

Genesis 4:16-26

16. Then Cain went out from the presence of the Lord, and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden. **17.** and Cain had relations with his wife and she conceived, and gave birth to Enoch: and he built a city, and called the name of the city Enoch, after the name of his son. **18.** Now to Enoch was born Irad; and Irad became the father of Mehujael; Mehujael became the father of Methushael; and Methushael became the father of Lamech. **19** And Lamech took to himself two wives: the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other, Zillah. **20.** And Adah gave birth to Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. **21.** And his brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe. **23.** And Lamech said to his wives, "Adah and Zillah, listen to my voice, you wives of Lamech, give heed to my speech, for I have killed a man for wounding me; and a boy for striking me; **24.** If Cain is avenged sevenfold, then Lamech seventy-sevenfold.

First of all, the land of Nod means 'wandering.' Some scholars believe that Cain remained a wanderer at heart; even though he tried to settle down. Personally, I believe that Cain lived the rest of his life, as if something was right behind him. The only thing I can equate this to; might be a criminal who is on the run. He can never rest, and he is always looking over his shoulder. As we read down these verses we learn of Cain's descendants. It is very interesting to learn the meaning of the names of Cain's descendants, as they all relate to natural beauty and of pride and self-exaltation. Before we go on, I want you to make a mark on your bible between verses 24 and 25, because it is here where we last hear of Cain's descendants.

Verse **25.** **And Adam had relations with his wife again; and she gave birth to a son, and named him Seth, for, she said, "God has appointed me another offspring in place of Abel; for Cain killed him."** **26.** **And to Seth, to him also a son was born; and he called his name Enosh. Then men began to call upon the name of the Lord.** To start with, the name Seth means "set in place of." Adam and Eve recognized that God had given them another son in place of Abel; but look what Seth names his son, Enosh. Enosh means "frail one" or "mortal." Seth knew very well the weaknesses of mortal men, and as such named his own son accordingly. Conversely Lamech was full of pride and arrogance, and boasted of nothing but himself. From the very beginning, we see that mankind has chosen one of two very distinct paths. One being self-exaltation or the birth of humanism, and the other being a total and complete dependence on God. In closing, I want to touch lightly on the last sentence here in **Genesis 4**, "**Then men began to call upon the name of the Lord.**" When I was a young Christian man, the Lord's presence in my life was often overwhelming. It was very personal and intimate. Then one day I recognized that the intimacy which I had enjoyed so easily, was gone. I prayed, fasted, read the Word constantly, but nothing seemed to change that missing piece of my relationship with the Lord. I believe that God did the very same thing here with Seth and his descendants. The Lord went from pursuing, to being pursued! I believe that this is a very natural part of maturing with the Lord. Even King David shares of this longing in, Psalms **42:1** "**As the deer pants for the water brooks, so my soul pants for Thee, O God.**" What we see here is a very clear picture of dependence. God designed for man to be satisfied only after he was in a proper relationship with Jesus Christ. So I ask you today friend, is Jesus Christ your Lord and Savior? Are you like Cain still wandering and separate from God? Or, have you come to that place by the brook where your soul is satisfied?