

“Learning from Cain's Mistakes”

Gen. 4:1-5

Introduction

- I. The account of Cain is sobering and powerful (Gen. 4:1-16).
- II. Cain made three terrible mistakes that we should never make.
 1. Rebellion
 2. Wrath
 3. Murder

Discussion

- I. Cain was rebellious (Gen 4:2-4).
 - A. Cain, for whatever reason, thought that it was okay to do things his way instead of God's way (Heb. 11:4; cf. Matt. 22:37-40).
 - B. Rebellion has brought many souls low.
 1. Korah (Num. 16)
 2. Saul (1 Sam. 15)
 3. David (2 Sam. 11)
 - C. We must always do those things that please God (Rom. 8:8; Col. 3:17; 1 John 3:22; Heb. 11:6; cf. John 8:29).
- II. Cain developed wrath (Gen. 4:5-7).
 - A. Uncontrolled anger is a terrible thing.
 - B. God wants us to learn how to control our anger so that wrath does not come.
 1. James 1:20
 2. Psm. 37:8
 3. Rom. 12:19
 4. Eph. 4:26-27 (cf. Prov. 15:1).
- III. Cain committed murder (Gen. 4:8-10).
 - A. Let us notice that the murder came as a result of rebellion and wrath.
 - B. Often times, those that do what is right are mistreated by those who do that which is wrong (Matt. 5:10-12).
 - C. While physical murder is terrible, we must also be careful that we do not become another kind of “murderer” (Gal. 5:19-21; Rev. 21:8; cf. 1 John 3:10-15).

Conclusion

- I. Let us make sure that we learn from Cain's mistakes so that we do not make them as well (Rom. 15:4; Jude 11).
- II. Sin can destroy any man if he lets it.