



Cities contribute more evil than good to human society.



To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD. Genesis 4:26



The story of Cain, and the emergence of civilisation with the line of the Seth.



THE LIFE OF ABEL TAKEN Read Genesis 4: 10

1. How are Abel and Jesus similar?
2. How is Jesus' death different? Hebrews 12:22-24
3. What did Abel's blood shout to God?
4. What did Jesus' blood shout to God?
5. Genesis is showing us what life will look like in a world that is rebelling against its Creator. It is introducing the word 'sin'. What are the 2 terrible problems that sin makes us face up to?

THE RUIN OF CAIN

Read Genesis 4: 11—16

6. Did Cain repent of Abel's murder?
What was Cain's punishment? Vs 11—14
7. Was the mark of Cain a curse or a sign of God's mercy?



Genesis 4 provides a record of human degeneration – first with Cain's

personal, cold-blooded, hands-on murder of his younger brother, Abel. Cain showed no remorse, but only fear and self-pity. He left bloodied but unbowed, to wander the earth.

The record of degeneration that began with Cain is rounded out in the second half of the chapter with the account of its flowering among Cain's descendants, especially Lamech and his children – the fathers of agribusiness, the arts, and technology. Lamech's "Sword Song" was a chest-thumping revel in exponential violence (4:24). And so it has been in the succeeding generations. People and nations have answered slights with swords and spears and machine guns and missiles. Civilisation with its abundance and arts and technologies does not save...

But this dark picture is not devoid of hope....in a new line...the Sethite line (vs 25,26). This godly line called on and proclaimed the name of the Lord. They declared the wonders of his name. They sang his excellencies.

Pg 117 Genesis. Beginning and Blessing. R Kent Hughes

THINK &
APPLY

SIN BRINGS A CULTURE OF DEATH

Read Genesis 4: 17—24



8. Genesis 4:17 is the first time 'city' is mentioned in the Bible. What do we learn about Cain's descendants in verses 20-22?

How are human beings reflecting the image of God in these verses?

9. What amazing changes have we seen over the past 100 years?

10. Has there been any advancement in our human nature? What has not changed over the past 100 years compared to Genesis 4?

Culture, used or abused, offers no redemption" (Kidner).
Discuss

A TALE OF TWO CITIES

Read Genesis 4:24 and Matthew 18:21,22.

11. What is the significance of the contrast in these 2 passages?

12. **Read Genesis 4:26.**

What did Cainanite civilisation develop?
What did Sethite civilisation develop?



Praise God for the challenges raised by God's word through this study

Praying for others in your group

Genesis 1 -4 only hints at the great Divine solution to our human condition; its main focus is explaining the mess we are in. That solution is the great theme of the rest of the Bible. But these opening chapters have shown us enough to point us towards the answer in Jesus Christ. They have explained our world with sentimental realism; they have introduced to us the majestic, all sufficient Creator, who is also the Saviour. He calls today to fugitive humanity, as he did in the Garden. 'Where are you?' (3:9). It is time for us to call back.

At that time, people began to call on the name of the LORD. In view of all that Genesis 1-4 has told us, it's the only realistic option if we are to live as we were made to live. Are you doing that today?

Pg 178 'The first Chapters of Everything'. Alasdair Paine.

PRAISE GOD for his common grace to humanity.

CONFESS our lack of gospel repentance.

ASK GOD for the strength and vision of a long term commitment to gospel ministry in the CBD.

PRAY ALSO for Scots' long term ministry to the CBD.



How do we apply this passage in our daily life?



CBS resumes on July 28.

READ AHEAD