



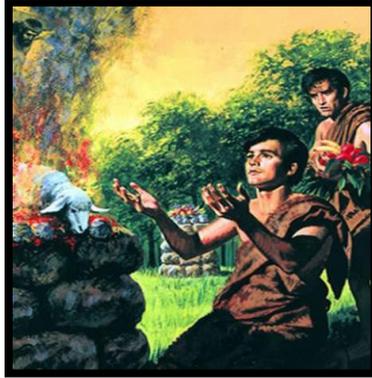
FAITHFUL LIGHT CHURCH

Pastors: Dennis & Diane Gordon

BEGINNING WITH GOD Lesson #4

MAKING RIGHT SACRIFICES

Genesis 3:8; 14-15; 3:19-21; 4:1-15



SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

1st reader repeat scripture 2x with congregation.

Psalm 51:17

“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart - these O God, You will not despise.”

John 14:15 *“If you love me, keep my commandments.”*

GOD’S PURPOSE FOR ME

WHEN I GIVE UP MY WAY I WILL UNDERSTAND,
THEN I WILL BE USEFUL IN GOD’S HAND

INTRODUCTION: Last week we learned that God never wanted Adam and Eve to know about evil. When they listened to Lucifer and ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, they suddenly knew what evil was and they were ashamed. God doesn’t want you and me to watch and learn all about things that are evil because that knowledge separates us from Him. Today we will study Cain and Abel, and the motives behind our own sacrifices.

2. LIFE PARABLE – YOUR GIFT IS NOT ABOUT YOU

Abel brought the lamb God said to sacrifice on the altar for his sins, **not because he was a sheep herder but because he chose to show his love for God by his obedience to God’s command.** Cain had been taught by his father the same as Abel, but apparently felt that offering vegetables from his own garden would be a better sacrifice, and God would be pleased he had worked so hard. Isn’t that just like us? **Let me tell you about Becky’s Gift:**



It was going to be dinner soon and Becky's mother asked her to go to the market on the corner for some milk, so she could put a casserole in the oven before her dad got home.



Becky was so excited her mother trusted her with a whole \$5 bill! Mom was a little bit nervous, "Be careful Becky, and come right back so I won't worry about you." "OK Mom, I will come right back, I promise!"



So Becky hurried off to the store. But then she noticed all the pretty flowers in the field and thought, "How pretty! Mom will think I am so thoughtful to bring her flowers!" Becky played and played, and soon had a whole armful of flowers. Just then she saw her Dad drive by and definitely thought she'd better hurry home! Becky flew in the door with no milk, but a beautiful big

smile and said, "I love you so much, Mommy, look, I brought you these pretty flowers!" Becky's mother was disappointed in Becky and sent her to her room to think about her disobedience, until it was time for dinner. At first Becky was angry, but as she prayed, she understood that by her selfish disobedience, she had not shown love for her mother.

Genesis 4:5 "But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wrath, and his countenance fell."

Jesus said that we show our love for Him when we keep His Commandments.

3. BEFORE AND AFTER THEIR SIN, GOD EXPECTED ADAM AND EVE TO OBEY AND WALK IN HOLINESS.

Genesis 3:8 “And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden...”

Psalms 29:2 “Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.”

Before the fall, Adam and Eve had walked in the presence of God in the beauty of His holiness, without knowledge of the ugliness of sin. If Adam and Eve had fled from the lying serpent who defied the command of their God, the serpent would have fled from them! They were double minded, obeying God only when He was there, so they were easily seduced to doubt God for a better offer.

James 1:8 “A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.”

*James 4:7-8 “Submit yourselves therefore to God. **Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.** ⁸ **Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.** Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.”*

ADAM AND EVE SHOWED US HOW TO BE UNSTABLE:

1. First, simply doubt if God means what He says.
2. Wander off where God told you not to go, and
3. Listen for better options from a preacher who promises blessing without obedience!

Proverbs 9:10 “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom...”



Doubting that God means what He says arises when people listen to the same line the devil used in the garden! We hear it over and over:

“God did not say obedience to His Commandments is for us, and I can show you something better if you want the real deal!”

Adam and Eve fell for the better deal story and lost living forever in the beautiful Paradise God created for them.

4. ALL PERSONS BORN AFTER ADAM ARE IN NEED OF SALVATION: GOD CALLS ALL MEN TO SALVATION.

God has not changed. The recurring theme from Genesis to Revelation is that God desires that we obey His word, turn away from clearly defined sin that He outlines in His 10 Commandments and walk with Him in the beauty of His holiness.

Luke 1:74-75 “That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵ In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.”

1 Timothy 6:16 “Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see; to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.”

