

The Importance Of Raising A Godly Family

Genesis 4:17 – 5:32

I. Raising A Family Without God: The Ungodly Heritage Of Cain (4:17-24)

A. _____ For Personal Legacy (17-18)

¹⁷ Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. When **he built a city**, he called the **name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch**. ¹⁸ To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad fathered Mehujael, and Mehujael fathered Methushael, and Methushael fathered Lamech.

B. _____ Of God's Purpose For Marriage (19-20)

¹⁹ And Lamech took **two wives**. The name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah. ²⁰ Adah bore Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock.

C. Prioritization Of _____ & _____ Advancement (21-22)

²¹ His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe. ²² Zillah also bore Tubal-cain; he was the forger of all instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah.

D. Progression Of _____ (23-24)

²³ 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. ²⁴ If Cain's revenge is sevenfold, then Lamech's is seventy-sevenfold."

E. _____ Of God

II. Raising A Godly Family: The Godly Heritage Of Seth (4:25 – 5:32)

A. _____ In God Renews The Family (4:25)

²⁵ And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and called his name Seth, for she said, "God has appointed for me another offspring instead of Abel, for Cain killed him."

B. _____ Of God Is Central (4:26)

²⁶ To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD.

C. _____ With God Is Emphasized (5:22,24)

^{5:22} **Enoch walked with God** after he fathered Methuselah 300 years and had other sons and daughters. ²³ Thus all the days of Enoch were 365 years. ²⁴ **Enoch walked with God**, and he was not, for God took him.

D. _____ From Sin Is Desired (5:29)

²⁹ and called his name Noah, saying, "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**

Conclusion: What legacy do you want to leave behind?

- Worldly successful generations accomplished without God
- Kingdom impacting generations glorifying God

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A. Achievement For Personal Legacy (17-18)

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B. Rejection Of God's Purpose For Marriage (19-20)

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E. Absence Of God

II. Raising A Godly Family: The Godly Heritage Of Seth (4:25 – 5:32)

A. Hope In God Renews The Family (4:25)

²⁵ And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and called his name Seth, for she said, "God has appointed for me another offspring instead of Abel, for Cain killed him."

B. Worship Of God Is Central (4:26)

²⁶ To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD.

C. Walking With God Is Emphasized (5:22,24)

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The Importance Of Raising A Godly Family

Genesis 4:17 – 5:32

Genesis 4:17-26

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Genesis 5:1-32

This is the book of the generations of Adam. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. ² Male and female he created them, and he blessed them and named them Man when they were created. ³ When Adam had lived 130 years, he fathered a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth. ⁴ The days of Adam after he fathered Seth were 800 years; and he had other sons and daughters. ⁵ Thus all the days that Adam lived were 930 years, and he died.

⁶ When Seth had lived 105 years, he fathered Enosh. ⁷ Seth lived after he fathered Enosh 807 years and had other sons and daughters. ⁸ Thus all the days of Seth were 912 years, and he died.

⁹ When Enosh had lived 90 years, he fathered Kenan. ¹⁰ Enosh lived after he fathered Kenan 815 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹¹ Thus all the days of Enosh were 905 years, and he died.

¹² When Kenan had lived 70 years, he fathered Mahalalel. ¹³ Kenan lived after he fathered Mahalalel 840 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹⁴ Thus all the days of Kenan were 910 years, and he died.

¹⁵ When Mahalalel had lived 65 years, he fathered Jared. ¹⁶ Mahalalel lived after he fathered Jared 830 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹⁷ Thus all the days of Mahalalel were 895 years, and he died.

¹⁸ When Jared had lived 162 years, he fathered Enoch. ¹⁹ Jared lived after he fathered Enoch 800 years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁰ Thus all the days of Jared were 962 years, and he died.

²¹ When Enoch had lived 65 years, he fathered Methuselah. ²² Enoch walked with God after he fathered Methuselah 300 years and had other sons and daughters. ²³ Thus all the days of Enoch were 365 years. ²⁴ Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him.

²⁵ When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he fathered Lamech. ²⁶ Methuselah lived after he fathered Lamech 782 years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁷ Thus all the days of Methuselah were 969 years, and he died.

²⁸ When Lamech had lived 182 years, he fathered a son ²⁹ and called his name Noah, saying, "Out of the ground that the LORD has cursed, this one shall bring us relief⁴ from our work and from the

painful toil of our hands." ³⁰ Lamech lived after he fathered Noah 595 years and had other sons and daughters. ³¹ Thus all the days of Lamech were 777 years, and he died.

³² After Noah was 500 years old, Noah fathered Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Introduction:

- Erwin Lutzer: "When God gave man authority over all the earth, He sanctioned culture. Man was given the responsibility of ruling, taming, inventing, and creating whatever he wanted from the raw materials God had made. He was given a mind that would think, a tongue that could communicate, and hands that could fashion the imaginations of his heart. His creative intuition was a reflection of the creative genius of God." ("Cultural Awareness" by Erwin Lutzer, Moody Monthly, July/August 1994)
- Article "What Kind Of Missionary Are We?" by Terry Mattingly in Moody Monthly, Sept 1992

5 ways Christians relate to popular culture:

1) Burn the culture - separatist church burns the world

- true we are to separate from the world, but we do not necessarily need to be ignorant of it
- as missionaries, we should attempt to understand what type of people we are reaching instead of avoiding the people we are trying to reach

2) Baptize the Culture - "theology by opinion poll"

- Culture is determined by what's popular – premarital sex, gay marriage, self-esteem

3) Photocopy the Culture

- Christians adopting the world practice to be relevant to world

4) Change the Culture

- Liberal view – use social and political activism to change culture

5) Debate the Culture - "It is impossible to win a debate without paying careful attention to the arguments of your opponent. Ask any missionary."

