

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE CHURCH (IBC) LINZ

Flötzerweg 156 (Neue Heimat) 4030 Linz

...then you shall know the truth and the truth will set you free Jn.8:32

SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTLINE

28.02.16

Theme: Pre-meditated murder and its result

Memory verse: *James chapter one verse fourteen: But every man is tempted, When he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.*

Text: Genesis 4:6-9, Math. 5:21-24.

The rejection of Cain's offering produced anger rather than godly sorrow for sin. His countenance fell rather than himself falling upon his face in repentance. Yet, God in grace, allowed His mercy to run full course before judgement came. God's power is often manifested in a dual way: mercy and judgement. If one rejects His mercy, even without asking for it, then His judgement will follow. God pointed out to Cain that "he would be accepted if he did well". This was an encouragement that the rejection of his offering was not a total condemnation of his person. The story of Cain would have ended differently had he prayed like the Psalmist (Ps. 119:133).

By virtue of the act of redemption through faith in Jesus, believers and sinners can resist and overcome sin if they choose to. But Cain was hard and unrepentant. He went about in jealousy and conceived hatred, and the end of it all, was murder. No matter how cleverly sin is hidden, it will not go unpunished unless repented of.

By killing Abel, Cain became the first murderer, a symbol of man-made religion and organized persecution of the righteous. Abel became an example of those who suffer for the sake of righteousness. God took over the cause of slain Abel to let all those who suffer for righteousness know that He that judged righteously will be their Advocate. God asked Cain "where is your brother?" this was the second time God asked man the question "where". Not that it suggests ignorance on God's part but it was aimed at self exposure and admission of guilt. Cain went to a full length of rebellion against God when he asked "am I my brother's keeper?" Let this be a lesson to all of us that if we reject God's mercy, His judgement will follow.