

## Introduction

Chad and I have been having discussions about his anthropology class that he is taking at CNM. Last week the professor took one whole class trying to disprove the Bible. The next class they spent looking at the primates that man supposedly evolved from. Anthropology gets its definition from two Greek words, Anthropos + Logos. Anthropos means man, and logos means word. It is the study of mankind. The dictionary defines anthropology as: *1) the science that deals with the origins, physical and cultural development, biological characteristics, and social customs and beliefs of humankind. 2) the study of human beings' similarity to and divergence from other animals. 3) the science of humans and their works.*<sup>1</sup>

I told Chad that their Anthropology course should be in the religion department, not the science department. I told him this because by definition science is 1) *“a branch of knowledge or study dealing with a body of facts or truths systematically arranged and showing the operation of general laws, or 2) systematic knowledge of the physical or material world gained through observation and experimentation.”*<sup>2</sup> To my knowledge there have never been any experiments done where frogs turn into elephants, or blue jays turn into tigers. I have also never heard or read about a primate having a human baby. Evolution is not based on facts and it is not based on systematic knowledge gained through experimentation. In fact there have been trillions of trillions of experiments done and all of them have proved one fact, that the Bible is true. Our account of Genesis has told us that in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. He created all the plants, animals, birds, sea creatures, and reptiles. He told them to be fruitful and multiply. Each plant, bird, fish, animal, or man was to reproduce after its own kind. Since the foundation of the world, there have been trillions and trillions of grasshoppers producing grasshoppers, blue jays producing blue jays, frogs producing frogs, monkeys producing monkeys, and man producing man. There are no exceptions. The experiments and facts all show that the Bible is true. The Bible gives us the facts about creation, the origin of men, and the development of civilization. The Bible gives us the physical and cultural development of mankind. The Bible gives us an account of how civilization and cultures began.

Our text today is Genesis 4:9-26. It begins with a look at the judicial system, and God's punishment of Cain after he had killed his brother, Abel. Then, Cain leaves the presence of the Lord and begins the lineage of the Wicked. Even though he is wicked and evil is being perpetuated, there are significant social, cultural, and industrial developments taking place. Then, we are given the beginning of the lineage of the righteous. God gives Adam and Eve another son named Seth, who took the place of Abel, who Cain had murdered. So, we have two different lineages and the start of civilization. There are scholars like Ken Ham who have taken time to expound on this subject. We will be just taking a glance at our study of the beginnings of civilization. I have named the message, A Biblical Glimpse At Anthropology.

## A Biblical Glimpse At Anthropology

1. The Punishment of Cain
2. The Lineage of the Wicked
3. The Lineage of the Righteous

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<sup>1</sup> [www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com)

<sup>2</sup> [www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com)

## 1. The Punishment of Cain

Last week we saw that God had no regard for Cain's offering, and this angered him. God told him that sin was crouching at the door, and he needed to master it. God also told him that if he would do what is right, he would be accepted. Cain rejected God's word to him, and he went out and killed his brother out in the field. That is where we pick up our text for today. Let's read the first section of text, Genesis 4:9-16.

(Gen 4:9-16) "Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" And he said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?" {10} He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to Me from the ground. {11} Now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. {12} When you cultivate the ground, it will no longer yield its strength to you; you will be a vagrant and a wanderer on the earth." {13} Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is too great to bear! {14} "Behold, You have driven me this day from the face of the ground; and from Your face I will be hidden, and I will be a vagrant and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." {15} So the LORD said to him, "Therefore whoever kills Cain, vengeance will be taken on him sevenfold." And the LORD appointed a sign for Cain, so that no one finding him would slay him. {16} Then Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden."

There was not a civil judicial system established at the time; they were operating under God's judicial system. God gave Adam and Eve commands and boundaries in the garden of Eve. When they ate the forbidden fruit and violated God's commands, He confronted them, and brought a judgment against them. God was the presiding Judge of the judicial system. God sees everything. Adam and Eve could not hide from God, and they could not hide their sins from God. He even knows the thoughts and intentions of our heart, and He knows everything that we do or say. In Matthew 12, Jesus tells us that all of us will have to give account for every careless word that we speak. This refers to a time in the future, after our death, that all of us will stand before God and give an account for what we have done. There is a judicial system on earth, and there is another one in the spiritual realm. In Romans 13:1-2 we see that we are all to be in subjection to the governing authorities, because they have been established by God. At this time in civilization, the local governing authorities had not yet been established, so God was handling all the judicial matters on earth.

In Romans 14:10-12, Paul tells us that we will all stand before the judgment seat of God and give account to God. This refers to the judgment after we die. In Hebrews 9:27, we see that the day of judgment that Jesus and Paul spoke about is after we have died. Our souls live eternally, and after we die in the flesh, we will then face judgment and give account to God.

