PROGRAM 105
ENMITY BETWEEN THE SEEDS
The Mark of Cain (Part 1)

A. Setting the Stage

1. We are living in the days preceding the coming of Messiah which He likened to days of Noah.

“But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.” – Matthew 24:37-39 (NKJV)

2. We have been discussing the fact that these days are characterized by mixing and mingling.
3. Today, many people who call themselves believers are:
   • Eating poisonous seed (words – good and evil)
   • Drinking abominable things (woman of Revelation 17 has cup full of abominations)
   • Yoking (marrying) themselves to and enticing others (giving in marriage) to join with unholy things.
4. This mingling is generating great wickedness that is corrupting the earth.
5. Eventually, it will bring God’s fiery judgment.
6. Interestingly, Y’shua also likened His coming to the days of Lot.

“Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: they ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built. But on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.”
– Luke 17:28-30 (NKJV)

7. Not only does this reveal that we are just before the return of the Messiah, but also indicates the stage is being set for the rise of the Beast who goes to perdition.
8. He will establish a kingdom that Daniel described as partly strong and partly weak.
9. It is a kingdom that seeks to isolate and then destroy God’s people.
10. It is described as being a foot with ten toes – but it also has a heel.
   a. The heel on the head.
11. Daniel points out it will seek to “mingle with the seed of men (anasha or enosh.)
REFERENCE: Daniel 2:43

12. Thus we see the link between what happens at the end with what happened at beginning.
13. Spiritual climate that preceded the flood will again dominate the earth before Messianic era.
14. Ironically, the nature of this kingdom is needed to trigger the end of this age and beginning of next.
15. Important to, once again, emphasize the Babylonian nature of this kingdom because:
• It defines the characteristics of the Anti-Messiah.
• It also alludes to the region where these things will develop and culminate.
16. We may not be able to determine how and when Babylon will arise but it will do so.
17. Global circumstances, specifically in the Middle East, coupled with its people and behavior suggest that this may already be occurring.
18. Another important clue is given to us by Daniel in describing this last kingdom.
19. Four times he mentions that it is mixed or mingled – in the text m’arav בלאב or we would pronounce arab.

B. Son of the Devil

1. We are not saying that all Arab people are wicked or bad.
2. To the contrary, the Bible teaches that regardless of someone’s background, coming to faith in Y’shua makes them “good seed” also known as Israel.
3. However, there is no way around this fact – arav is a derogatory term in Scripture because it means “mixed.”
4. It should be noted that anyone, regardless of their cultural background or ethnicity could be considered arav or of the other seed if the Good Seed is not in them.

“I know that you are Abraham's descendants, but you seek to kill me, because my word has no place in you. . . . You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.” – John 8:37, 44 (NKJV)

6. It is very clear that not even those supposed to be of God are necessarily so.
7. Even those who have the outward appearance of holiness may be seed of the serpent.
8. Because whose you are (Creator or Adversary) is not based on ethnicity or culture or religion.
9. It is based on whether you have been born again of the incorruptible seed Y’shua the Messiah.
   a. Even some “Christians” would qualify as being seed of the serpent.
10. Still, the Adversary has used individual people or people groups to strike at Israel.
11. I believe the Bible clues us in as where to look for the Beast.
12. He will arise from among the nations, particularly from among the mixed and mingled.

C. A Recap of Principles

1. Before we get into those specifics, let us recap some important points.
2. Must understand that there is one Good Seed and what that encompasses.
   • The Word of God, the Torah.
   • The Word made flesh – Messiah Y’shua
   • The sons of the Kingdom – wheat, body of Messiah also known as Israel.
3. Equally important to remember that there is one other seed opposed to Good Seed.
4. This is the seed of the serpent – and is a counterpart to the Good Seed.
   • The word of the serpent – mixture of truth and falsehood.
• A personification of his mixed word – the Anti-Messiah.
• Sons of the wicked one – tares, the serpent’s “body” alluded to as an image in Dan. 2.
5. If there is only one Good Seed, only one Word of God, then any other “holy book” can’t be.
6. If there is only one Truth and that is the Word of God, then any other “sacred text” is a lie.
REFERENCE: Psalm 119:142, 160

7. If there is only one Good Seed, only one Word of God, then any other “holy book” must be considered \textit{zunim} or tares sown in the midst of wheat.
8. Tares are the degenerate wheat which contains poison – good and evil.
   a. This is fathered by the Serpent, the Devil.
9. Those who embrace this seed will eventually “mature,” rise up and strike at the righteous seed.
10. These two opposing forces cannot co-exist because they produce different fruit.
11. Consequently, hostility will always exist between them.
12. The Serpent’s seed will continually try to destroy the Good Seed.
   • Pharaoh
   • Esau
   • Herod the Great
   • Nebuchadnezzar
13. This hostility began to take shape in the very beginning just after the serpent had been cursed by God.
REFERENCE: Genesis 3:14-15

14. We see this enmity began to take shape with the birth of Cain and his brother Abel.
D. The Curse of Cain

1. We have covered many topics in this series.
2. There are a few things that we have intentionally left unmentioned until now.
3. We want to begin to develop those points now.
4. Notice that the serpent is the first beast cursed by God.

“Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made.” – Genesis 3:1 (NKJV)

“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’”

– Genesis 3:14 (NKJV)

5. Previously, I suggested that any fruit growing from the cursed ground would itself be cursed.
REFERENCE: Genesis 3:17

6. The ground was cursed and Cain brought an offering of fruit of the ground.
REFERENCE: Genesis 4:3

7. If serpent is cursed, then it seems logical anything proceeding from serpent is cursed as well.
8. In other words, the seed of the serpent is cursed.
9. The seed of the serpent is not to mean physical seed but those who ingest his word or his seed.
10. It is interesting then that Cain is the first PERSON cursed by God.

“And He said, ‘What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. So now you are cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. 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.”

– Genesis 4:10-12 (NKJV)

11. Cain was cursed because he had, in effect, cursed what God had blessed.
12. Provoked by jealousy, Cain killed him even after God tried to get him to do right.
REFERENCE: Genesis 4:6-7

13. Important to remember what God told Abraham:

“I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” – Genesis 12:3 (NKJV)
14. Abel’s murder was long before this, but the seed of Abraham is not determined by blood but by faith.
15. Abel was doing the works of Abraham even before Abraham was born.
16. It was faith that provoked Abel to acknowledge the need for a redeemer in that he also offered the firstborn of his flock and of their fat.
   REFERENCE: Genesis 4:4

17. Because he offered this by faith and because God accepted it, he was blessed of God.
18. Thus, Cain killed Abel because he was jealous of his blessing.
19. As a result Cain was cursed which is sensible since he was “of the wicked one.”
   REFERENCE: 1 John 3:12

E. The Specifics of the Curse

1. I believe the specifics will teach us characteristics of the serpent’s seed.
2. What Cain initiates and the traits he exhibits will be markers for the serpent’s seed throughout history.
3. I believe that God placed a mark upon Cain speaks to this point.

“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.” – Genesis 4:15 (NKJV)

4. Many writers consider this to be a physical mark. Here are a few opinions.
   - Talmud considers it to be a tav ה, which in antiquity was form of cross or X.
   - Others consider it to be a horn.
   - Others still think it was a physical malady.
5. Whatever it was, it let others know what Cain had done.
6. Some have supposed that it was an act of mercy so that no one would kill him.
7. Consider that He didn’t want anyone to kill him because He wanted Cain to manifest the traits of the serpent’s seed.
8. Maybe the mark was so that those living in the end of days would pay attention to Cain and his seed.
9. Doing so might help us to identify where and what to look for as it relates to serpent’s seed.
10. Remember, God reveals the end from the beginning.
   REFERENCE: Isaiah 46:8-10

11. These sequence of events began in Genesis 4:3 which says:

“And in the process of time it came to pass . . .” – Genesis 4:3 (NKJV)

12. The Hebrew phrase is וַיְהִי מִקְצֵי יָמִים which is:

“And it came to pass in the end of days.”

13. The Hebrew word translated “mark” is ote אָתָה and is defined by Strong’s as:
“a signal, a beacon, monument, evidence, a sign.”

14. Brown-Driver-Briggs adds that it is also “remembrance, a warning.”
15. Perhaps, Cain is marked for our benefit, not his.
16. It is as if God is speaking from the beginning and saying, “Pay close attention to this story.”
17. The seed of the serpent in the last days will bear the mark of Cain.
18. It is important to consider that many times, these things are hidden within the text.
19. Furthermore, they are to be understood when it is time for them to be revealed.
20. The story of Cain, his curse and subsequent events have more to reveal that once supposed.
21. In fact, Cain makes a very intriguing statement after hearing his fate.

“I shall be hidden from your face.” – Genesis 4:14 (NKJV)
F. Something Hidden in Cain’s Statement

1. We are talking about what the curse given to Cain has to reveal.
2. Furthermore, discussing what Cain’s character traits reveals about the serpent’s seed.
3. Here is what God said to Cain after confronting him upon Abel’s death.