- On Mars Hill, Paul studied the pantheistic culture and prepared to debate for the hearts, souls, and minds of the lost.
- He did not compromise the truth. He preached it in a way they could understand.

Act 17:22-23 "Men of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. Now what you worship as something unknown I am going to proclaim to you."

- When it comes to raising our family – how are we implementing our culture in raising our kids?

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- We see Cain leaving the presence of God in Gen 4:16

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

A. Achievement For Personal Legacy (17-18)

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- “Cain knew his wife”
 - Where did Cain get his wife?
 - She was his sister
 - Back in the days of more perfect bodies – genetic concerns of near relatives would probably not have been a concern as it is in modern times
- “he built a city” and named it after his son, Enoch
 - Cain was to be condemned as a wanderer around the earth
 - To build a city was an act of defiance by Cain towards God
- “he called the name of the city after the name of his son”
 - Cain wanted to leave the imprint of his legacy
 - How do we want to be remembered? What we did through our family or what we did for God?
- What’s our life purpose?
 - To leave a better generation
 - To increase God’s kingdom

B. Rejection Of God’s Purpose For Marriage (19-20)

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- Lamech took 2 wives following the passion of his flesh instead of the purpose of God
- We live in a day that marriage is under attack
 - Polygamy
 - Gay Marriage
 - Married to pet
 - Latest trend: Self-Marriage; “I Married Me”
- God’s beautiful institution is now about what “I want” instead of enjoying God’s design for marriage
- Marriage is an amazing gift from God
 - Design is for two people to walk with God and sacrifice themselves for the good of their spouse
 - Husbands to love wife as Christ loves the Church and gave Himself for it
 - Wives support husband through respect
 - Marriage isn’t designed for taking, but giving
 - God designed marriage to be a “one flesh” union

C. **Prioritization Of Materialism & Cultural Advancement (21-22)**

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- Music – culture
- Tools – bronze & iron – technology
- Ie/ Cavemen – not a transition between monkeys to men, because we men were intelligent immediately
- Bronze & iron instruments were implemented in the early generations of man

D. **Progression Of Sin (23-24)**

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- Lamech's taunt song
- Allen P. Ross: "This ancient song of Lamech's indicates the evil side of expanding society." (*Creation & Blessing*, p. 165)
- Cain avenged 7-fold; Lamech 77-fold? Three views:
 1. Lamech is facing a more intense judgment than Cain – but Lamech's crime seems like self-defense (a lesser crime) and the 7-fold punishment is on Cain's killer (it's a protection for Cain)
 2. Vengeance is God's protection – 7x over Cain, 77x over Lamech – Lamech is asking God for protection to be greater than what Cain received
 3. Begging for more time – 7x is 7 generations before Cain punished and Lamech is asking for more time.
- I think the 2nd option makes more sense
- Lamech is looking for more protection from God after his lesser sin than Cain
- Gen 9:6 invokes capital punishment for each murderer

E. **Absence Of God**

- What is glaringly absent is God
- The line of Cain perpetuated a family focused on culture and worldly achievement and forgot God
- Not the meanings of the names:
 - Cain – gotten one
 - Enoch – teaching
 - Irad – fugitive
 - Mehujael – abolish God
 - Methushael – man who is god
 - Lamech – despairing
 - Adah – adornment
 - Zillah – shade
 - Zabal – stream
 - Jubal – to bring forth (music)

- Tubal-Cain – to bring forth Cain (blacksmith)
- Naamah - pleasure

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- When things go wrong in the family, trust God for relief and renewal
- Eve just lost a son
- She trusted in God again – “God has appointed for me another offspring”
- It’s always sad when parents lose a child – sometimes before birth, sometimes as children, some time as our grown children – but instead of abandoning God, we look to God as being able to work out a sad situation for good

B. Worship Of God Is Central (4:26)

²⁶ *To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD.*

- This is the earliest reference to worshipping Yahweh
- The people called upon God’s name through reading, praying, proclaiming and calling on the names of God
- Here, the people are calling on the name of Yahweh
- Yahweh means “The Self Existent One”
 - Origin: some think it’s from the Hebrew verb *chavah* = “to live, life” or from *hayah/havah* = “to be” or “being”

Exodus 3:14 And God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ ”

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- Chapter 5 is a review of the family tree
- God's intent for creation is to have a relationship with us
- This relationship was missing with Cain's line, but is evident in Seth's line with Enoch

- The centrality of God is evidenced in the names
 - Adam – man is
 - Seth – appointed
 - Enosh – mortal
 - Kenan – sorrow
 - Mahalalel – the blessed God
 - Jared – shall come down
 - Enoch – teaching that
 - Methuselah – His death shall bring
 - Lamech – the despairing
 - Noah – comfort

- God pointed out the length of life and the age of having kids to the line of Seth
 - God highlights those who served Him
 - God did not regard the line of Cain with the same

- Note the longevity of life
 - The human body wasn't created to die
 - Death entered – but natural death took a long time without the effects
 - Adam – 930 years
 - Seth – 912
 - Enosh – 905
 - Cainan – 910
 - Mahalaleel – 895
 - Jared – 962
 - Methuselah – 969 (oldest)
 - Lamech – 777
 - I'm sure you couldn't collect Social Security until you were 650

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- Enoch didn't start walking with God until after Methuselah was born – he waited 300 years to get right with God, but fatherhood does something to you

D. **Salvation From Sin Is Desired (5:29)**

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- Cain and Seth both had Lamech's as their descendants – only one was noted to walk with God
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Conclusion: What legacy do you want to leave behind?

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- How much does culture affect our thinking on this?
- How does our parenting methods trend to either of these?
- Are we conscientiously seeking to honor the Lord by creating a legacy in Christ?