(Matt 12:36-37) "But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment. {37} For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

(Rom 14:10-12) "But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. {11} For it is written, "AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL GIVE PRAISE TO GOD." {12} So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God."

(Heb 9:27) “And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment,”

In Revelations 20:11-15, we get a glimpse of the judgment of the great white throne. Everyone is judged according to their deeds. If someone’s name is not found in the book of life, then they are thrown into the lake of fire. Cain received judgment here on earth, but there is another judgment that he will be facing, the great white throne judgment. It is one thing to be separated from the presence of God in this life, but it is still another to be eternally separated from God, and to be thrown into the lake of fire.

(Rev 20:11-15) “Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. {12} And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. {13} And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds. {14} Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. {15} And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”

The great news, that is the gospel, is that when we receive Christ’s payment for our sins and confess Him to be our Lord, we get to come into His presence now. Furthermore, we find in John 5:24 that we pass out of death into life and will not be judged at the great white throne. There will not be a second death for us. We will still have to give account to God, but it will not be for the purpose of judging us; it will be to receive rewards for what we have done here on earth.

(John 5:24) “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”

Nothing that we do or say escapes God’s knowledge. Adam and Eve thought they could hide from God, but they couldn’t. He went and confronted them about their sin. Now, Cain has sinned, and he cannot hide this sin from God. God asks him, “Where is Abel your brother?” God knew where Abel was. God knew what Cain had done to Abel. He did not need to ask Him to find out what happened. He asked Cain as a judge would ask the defendant in a trial. He is giving Cain an opportunity to confess his sins.

Cain does not confess his sins. Instead, he lied to God, saying, “I do not know. Am I my brother’s keeper?” Cain knew exactly where his dead brother was. And, Cain, being the oldest son, was his brother’s keeper. God then tells him that Abel’s blood was crying out to God from the ground. God lowered the gavel and pronounced him guilty of killing his brother.

Next, we have the sentencing of Cain. There were four sentences given to Cain for murdering his brother. The first punishment is that the ground was cursed. Sin brings a curse. The covering of sin is a blessing. In Psalm 32:1, we read, “*How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.*” But, there is a curse upon those whose sin is not forgiven and is uncovered. The blood of the sacrifice was a covering for sin. Adam and Eve had their sin covered by God’s sacrifice of an animal, probably a lamb. Abel had his sins covered by the firstling that he sacrificed to God. Cain could have had his sins covered, but he rejected God’s provision for sin.

In 1 John 2:2, we read that, “He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.” The good news is that God made provision for all sins, our sins and the sins of the world. That same provision was available for Cain, but he had rejected God’s provision. Now, Cain was receiving a curse for his sins. One part of the curse was that the ground would no longer yield its strength. Cain’s crops were not going to bear much fruit for him. This would bring about the second consequence.

The second punishment was that Cain would be a vagrant and would wander from place to place begging. It is interesting that as soon as this punishment was given, Cain went out and tried to settle in the land of Nod. He tried to rebel against the judgment that God had given him. It was as if he was saying, “I’ll prove you wrong. I will settle down and build my own city here.” The word Nod means to move to and fro and wander. Cain tried to settle in the land of wandering.

The third sentence was that God would hide his face from him. We also read that Cain went out from the presence of the Lord. Sin separates us from God. Isaiah prophesied in Isaiah 59:2, “*But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.*” There is a song by the group, Avalon, and it says, “I don’t want to go somewhere if I know that You’re not there...” To live without the presence of God is a terrible thing. I thank the Holy Spirit for His presence in the morning. I invite the Holy Spirit into our services. We are the temple of the Holy Spirit, and we want His presence at all times. We want a stronger presence of the Lord.

Moses felt that way also. In Exodus 33:14-16, God promised Moses that His presence would go with him and give him rest. Moses responded by saying, “If your presence does not go with us, do not lead us up from here.” I believe that is where Avalon got the essence of their song. Cain had to leave the presence of the Lord and go into the place of wandering. He went out from the Lord being cursed, rather than being blessed in the presence of the Lord.

The presence of the Lord is a wonderful thing, but it can also be deadly. In Psalm 16:11, we find that in the presence of the Lord is fullness of joy. I like that part. But, if people approached the presence of the Lord in sin or without reverence, it could be deadly. In Leviticus 10:1-2, two of Aaron’s sons brought strange fire before the Lord, which He had not commanded them, and fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed them.

When the ark of the Lord was taken from Israel by the Philistines in 1 Samuel 4-6, they placed it in the temple of Dagon. In the morning, their idol was decapitated. Things kept happening. They finally sent the ark away in a cart with two milch cows and it went to Beth-Shemesh. There, some of the people looked into the ark of the Lord, and God struck down 50,070 men. If you are right with God, the presence of the Lord is a wonderful thing. If you come before the Lord irreverently, it can be fatal. The good news is that in Christ, the veil was rent from top to bottom, and the scepter was extended to us. We are able to come into His presence in fullness of joy. At the same time, I believe we should come into His presence with a humble and contrite heart, and with thanksgiving and praises. Cain was cast out of the presence of the Lord.

