

"The Responsibility of a Rebellious Child"

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Introduction: How can 2 sons from the same parents be sooo different? (nature vs. nurture)

Genesis 4 is a story within the bigger story of God.

Note: "How to Read the Bible as Literature" by L. Ryken

Setting: Birth of 2 sons away from the garden

First child: Cain (sounds like "gotten")

"I have gotten _____ with the help of the LORD."

Second child: Abel

"And again, she bore his brother, Abel."

Development of the story

Description of 2 sons:

Abel - keeper of _____

Cain - a worker of the _____

Worship by 2 sons: "Brought to the LORD"

Cain- _____ of the fruit of the ground

Abel- _____ of the flock and of their fat portions

Conflict

The LORD's _____ to the sons and their offerings:

Abel: "The LORD _____ for Abel and his offering..."

Cain: "...but for Cain and his offering He _____."

"The Responsibility of a Rebellious Child" (continued)

Climax

Cain's _____: "...very angry and his face fell."

God's _____ to Cain:

"Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen?"

"If you _____, will you not be accepted?"

"If you _____, sin is crouching at your door..."

"Its desire is contrary to you, but you must _____ over it."

Conclusion

Cain killed Abel. (Genesis 4:8)

God holds Cain _____. (4:9-14)

God is _____ to Cain. (4:15-24)

Note: Questions about Cain

Seth - _____ (4:25-26)

"God has appointed for me another offspring instead of Abel, for Cain killed him."

"At that time people began to call on the name of the LORD."

How would Cain's story have been different if he had obeyed the LORD's voice?

What are you learning about God?

How does this story help you understand your responsibility in walking with the LORD?