

7. The greatest impediment to repentance is the "blame game"

Gen 3:12-13 Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate." ¹³And the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

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8. Sin always brings judgment

Gen 3:14-19 So the Lord God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; on your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life. ¹⁵ And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel." ¹⁶ To the woman He said: "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; in pain you shall bring forth children; your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

3

¹⁷ Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed is the ground for your sake; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. ¹⁸ Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. ¹⁹ In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return."

Heb 9:27 And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,

- The serpent is judged by being cursed to crawl on its stomach as the lowest of the animal kingdom.
- Satan is cursed by fighting God's plan throughout history, delivering a non-lethal wound to Jesus
- Jesus will deliver a lethal wound to Satan's head
- Eve is judged by greater pain in childbirth and greater submission to the man
- Adam is judged by greater labor and struggle for survival
- The ground is cursed by being less productive and by producing thorns and thistles

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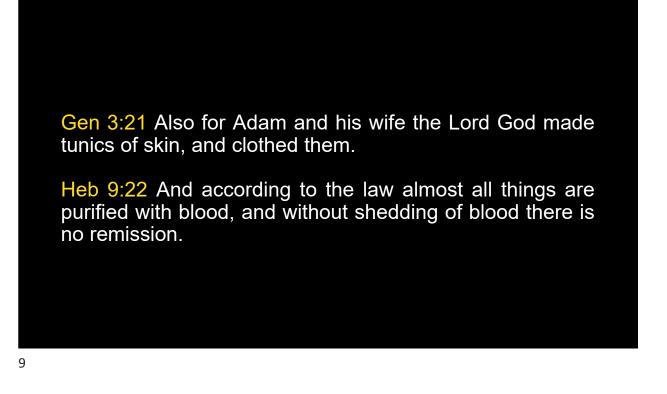
Rom 8:19-22 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; ²¹ because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.

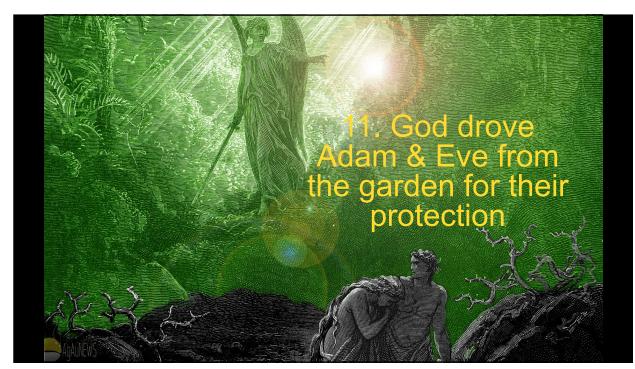
9. Eve and her female descendants are saved by childbearing

Gen 3:20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

1 Tim 2:15 Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.







Gen 3:22-24 Then the Lord God said, Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever ²³therefore the Lord God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.





13

"The difference between Cain & Abel, between the believer and the religious person, lies not in the person himself but in the object of his trust. The one provides for himself, the other accepts what God has provided." John Phillips



1. Is he the Messiah?

Gen 4:1 Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, "I have acquired a man from the Lord."

Adam & Eve believed God's promise to send a messiah so literally that they thought Cain, their first-born, was him.

15

2. Meet Mr. Vanity

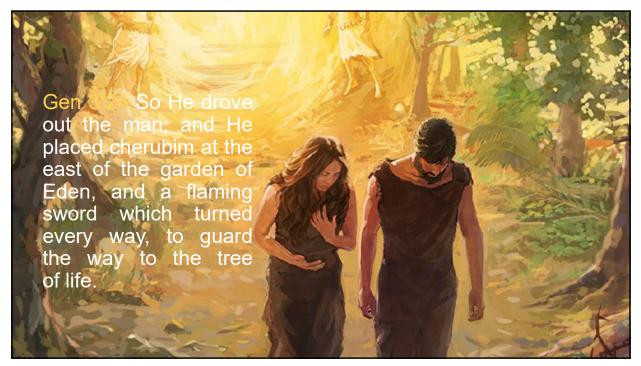
Gen 4:2 Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

When their second was born, they realized their presumption and named him Abel which means "vanity."

3. A blood sacrifice is required

Gen 4:3-5a And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord. ⁴ Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering, ⁵ but He did not respect Cain and his offering.