The fourth punishment is not specifically mentioned, but it is still a consequence. Cain was the oldest son, and he had the birthright. After Abel had been killed, Eve stated that God was giving her another son to take the place of righteous Abel. The birthright and lineage was now going to go through Seth, a son not even born.

After being told of his punishment, Cain told God that his punishment was too great to bear. He tells God that whoever finds him will kill him. Notice God's response. He did not remove the punishment. Cain would still have to leave the presence of the Lord. The ground would still be cursed. Cain would be a vagrant and wanderer, and the lineage would go through another son. But, God promised that any vengeance taken on Cain would be taken on that person sevenfold. God appointed a sign for Cain so that no one finding him would slay him. We don't know what that sign was, but there was a sign of some sort that God appointed that would keep anyone from slaying him in vengeance.

## 2. The Lineage of the Wicked

The account in Genesis is the only record that we have of the antediluvian society. Antediluvian literally means before the deluge or pre-flood period of history. We have records of the lineage, and also of the development of industry, music, marriage, and civil proceedings.

(Gen 4:17-24) "Cain had relations with his wife and she conceived, and gave birth to Enoch; and he built a city, and called the name of the city Enoch, after the name of his son. {18} Now to Enoch was born Irad, and Irad became the father of Mehujael, and Mehujael became the father of Methushael, and Methushael became the father of Lamech. {19} Lamech took to himself two wives: the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other, Zillah. {20} Adah gave birth to Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. {21} His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe. {22} As for Zillah, she also gave birth to Tubal-cain, the forger of all implements of bronze and iron; and the sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah. {23} Lamech said to his wives, "Adah and Zillah, Listen to my voice, You wives of Lamech, Give heed to my speech, For I have killed a man for wounding me; And a boy for striking me; {24} If Cain is avenged sevenfold, Then Lamech seventy-sevenfold."

After Cain leaves the presence of the Lord, he and his wife had a son named Enoch, and he built and named a city after himself. Next, we find the descendants of Cain. He had Enoch, Irad, Mehujael, Methusahel, and Lamech. There are two Lamechs mentioned; both lineages contain a Lamech. In our culture, there are also common names that people share. After Lamech there was Jabal, Jubal, and Tubal-cain. There were also many daughters born. Cain married his sister, which means that Adam and Eve had daughters. In Genesis 5, we read that Adam had other sons and daughters. In fact, Adam lived another eight hundred years after having Seth. Adam lived to be 930 years old. Methuselah lived to be 969 years old, so people lived long lives at that time. Because of the lifespan of people, John McArthur said that a conservative estimate of the population at the time of the flood was between seven and ten billion people. There were lots of other sons and daughters being born that are not mentioned in the text. What we have are the sons who carry the lineage.

**Marriage:** I want to make a few comments about the development of civilization. In Genesis 2:24-25, God gave the principle of marriage. It was between a man and a woman, and the TWO were to become one. Until Lamech is mentioned here, they followed God's principle. Lamech was the first polygamist. God's principle has not changed. Elders or pastors in the church are to be the husband of one wife; they are not to be polygamists. In Ephesians 5, we see that marriage is a representation of our relationship with Christ. We are the bride of Christ. Jesus does not have several brides; the church is the bride of Christ. There was a breakdown in the principle of marriage in Lamech.

**Agriculture and Ranching:** Adam and Eve tended the garden. They were vegetarians at that point. Cain was also a tiller of the ground, or better known today as a farmer. It was not until after the flood that God gave permission to eat meat. But, Abel was a keeper of herds, even though they were not eating the meat yet. In our text today Jabal lived in a tent and was also a keeper of livestock. They probably were using the wool for clothing, and the hides for clothes, shoes, tents, and coverings. They probably used the milk to drink and to make cheese.

**Music:** We are told that Jubal was the father of all those who play lyre and pipe. The lyre was a stringed instrument. The family of stringed instruments today would include the guitar, banjo, violin, mandolin, ukulele, harp, and piano. The pipe would include all the wind instruments like the flute, oboe, clarinet, trombone, saxophone, horn, tuba, and recorder.

**Industry:** Tubal-cain was the forger of all implements of bronze and iron. We call a forger of instruments a blacksmith. Bronze is a combination of copper and tin. Today's bronze is 88% copper and 12% tin. So, there were three different metals being used that had to be mined. Obviously, they had mining operations to find the metal ores that they needed. They had to transport the metals from the mines to where they would be processed. To extract the ores, hot fires had to be used. They may have used coal for those fires. Since Jubal made pipes, some of these were made out of brass or other metals. They had wisdom, insight, and understanding in how to do all of this. They had some design and engineering skills as well. Since they lived eight or nine hundred years, they had time to become very good at what they did.