“So now you are cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. 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.” – Genesis 4:11-12 (NKJV)

4. Here are the particulars:
   - You are cursed.
   - You will no longer be able to grow anything from the ground.
   - You will be a fugitive for the rest of your life.
   - You will forever be a wanderer.

“And Cain said to the LORD, ‘My punishment is greater than I can bear! 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.’” – Genesis 4:13-14 (NKJV)

6. Here are Cain’s points.
   - This is more than I can take.
   - You’re detaching me from my connection to the ground.
   - I will be hidden from you.
   - I will be a fugitive.
   - I will be a wanderer.
   - I’m afraid if someone finds me they’ll kill me.
7. There are some interesting things to point out here.
   - God pronounced a curse and Cain replied, “Is my crime so big that I can’t be restored?”
   - God said, “The ground won’t produce for you”; Cain says, “You’re driving me away.”
   - God said, “You’ll be a fugitive”; Cain acknowledges this.
   - God said, “You’ll be a wanderer; again Cain acknowledges this.
8. Notice, however, nowhere does God say, “You’ll be hidden from my face” or “I will hide my face from you.”
9. Yet, Cain says, “I shall be hidden from your face.”
10. There are a couple of ways to look at this “I shall be hidden” statement.
11. Some interpret it as “You will hide your countenance from me.”
12. Perhaps something else is being hinted at here that is a bit more sinister.
13. In earlier programs we mentioned that Scripture can be understood on multiple levels.
14. Rabbinical interpretation says there are four levels of interpretation.
   - Peshat – literal.
   - Remez – allusion or hint.
   - D’rush – homiletical.
   - Sod – hidden, concealed.
15. In other words, maybe there are some literal things being stated but perhaps something is hidden within the statement.

G. **Cain Decides to Hide**

1. The word translated as “hidden” is esater אסתר; the root is satar_seatar meaning “to conceal.”
2. Interestingly, this is the exact spelling as Esther אסתר – who was Hadassah concealed.
3. Literally, esater אסתר is “I will conceal”; thus phrase says “from your face, I will conceal.”
4. The implications are: a fugitive flees his pursuer and hides in the shadows to wait the pursuer.
5. When the pursuer comes into view, the fugitive leaps from the shadows to strike at his victim.
6. This is exactly how a serpent stalks its prey; in the open the serpent is vulnerable.
7. That this Hebrew phrase is written in the imperfect tense hints that the hiding is ongoing.
8. Implying that the hunt continues – Cain is still trying to hide.
9. Perhaps this is part of the reason God placed a mark on Cain.
10. Perhaps this is, in part, why Cain says that only those who can find him can kill him.
11. In other words, I suggest Cain is telling God:

   “I am going to hide from you and anyone else who would try to kill me.”

12. Also consider this: At no time does Cain say, “I’m sorry. Forgive me!”
13. I do not believe Cain to be a wayward adolescent who lost his head and then felt remorse.
14. He is a rebel. Here is what the Scripture says of him.

   “For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous.” – 1 John 3:11-12 (NKJV)

   “Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.”
   – Jude 1:11 (NKJV)

15. If he is “of the wicked one” and is linked to the likes of Balaam and Korah, can we determine him to be remorseful?
16. Did God mark him because he was a repentant man? NO!
17. Consider that he was sentenced to wander and be a vagabond.
18. Yet, the vagabond built a city – permanent dwelling.
“Then Cain went out from the presence of the LORD and dwelt in the land of Nod on the east of Eden. And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. And he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son—Enoch.” – Genesis 4:16-17 (NKJV)

19. Why does a wanderer build a city in the land of Nod - wanderings?
20. Because being like Balaam and Korah he is a rebel thumbing his nose at God.
21. Like Nimrod, after him, he attempts to resist what the Creator has determined.
22. Cain and, as we will see, his descendants have something relevant to reveal to us in this day.
23. Perhaps it has been revealed for many centuries.
24. Y’shua said that anything hidden will be revealed in its time.
REFERENCE: Mark 4:22

25. If Cain does have something crucial to reveal, the Holy Spirit will reveal it to us.
26. What Cain and the serpent have attempted to hide will be revealed.
27. We have to look for the mark!
H. The First Anti-Christ?

1. Many programs ago, we noted that Cain ignored the need for a redeemer by refusing to respond to God’s admonishment.
REFERENCE: Genesis 4:6-7

2. Instead, he calls Abel – the one who acknowledged the blood of the lamb - into the field where he slaughters him.
3. In effect, Cain rejected the blood of the lamb.
4. Consequently, Cain is the first to embody the spirit of Antichrist.
5. His failure to heed God’s word turned him into a liar, a murderer and a cursed nomad.
6. In fact, he was the first liar on record; God asked him the whereabouts of his brother, he lied.
REFERENCE: Genesis 4:9

7. Was the first recorded murderer and the first recorded robber in that he took his brother’s life.
8. Moreover, he robbed his brother’s seed from the earth.
9. In short, Cain emulated all of his “father’s” attributes – the serpent.
10. Scripture tells us that Satan is a liar, a murderer and a robber.

“You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.” – John 8:44 (NKJV)

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.” – John 10:1 (NKJV)

11. Like his “father,” Cain was cursed by God.
12. One of the consequences was no longer could he get the ground to produce anything for him.
13. The earth, having received the blood of Abel, rejected Cain’s efforts at producing its fruits.
14. His mark identified him as a murderer, liar, robber, a wanderer and a rebel.
15. Perhaps this is why God did not want him to be immediately struck down.
16. Otherwise our generation would not be able to discern the outcome of rebellion discern fruit of the wicked seed.
17. When Cain built his city, he laid the foundation for the rebellious kingdoms of the world.
   • Nimrod’s Babel
   • Nebuchadnezzar’s Babylon
18. The spirit of the beast took up residence.

I. Cain’s Spiritual Impact
1. Notice what other writers have to say about Cain.

“And when Cain had traveled over many countries, he, with his wife, built a
city, named Nod, which is a place so called, and there he settled his abode;
where also he had children. However, he did not accept of his punishment
in order to amendment, but to increase his wickedness; for he only aimed
to procure everything that was for his own bodily pleasure, though it
obliged him to be injurious to his neighbors. He augmented his household
substance with much wealth, by rapine and violence; he excited his
acquaintance to procure pleasures and spoils by robbery, and became a
great leader of men into wicked courses. He also introduced a change in
that way of simplicity wherein men lived before; and was the author of
measures and weights. And whereas they lived innocently and generously
while they knew nothing of such arts, he changed the world into cunning
craftiness. He first of all set boundaries about lands: he built a city, and
fortified it with walls, and he compelled his family to come together to it;
and called that city Enoch, after the name of his eldest son Enoch.”

– Antiquities of the Jews, Book 1, Chapter 2, Sect. II, Flavius Josephus

“Thus the original rebel against God was Cain. . . . He was, therefore, the
original “Beast” who thought to change times and laws.”

– The Mark of Cain, William Dankenbring

2. Cain’s perverse and violent nature as well as his disdain for the righteous filtered down.

“While Adam was alive, it came to pass that the posterity of Cain became
exceeding wicked, every one successively dying, one after another, more
wicked than the former. They were intolerable in war and vehement in
robberies; and if anyone were slow to murder people, yet was he bold in his
profligate behavior, in acting unjustly, and doing injuries for gain.”

– Antiquities of the Jews, Book 1, Chapter 2, Sect. II, Flavius Josephus

3. Author Alfred Edersheim adds that:

“It is very remarkable that we perceive in the Cainite race those very things
which afterwards formed the characteristics of heathenism, as we find it
among the most advanced nations of antiquity, such as Greece and Rome.”

– Old Testament History, p. 31

4. Some writings credit Cain and his seed with being the originators of pagan worship,
specifically mother-son worship.
5. They identify Cain as the original “sun god” and his wife as the first “queen of heaven.”
6. Scripture documents that one of his grandsons, Lamech (not Noah’s father), was the first
polygamist on record.

REFERENCE: Genesis 4:19
7. It seems Cain’s seed introduced this into the world in opposition to God’s ideal of one man and one woman becoming one flesh.
8. By his second wife, Lamech sired a son named Tubal-Cain, a namesake of infamous ancestor.
10. Thus, Tubal-Cain means to “issue forth from Cain.” - He is Cain’s seed personified.
11. Tubal (Tuval) from tevel which suggest incestuous mixture of relatives or species.
12. Another interesting point about this man is his vocation – he was the world’s first smith.

“And as for Zillah, she also bore Tubal-Cain, an instructor of every craftsman in bronze and iron.” – Genesis 4:22 (NKJV)

13. The question is, what was he making? His family no longer farmed.
14. What would cursed people do with tools they couldn’t use?
15. It was something the world had not seen before.
16. Tradition says he was the inventor or bronze and iron weapons.
17. The question then becomes, what was the purpose of those weapons?
   a. To strike at the righteous seed?
18. The word for bronze is n’choshet coming from the root nachash or serpent.
19. Tubal-Cain was manufacturing the serpent’s weapons – world’s first WMDs.