

# **Making Our Mark**

## **Part Four - The Mark of Cain**

### **Genesis 4:1-16**

Now the man had marital relations with his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. Then she said, "I have created a man just as the Lord did!" 2 Then she gave birth to his brother Abel. Abel took care of the flocks, while Cain cultivated the ground. 3 At the designated time Cain brought some of the fruit of the ground for an offering to the Lord. 4 But Abel brought some of the firstborn of his flock – even the fattest of them. And the Lord was pleased with Abel and his offering, 5 but with Cain and his offering, he was not pleased. So Cain became very angry, and his expression was downcast. 6 Then the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why is your expression downcast? 7 Is it not true that if you do what is right, you will be fine? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at the door. It desires to dominate you, but you must subdue it." 8 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. 9 Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" And he replied, "I don't know! Am I my brother's guardian?" 10 But the Lord said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying out to me from the ground! 11 So now, you are banished from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. 12 When you try to cultivate the ground it will no longer yield its best for you. You will be a homeless wanderer on the earth." 13 Then Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is too great to endure! 14 Look! You are driving me off the land today, and I must hide from your presence. I will be a homeless wanderer on the earth; whoever finds me will kill me." 15 But the Lord said to him, "All right then, if anyone kills Cain, Cain will be avenged seven times as much." Then the Lord put a special mark on Cain so that no one who found him would strike him down. 16 So Cain went out from the presence of the Lord and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

**Sin leaves us marked like Cain.**

### **Things to Know About the Mark**

#### **1. The mark is our own doing.**

##### **Romans 3:23**

All of us have sinned and fallen short of God's glory.

**Vs. 1, Then she said, "I have created a man just as the Lord did!"**

##### **1 John 1:8**

If we say we have not sinned, we are fooling ourselves, and the truth isn't in our hearts.

#### **2. The mark is accompanied by anger.**

**Vs. 5, So Cain became very angry, and his expression was downcast.**

**Vs. 4-5, And the Lord was pleased with Abel and his offering, 5 but with Cain and his offering he was not pleased.**

**Vs. 6-7, “Why are you angry, and why is your expression downcast? 7 Is it not true that if you do what is right, you will be fine? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at the door. It desires to dominate you, but you must subdue it.”**

**3. The mark rejects accountability.**

**vs. 9, And (Cain) replied, “I don’t know! Am I my brother’s guardian?”**

**Romans 12:15**

Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

**Matthew 12:30**

If you are not on my side, you are against me. If you don't gather in the harvest with me, you scatter it.

**4. The mark leads to isolation, poverty, and homelessness.**

**Vs. 12, “When you try to cultivate the ground it will no longer yield its best for you. You will be a homeless wanderer on the earth.”**

**Mark 8:36**

“What will you gain, if you own the whole world but destroy yourself?”

**Vs. 16, So Cain went out from the presence of the Lord and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.**

**Only Jesus can remove the mark of Cain.**

**Revelation 14:1**

Then I saw the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with him were 144,000 who had his name and his Father’s name written on their foreheads.

**2 Corinthians 1:21-22**

...it is God himself who has set us apart, 22, who has placed his mark of ownership upon us, and who has given us the Holy Spirit in our hearts as the guarantee of all that he has in store for us.