When Karen and I went to Italy a few years ago, we visited Pompei, the city destroyed by the ashes from Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. They have excavated it and you can get a great glimpse of life at that day and age. They had running water through lead pipes. I was surprised that they had the technology to make lead pipes two thousand years ago. But, I should not have been surprised. Mankind has had this technology for six thousand years, and it began with Tubal-cain.

Even though Cain's lineage would all die in the flood, God's gift of children, wisdom, creativity, music, engineering, science, and craftsmanship was freely given to all men. God's love and grace is available to everyone.

### 3. The Lineage of the Godly

In our last section today, Adam and Eve have relations again and she gives birth to Seth. This is the lineage of the godly. Let's read it together.

(Gen 4:25-26) "Adam had relations with his wife again; and she gave birth to a son, and named him Seth, for, she said, "God has appointed me another offspring in place of Abel, for Cain killed him." {26} To Seth, to him also a son was born; and he called his name Enosh. Then men began to call upon the name of the LORD."

We get the full lineage from Adam to Noah in Genesis 5. We get the start of that lineage today. I said that this is the lineage of the godly. I say that for several reasons. First, we looked at 1 John 3 last week, and saw that Cain's actions were evil and Abel's deeds were righteous. Abel was a righteous man. Seth was appointed in place of righteous Abel.

Second, since Noah and his sons were the only survivors of the flood, and Noah's seed came from Seth, this is the lineage that God saved.

Third, in Genesis 6, we see that the sons of God saw the daughters of men and took wives for themselves. The sons of God refer to the lineage of the righteous, the descendants of Adam through Seth. The daughters of men refer to the lineage of the wicked, the lineage through Cain. God's plan was never for the righteous to be yoked to the unrighteous, and God was not pleased at what they were doing.

The fourth reason that I call this the lineage of the righteous is found in Luke 3. When Jesus began His ministry at the age of thirty, Luke gives His lineage. Let me read this to you.

(Luke 3:23-38) "When He began His ministry, Jesus Himself was about thirty years of age, being, as was supposed, the son of Joseph, the son of Eli...{36} the son of Cainan, the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech, {37} the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalaleel, the son of Cainan, {38} the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God."

Notice that the lineage of Christ went through Seth to Adam, who was the son of God. God knew that men would sin. God covered Adam and Eve with garments of skin, signifying that there had been a blood sacrifice to cover them. But, that was only a shadow of what was to come. God's plan all along was to send Jesus Christ, to cover our sins. Paul writes in Galatians 4:4-5, "*but when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that they might receive the adoption as sons.*" God had a plan, and the plan had a time element. Jesus came at the fullness of time. When Peter preached his message at Pentecost, he said in Acts 2:23, "*this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.*" God had a predetermined plan to send His Son, Jesus, to die for our sins. There was a specific lineage that was planned, and that lineage went from Adam and then through Seth, and then down until the fullness of time came.

The fifth reason that I call this the lineage of the righteous is found in Exodus 15-16. We looked at this passage earlier. Moses did not want to go anywhere if the Lord's presence was not with them. Then, Moses says, "is it not by Your going with us, so that we, I and Your people, may be distinguished from all the other people who are upon the face of the earth?" Cain left the presence of the Lord and was distinguished from Adam, Eve, and Seth, who were in the presence of the Lord. It was the presence of the Lord that distinguished them, and us from the world. We are the temple of the Holy Spirit. His presence is with us. In 1 Corinthians 14:24-25, when prophetic utterances of the Holy Spirit were given, unbelievers would fall on their faces and worship God, declaring that God is certainly among you. Just like our righteous lives and our love for another, God's presence in us, is another tangible thing that distinguishes us from the world.

Exodus 33:15-16 {15} Then he said to Him, "If Your presence does not go with us, do not lead us up from here. {16} "For how then can it be known that I have found favor in Your sight, I and Your people? Is it not by Your going with us, so that we, I and Your people, may be distinguished from all the other people who are upon the face of the earth?"

1 Corinthians 14:24-25 {24} But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an ungifted man enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all; {25} the secrets of his heart are disclosed; and so he will fall on his face and worship God, declaring that God is certainly among you.

The sixth and final reason that I call this the lineage of the godly is found in verse 26. Seth had a son, “and he called his name Enosh. Then men began to call upon the name of the Lord.” Enosh comes from anash, which means mortal, desperately wicked, incurable, frail, feeble, sick. It did not take long for man and civilization to digress. The righteous understand our sinful and frail condition, and that God is the only hope and help we have. So, the righteous call upon the name of the Lord. Righteous people pray. God said that His house shall be called a house of prayer. We are going to finish our service today by calling upon the name of the Lord.