God gave Adam and Eve the gift of living forever by eating from the Tree of Life. They sinned and lost the gift of eternal life, passing from life to death when ‘in the twinkling of an eye’ they became subject to death, for they were unable to stand in the glorious light of God’s presence. After Adam and Eve’s fall, their children were born outside the covering of God’s glory in mortal bodies, and subject to death until the resurrection, when the redeemed children of Adam will put on immortality!



1 Corinthians 15:51-53 “Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵² In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For *this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.*”

5. ALL ARE BORN WITH BODIES THAT BEAR THE CONSEQUENCE OF SIN. INTO A FALLEN WORLD.

Had Adam and Eve chosen to obey God, they would have conceived children in the glory of eternal life walking with God forever! However, they did choose to sin, losing the gift of eternal life before they conceived their first child. Their children were born **not with the guilt** of original sin, **but with the curse of the consequence** of their parent's sin: mortal bodies that would die and turn back into dust until the resurrection.

*Genesis 3:19-21 "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: **for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.**"*

*Psalms 51:5 "Behold, **I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.**"*

So what did David mean that he was conceived and shaped in sin? Men are conceived in the fallen nature of Adam without the covering of God's glory, nor immersion in the light of His glory.

*Ezekiel 18:20 "The soul that sinneth, it shall die. **The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father...**"*



Children are not held responsible for the sin of their parents, but they are born into the consequences of generations of sin. But when the children of sinning parents turn to the Lord, God remembers that we are dust and has mercy on us.

*Psalms 103:13-14 "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the **LORD pitieth them that fear him.** ¹⁴ **For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.**"*

God calls all men to turn our hearts to the Lord to receive salvation with the future promise of being clothed in glory and living with God in paradise forever! Resurrection clothes man with a glorified body that can eat from the Tree of Life and live forever with Jesus like Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden!

6. GOD KNEW WHAT ADAM AND EVE, AND EACH OF US WILL CHOOSE, AND HE CHOSE US FOR SALVATION ON THE BASIS OF THAT FOREKNOWLEDGE.

1 Peter 1:2 “Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ...”

Ephesians 1:4 “According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.”

All scriptures in the whole word of God must agree to establish doctrine. A recurring theme from Genesis through Revelation is God’s conditional covenant with His people: offering the choice of blessing and eternal blessing for obedience and cursing and eternal death for disobedience. Man is helpless to choose to follow God without the light God gives to every man. God chose us in Him before the foundation of the world according to His foreknowledge of what each one would choose, including Adam and his family. **God gives light to EVERY person, enabling each to choose or not to choose, to receive the light of salvation given to all men.**

John 1:8-9 “...(John) was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.”

Deut 30:19 “I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.”

All of us were born in an unsaved condition, unable to help ourselves without light from God that gives each one the ability to choose. God draws every person to Himself by giving light to all men. **God gives everyone the ability to choose** to believe the Gospel, and receive the light of the living word that will quicken them to life, or **each can reject His light and be cursed to death.** Men are not saved before they believe, but **men are saved because they choose to believe the light Jesus gives and so are saved.**

7. GOD CLOTHED ADAM & EVE WITH HIS OWN RIGHTEOUSNESS, BY THEIR FAITH IN THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB, LOOKING FORWARD TO THE MESSIAH.



Romans 5:8 "God commended his love toward us, in this, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 6:17 But God be thanked that [though] you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.

John 12:46 "I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me shall not abide in darkness."

John 5:40 "But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life."

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Acts 10:43 "To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins."

Whosoever means whosoever - every person who is ever born can choose to believe and come into the light or to reject the Gospel and receive the wages of sin which is death.

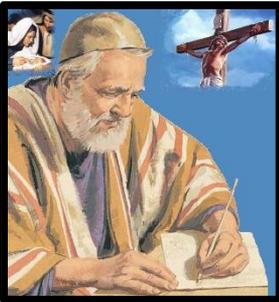
Genesis 3:14-15; 3:21 "And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: ¹⁵ And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.... 21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them."

8. GOD LOVES US SO MUCH THAT HE PLANNED TO COME AS OUR SAVIOR TO PAY FOR SIN ON THE CROSS.

We know that the coats of skins God made for Adam and Eve were the skins of lambs sacrificed for their sins, because their sons later demonstrate that they had been taught to offer a blood sacrifice as atonement for their sins in order to be accepted by God. They knew that their Redeemer was sacrificing a substitute lamb for their sins until He the only Savior would come in the Lamb of God whose heel would be bruised on the cross but He their LORD and Savior would bruise the head of the enemy forever!

