7/5/15

Genesis #26

AM Service

²⁹ And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

When man was created he was given all vegetation to eat. Now let me show you what God told Noah when he stepped from the ark after the flood.

Genesis 9:2-4

² And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered.

³ Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things.

⁴ But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat.

As I read these verses I can understand that before the flood the righteous would not eat meat because they were never given permission.

Therefore, the people of Cain's line were going further and further from God.

Notice Genesis 4:21

Jubal was the father of music. His name will also give to us some interesting insight.

Jubal - Means "undulator" or "joyful sound".

The word "undulate" means to move in a very seductive, suggestive way. The music which Jubal introduced was a music which was straight from the Devil himself. It was a seductive music but the entire purpose was to move people in a way that they were able to forget about God and to then focus upon the sinful desires of the flesh.

Notice Genesis 4:22

Here was the 3rd child of Lamech his name was Tubal-cain. This man cornered the market on forged steel. Now on the service that also had a great impact because he was able to

Sunday October 27, 2013 Recorded 7/1/15 Aired 7/5/15

Genesis #26

AM Service

forge steel and most likely it was a family secret, that meant his family was very powerful. They would have been armed with swords and spears.

Lamech had 3 sons and they were innovators of prosperity, pleasure, and power.

There was also a daughter and her name was Naamah. Her name meant "lovely" and combined with Adah and Zillah completed the world's appeal. There was the lust of the flesh (Zillah), the lust of the eyes (Adah) and the pride of life (Naamah).

Notice Genesis 4:23-24

Here we see the attitude of Lamech. There was no respect for human life or for God.

Conclusion:

This society looks just like the day in which we live. They had so much of the world's goods they did not see their need of God. As time went on they sank deeper and deeper into sin.

Revelation 3:14-17

¹⁴ And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

¹⁵ I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

¹⁶ So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

¹⁷ Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: