

A cosmic background featuring a view of Earth from space, with the Moon in the upper center. The scene is filled with stars and the Milky Way galaxy, creating a deep blue and purple color palette.

THE BOOK OF
GENESIS

THE WORLD ACCORDING TO CAIN

GENESIS 4:16-26

The remaining portion of **GENESIS 4** gives a most intriguing picture of life in the pre-Flood world.

- This is almost the only information we have about the first human civilization, which was later completely destroyed by the great Flood of Noah.
- These verses are the world's first journey in the modern study of the peoples of the earth—ethnology.

HOW DID THE WORLD GET POPULATED?

Many questions abound:

- 1.** How was it possible for men to live hundreds of years before the Flood? Why do men die?
- 2.** Where did Cain get his wife?
- 3.** Is all humanity blood-related?
- 4.** Who were Cain's brothers and sisters?
- 5.** Were the Antediluvians incestuous?

CAIN'S WIFE

We are not told when Cain married, or any of the details of other pre-Flood marriages and children; but we can say for certain that Cain's wife was either his sister or a close relative.

- A closer look at the Hebrew word for “*wife*” in Genesis reveals something readers may miss in translation.
- *Ishshah* means “*woman, wife and simply female.*”

BROTHER PLUS SISTER = INCEST?

FACT: In order to get this process of population multiplication started, at least one of Adam's sons had to marry one of Adam's daughters.

- In the patriarchal generation, all marriages were brother-sister-cousin marriages.
- There were no abhorrent sexual relations at this time. Almost all sexual thought would have been for God's designed purpose: reproduction. This was God's plan.

THE FIRST CITY PEOPLE

By the time of the Flood—1,656 years after Creation—even using the most conservative assumptions, multiplication and no birth control, the world population could have been a billion people or more!

- “Enochville” would be the first of many cities on the earth.
- One generation after Adam, Man is urbanized.

IT'S ALL IN A NAME! v. 18-22

The names found in Genesis are important.

- Irad means *townsman*.
- Mehujael means *God gives life*.
- Methushael means *God's man*.
- Lamech means *conqueror*.
- Jabal—*wanderer*—invented the tent.
- Jubal—*sound*—had an ear for music.
- Tubal-Cain was the inventor of metallurgy.

THE SEEDS OF REBELLION

Civilization's attempt to thwart the effects of God's curse is illustrated by humanity under Cain's leadership.

- 1. *Urban life*** was preferred by some.
- 2. *Nomadic life*** was preferred by some others.
- 3. *Cattle raising*** was inaugurated.
- 4. *Metal working*** and tools were developed.
- 5. *Musical instruments*** were invented.

6. ***Polygamy*** was introduced instead of adhering to the monogamous form of marriage.
7. ***Metallic weapons*** were invented, giving those who possessed them and were skilled in their use a great advantage over other men.
8. ***Poetic boasting***, seen here in Lamech's song characteristic of human poetry and writing, asserted man's self-sufficiency and independence of God.

***THE GODLY LINE OF SETH* v. 25-26**

There is a marked change of emphasis in the record of the descendants of Adam through *Seth*.

- No more do we read of human accomplishments and boasting, but, rather, of men “calling upon the name of the Lord.”
- In the days of **Enos**, meaning “mortal frailty,” an implicit testimony to Seth’s awareness of man’s deep spiritual need: seekers of Yahweh!
- Two lines . . . two seeds . . . godly and ungodly.