*Isaiah 43:3,10-11,15 "For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, **thy Saviour**...Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and **believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, even I, am the Lord; and beside me there is no saviour**...I am the Lord, your Holy One, the creator of Israel, your King."*

*1 Peter 1:19-20 "But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. Who verily was **foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you.**"*



God foreordained before the foundation of the world as LORD over all creation, that He the only Savior, would come to take away the sins of all who receive the sacrifice of His own blood shed for them. Old Testament believers looked for the day when the promised Messiah, the Everlasting Father would come to redeem them!

Isaiah 9:6 "For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given...and his name shall be called...the Everlasting Father..."

Job 19:25 "For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth."

9. ADAM AND EVE HAD TO LEAVE THE GARDEN.

Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”



How grieved Adam and Eve’s hearts must have been, to know that an innocent lamb was killed to pay the penalty of death for what they had done! How grieved should we be in our hearts to know that the innocent Lamb of God was killed to pay the penalty of death for us because we could not pay the wages of death for our own sins and still be living. What a wonderful Savior we have!

James 4:7 “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

Before their sin, God told Adam and Eve to multiply and replenish the earth, which meant to fill up or stock the earth with lots of children who would in turn multiply. Now they left the garden with a blueprint for how to receive the blessing of God, the same as He gives to us.

Genesis 1:28 “And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it....”

Definition: replenish REPLEN’ISH, 1. To fill; to stock with numbers or abundance. The magazines are replenished (stocked) with corn. The springs are replenished (filled) with water. The earth is replenished (stocked) with people.

Genesis 4:1-2 “And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD. ² And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.”

10. JESUS SPOKE OF ADAM AND EVE AND THE GENESIS ACCOUNT LITERALLY AS THE HISTORICAL RECORD.

***Matthew 19:4** “And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female.”*

So when Adam and Eve left the garden, they began to stock the earth with lots of children who would in turn multiply. Since three boys definitely do not fill up an earth, we can safely assume that Adam and Eve surely did have many more children than three boys, including girls.



The Bible very often lists only the births of sons who carried the family lineage while daughters were noted when their inclusion made a difference in the history of the lineage, such as the stories of Ruth and Esther, though their births were neither recorded. Adam and Eve’s children were born with great hope for a blessed future filled with blessings from their Lord and Savior just the same as you and me!

***Jeremiah 29:11** “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you an expected end.”*

Adam & Eve named their first two sons Cain and Able. Of course they were cute little kids who brought great joy to their parents in the same ways that children bring joy today! God never planned for any harm to come to those boys for He had wonderful plans for them just like God plans something wonderful for you, expecting that you will follow His way and arrive at the expected destination in heaven with Him, and God hopes that you will choose only His best so He can bless you!

11. ADAM TAUGHT HIS CHILDREN THE WAYS OF THE LORD AND THEY GREW UP BRINGING SACRIFICES TO GOD TO CLEANSE THEM FROM THEIR SINS.

Genesis 4:3-5 “And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. ⁴ And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: ⁵ But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.”

Adam and Eve had taught their children right and wrong so they could have a happy life. From their birth they had learned that an innocent lamb must be sacrificed in the place of God's only begotten Son who was coming to die for their sins because without the shedding of blood, looking forward to God who would come to shed His own blood for our sins, there is not remission.



Hebrews 9:21-22 “Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. ²² And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.”

Cain was a vegetable farmer and Abel was a sheep herder. They had been taught to bring the right kind of sacrifice to God to atone for their sins. Our offering to God for our salvation is not the sacrifice of our own labor, or money that we have earned, but only the blood of the Lamb slain for our sins can purchase our salvation.

1 Peter 1:18-19 “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; ¹⁹ But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”

12. CAIN CHOSE HIS OWN WAY & GAVE SATAN A STRONGHOLD OF ANGER IN HIS HEART.

Genesis 4:6-7 “And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? ⁷ If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.”

1 Peter 5:8-9 “Be Sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist, stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”

Cain and Becky made a sacrifice but they both did not make a right sacrifice. Satan waits for those moments to get his foot in the door of our heart. How often do we get busy with our own thoughts while we intended to be serving God, and offering up to Him our own good intentions instead of what He desires from us?

Thinking that his own works should be good enough to offer for his own sin was an insult to God. Only the blood of Jesus can take away our sin and make us clean and holy for heaven. Cain knew his wrong sacrifice would not be accepted by God **but he wanted God to honor his good works anyway!** Jesus said the devil waits at the door when you disobey.

OBJECT LESSON: *Heart Door (Anger Foot in the Door)*



Cain let anger get a foothold in the door of his heart! When Cain let anger come into his heart, he just let the devil come right on in to plant that anger and it grew into hatred and rage! What should you do if the devil brings anger knocking at your heart's door?

