

THE BOOK OF BEGINNINGS

"And yet, this separation and coming out of the world, this "beginning to call upon the name of Jehovah," is what to this day each of us must do for himself, if he would take up the cross, follow Christ, and enter into the kingdom of God." —Alfred Edersheim, *The Bible History [Old Testament Vol. I]*

"God and the Lines of Cain & Seth"

Genealogies in Genesis:

The "toledot" formula— Found in Genesis as a marker of transition or a pivot in the narrative. Translated as: "*These are the generations of...*" or "*This is the account of...*" (Gen. 5:1; 6:9; 10:1,32; 11:10,27; 25:12-13,19; 36:1,9; 37:2)

⇒ The goal is to focus the reader's attention on a specific _____ and his descendants.

The concept of "seed"— Taken from the Hebrew word 'zera' which is translated in other places as "offspring" or "descendants." (Gen. 3:15; 4:25; 9:9; 12:7; 15:18; 26:24; 48:19)

⇒ This concept can be traced throughout Genesis in order to follow the _____ from Adam to Jacob.

The Line of Cain: Genesis 4:16-24

Gen. 4:16—"Then Cain went away from the presence of the Lord and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden."

- This statement summarizes the disposition of Cain and his descendants towards the Lord.

Where did Cain find his wife?

- The 7th generation from Adam through Cain is highlighted probably as a representative of the line as a whole.

Lamech (Son of Cain)

⇒ He is the first in Scripture to practice polygamy.

'Adah'—

'Zillah'—

⇒ His children served to greatly advance human civilization, demonstrating that God's blessing from Gen.1:28 remained on mankind in spite of their sin.

His declaration (Gen. 4:23-24)

"Lamech said to his wives: "Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; you wives of Lamech, listen to what I say: I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for striking me. If Cain's revenge is sevenfold, then Lamech's is seventy-sevenfold."

⇒ Lamech's words are filled with arrogance and violence. This is a _____ man!

The Line of Seth: Gen. 4:25-5:31

Gen. 5:1-3 & The Doctrine of Imputation

- Because we bear the image of Adam, we bear the image of _____.
- Because we bear the image of Adam, we inherit from him the _____ of sin as we as the _____ to sin.

Gen. 4:26b—"At that time people began to call upon the name of the Lord."

- ⇒ The worship of Jehovah, seen in Seth and his descendants, demonstrated that despite their sin, mankind was still responsible to guard and keep the Word of the Lord (Gen. 2:15) by faith.
- This statement summarizes the disposition of Seth and his descendants towards the Lord.
- The 7th generation from Adam through Seth is highlighted probably as a representative of the line as a whole.

Enoch (Son of Seth)

"...walked with God..."

Heb. 11:5—"By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God."

- ⇒ The life of Enoch demonstrates that a life of faith will ultimately _____ death.
- The 10th generation from Adam through Seth is also identified as significant.

Lamech (Son of Seth)

His Declaration (Gen. 5:29)

"Out of the ground that the Lord has cursed, this one shall bring us relief from our work and from the painful toil of our hands."

- ⇒ Lamech's words demonstrate his hope in the _____ of God. This is a humble and faithful man!

Some Observations:

1. The 'seed' [offspring] of the serpent is always characterized by _____.
2. The 'seed' [offspring] of the woman is always characterized by _____ in the promises of God and the keeping of His Word through proper worship (Gen. 2:15).
3. Because of the imputed sin of Adam we are all by nature the 'seed' of the Serpent. It is only by _____ and through faith that we become a part of the 'seed' of the woman.

Eph. 2:1-10—¹ And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.