There seems to be a "place" where Adam & his descendants met with God to worship Him – probably the entrance to Eden where the guardian angel kept watch.



4. How did they know what sacrifice to offer God?

Adam & Eve taught their children how to worship

Rom 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Heb 11:4 By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.

19

5. There is only one way to God

Heb 9:22 And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

Jn 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Titus 3:5-6 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

6. Religion makes people mean

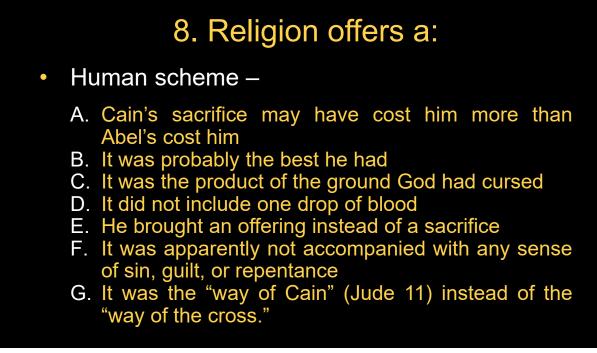
Gen 4:5b-8 And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. ⁶ So the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? ⁷ If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."



7. One of greatest hallmarks of religion: it persecutes and martyrs those who stand for God's truth.

Gen 4:8 Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.

- Cain's religion was too sophisticated to spill an animal's blood, but not too sophisticated to spill his brother's blood.
- Before Cain's religion was a day old, it had already produced history's first martyr.



• Human sacrifice –

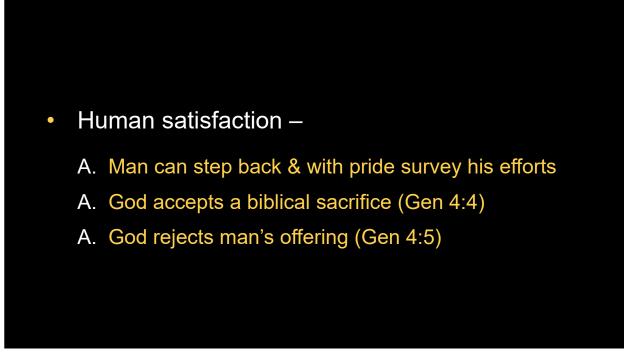
Ex 12:13 Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

1 Jn 1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

25

1 Pet 1:18-19 knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

Eph 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast.



27

9. God always gives opportunity for repentance

Gen 4:a Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?"

Gen 15:15-16 Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. ¹⁶ But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."

Rev 2:21 And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent.

10. False religion propagates a gigantic lie & at its heart is deception and fraud – all in God's name

Gen 4:9b-10 Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?" ¹⁰ And He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground.

29

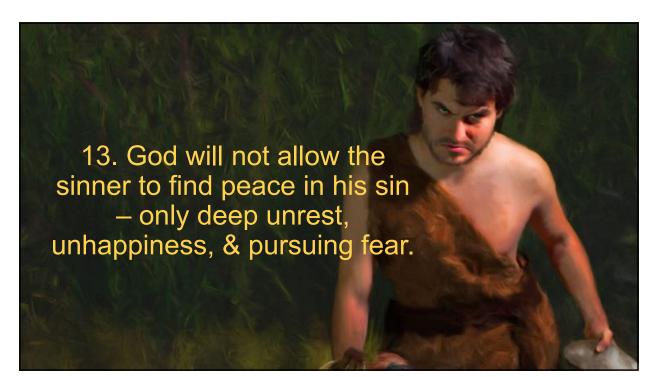
11. God will one day judge all religion

Gen 4:11-12 So now you are cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹² When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth."

- True faith makes men "pilgrims & strangers"
- Religion makes men "fugitives & vagabonds"

12. There was no remorse or repentance in Cain's heart, just resentment against his punishment.

Gen 4:13-15 And Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is greater than I can bear! ¹⁴ Surely You have driven me out this day from the face of the ground; I shall be hidden from Your face; I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth, and it will happen that anyone who finds me will kill me." ¹⁵ And the Lord said to him, "Therefore, whoever kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the Lord set a mark on Cain, lest anyone finding him should kill him.



"The founder of the world's first religion wandered the earth a vagabond and sank at last into a nameless grave at an unrecorded age." John Phillips

