



WITH MALICE AFORETHOUGHT

Introduction:

I. THE FIRST BABIES (vs. 1-2)

A. Adam's Relations (vs. 1a)

"the man had relations with his wife Eve"

"she conceived and gave birth to Cain" (c.f. Genesis 5:1, 3)

B. Eve's Expectations (vs. 1b)

"I have gotten a manchild with the help of the LORD"

C. The Boys' Vocations (vs. 2)

Abel:

Cain:

II. THE FIRST BLOODSHED (vs. 3-8)

A. The Sacrifices (vs. 3-4a)

"it came about in the course of time"

"Cain brought an offering to the Lord of the fruit of the ground. Abel, on his part also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions."

I John 3:12
Hebrews 11:4
Jude 11
Matthew 23:35

B. The Showdown (vs. 4b-7)

"the LORD had regard for Abel and for his offering"

"but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard"

“so Cain became very angry and his countenance fell”

“the Lord said to Cain, ‘If you do well...and if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door...’ ”

“...its desire is for you, but you must master it”

C. The Sin (vs. 8)

“Cain told Abel...”

“Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him”

III. THE RESULTING BANISHMENT (vs. 9-16)

A. The Ensuing Estrangement (vs. 9-12)

LORD: “Where is Abel your brother?” Cain: “I do not know. Am I my brother’s keeper?”

“What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to Me from the ground.”

“you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood”

“when you cultivate the ground, it will no longer yield its strength to you”

B. The Fearful Future (vs. 13-14)

“My punishment is too great to bear!”

“You have driven me this day from the face of the ground; and from Your face I will be hidden, and I will be a vagrant and a wanderer on the earth...”

“whoever finds me will kill me”

C. The Destitute Drifter (vs. 15-16)

“whoever kills Cain, vengeance will be taken on him sevenfold”

“the Lord appointed a sign for Cain, so that no one finding him would slay him”

“Cain went out from the presence of the Lord”

“and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden”

Conclusion:

- 1) Sin comes from within.
- 2) Sin needs to be checked.
- 3) Unchecked sin leads to outward devastation.