

STUDY FOUR

THE SACRIFICES OF GOD

Genesis 4

Introduction

The progress of sin in the lives of Adam and Eve's descendants is easily seen in this passage. Most people today see the development of society as something that is always for the better, but here the progress is downward. This reminds us again that without God's active work our society will never improve.

Questions For Discussion

1. What did Cain offer to God (v.3)?

2. What did Abel offers (v.4)?

3. Why did God accept Abel's offering but not accept Cain's? (See Heb. 11:4. Note: the reason is not stated so we cannot be sure.)

4.a) What was Cain's response to God's refusal to accept his offering (v.5)?

b) What should it have been like? (See 1Jn. 1:9)

5.a) What did Cain do to Abel (v.8)?

b) Why? (See 1Jn. 3:11-12)

6.a) How can we bring an acceptable offering to God? (See Ps. 51:15-17)

b) What is more important, the form of worship or the attitude of the worshipers?

7.a) What is society like in this chapter (vv.17-24)?

b) Is our society like this today?

c) In what ways?

8.a) Is there any hope in this chapter (vv.25-26)?

b) How can we make a difference in our society today?

For Further Thought And Action

What does it mean to have broken and contrite heart?

Memory Verse

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Psalm 51:17