



GENESIS

The Book of Beginnings

Mike Taylor

<https://www.taylornotes.info/monday>



LESSON 4: CAIN & ABEL, WHAT MADE THE DIFFERENCE?

A. CENTRAL QUESTION

Both Cain and Abel made offerings to God. Abel's offering was looked on with favor by God, but Cain's was not. Why did God accept Abel's offering but reject Cain's?

B. THE TEXT: GENESIS 4:3-8



"In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. ⁴ And Abel also brought an offering-- fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, ⁵ but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast. ⁶ Then the LORD

said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? ⁷ If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it." ⁸ Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him." (Gen. 4:3-8 NIV)

C. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What differences do you see between Cain and Abel's offerings?

2. How do these differences reveal the likely sincerities behind them?

3. What possible connection do you see between Abel's offering and Genesis 3:21?

4. According to Hebrews 11:4, 6, why did God accept Abel's offering, but not Cain's?

5. Just as Cain and Abel offered things up to God, what can Christians today offer up to God?

D. APPLICATION: FIVE PRINCIPLES FOR CHRISTIAN OFFERINGS

1. Principle No. 1: I am to give my offerings _____ (Matt. 6:1-3).
2. Principle No. 2: I am to base my offerings on _____, not on _____ (1 Cor. 16:1-2).
3. Principle No. 3: I am to give _____ (2 Cor. 8:1-3).
4. Principle No. 4: I am to _____ (2 Cor. 8:7).
5. Principle No. 5: I am to give _____ (2 Cor. 9:7).

E. DIGGING DEEPER

For more about tithes and offerings go to:

“What Does the Bible Say about Christian Tithing”?
<<https://www.gotquestions.org/tithing-Christian.html>>

“Why Did God Accept Abel's Offering but reject Cain's offering”?
<<https://www.gotquestions.org/Cain-and-Abel.html>>