DON'T LET IT IN! Ask Jesus to take away your anger and forgive the one who hurt you. Jesus will put his love in your heart for difficult people if you ask him to! Keep your heart closed to anger. Guard your heart, and keep it clean for Jesus!

13. ABEL SHOWED LOVE FOR GOD BY HIS OBEDIENT FAITH IN THE BLOOD OF THE SAVIOR TO COME.

Cain did not have respect for God's plan, but he only had love for his own works. God did not accept Cain's sacrifice as genuine love.

Romans 6:12,14 "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof...for sin shall not have dominion over you..."

Colossians 3:15 "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful."



Cain did not let the peace of God rule in his heart when his offering was rejected. Becky was angry when her offering to her mother was rejected, but she prayed. We must go to Jesus in prayer to ask forgiveness and make things right with God and our brother, and then we are accepted and feel God's wonderful peace.

1 Corinthians 11:27-31 "Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep."

Proverbs 15:10 "Correction is grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: and he that hateth reproof shall die."

Cain did not receive the pardon for sin that was paid in full by the Lamb of God, so if Cain did not ask forgiveness, **when Jesus comes to raise up all those who trust in Him, Cain will have to pay the penalty of the second death for his own sin.** Where is my heart?

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

14. CAIN HAD TO PAY THE PRICE FOR SIN HIMSELF, BECAUSE HE DID NOT HONOR GOD’S SACRIFICE.

Genesis 4:8-15 “And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him. 9 And the Lord said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother’s keeper? 10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother’s blood crieth unto me from the ground. 11 And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother’s blood from thy hand; 12 When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth. 13 And Cain said unto the Lord, My punishment is greater than I can bear. 14 Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me. 15 And the Lord said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the Lord set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.”

Because of his sin, Cain lost everything that ever meant anything to him and without repentance, Cain would receive the wages of death as the penalty. The ground God had blessed would no longer produce food for him, and he had to wander as a homeless man, all over the earth for the rest of his life. Now Cain was sorry, but he was only sorry because everybody hated him like he had hated Abel.

2 Corinthians 7:10 “For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.”

Have you ever gone your own way and made a mistake like Cain, hoping that God will accept you because you work very hard to show Him how good you are? ***Disobedience*** stops God’s plan for you. ***Jesus*** wants you to love Him and walk with him in all your ways. When you ***believe*** God’s word and ***obey*** Him, you will have a blessed life with Jesus for ever and ever!

15. GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOU AND ME

1. My gifts to God are not about me, but about who He is.
2. When God forgives me He expects for me to be obedient and walk in holiness, that my life is set apart for Him.
3. When we question God's word, we will become unstable.
4. God calls all people to come and be saved.
5. Those who receive the free gift of eternal life become God's elect for salvation at the coming of the Lord for resurrection.
6. We are born with bodies that become sick because we bear the consequences of a sinful fallen world.
7. God chose those who will be saved from before the foundation of the world based upon His foreknowledge of their choices.
8. God clothed Adam and Eve in His own robe of righteousness by their faith in the blood of the Lamb of God yet to come.
9. There is only one God our Savior who became visible in flesh.
10. Jesus has a wonderful plan for my life when I choose to follow Him.
11. I can resist the devil by refusing to listen to evil, and speaking God's word.
12. When I receive the gift Jesus gave to me and follow Him, my life will be blessed.

Leader leads congregation

PRAY TOGETHER:

Father in Heaven, thank You for providing a way for me to be forgiven by coming as Savior in Your Son Jesus Christ, to redeem me of all my sins by shedding Your own blood to save me. Forgive me when I fall short and begin to live my life for my own glory. Thank you for correction when I make wrong choices. Thank You for covering me in Your robe of righteousness, and giving me power to live my life for You. Help me to live my life for Your glory with a whole heart, Jesus, for You are my Creator and Savior who became flesh to die on the cross for my sins. There is nothing that I have that You did not give me, thank You Jesus. I offer up all that I am or ever hope to be to You my God. In Jesus name, Amen.

16. TIMELINE COLORING PAGE

God respected Abel's offering of a lamb, because by his obedience he showed his faith in the Savior yet to come; but Cain offered the fruit of his own works and had to pay the price for sin himself, because he did not honor God's sacrifice.

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GOD'S PURPOSE FOR ME

WHEN I GIVE UP MY WAY I WILL UNDERSTAND,
THEN I WILL BE USEFUL IN GOD'S HAND

Psalm 51:17

“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart – these O God, You will not despise.”

John 14:15 *“If you love me, keep my commandments.”*