

GENESIS 4:1-26

What will life be like in this unknown world outside the Garden?

Will God be there?

Will he even care about what goes on?

What will the next generation of people be like?

When is this 'serpent-crusher' going to turn up? (Genesis 3:15)

What about God's plans for us to flourish? (Genesis 1:26-28 & 2:24)

GENESIS 4:1-16—CAIN THE MURDERER

IN OUR FALLENNESS WE'RE STILL FLOURISHING

- Humanity flourishes optimistically through fallen Eve (4:1-2,4)
- Cain's beastly fallenness:
 - o his faithless religion and hatred of God (4:3,5)
 - o the beast of sin alive within him (4:6-7)
 - o his beastly murder of his brother (4:8)
 - o his lying and spitting in God's face (4:9)
 - o God hears the cry of Abel's blood and cares deeply (4:10)
 - o Impenitent Cain objects to God's just curse (4:11-14)
- And yet, God protects Cain and permits him to flourish (4:15)
- So Cain goes east, wandering away from God (4:16)

GENESIS 4:17-24—LAMECH THE (EVEN WORSE) MURDERER

...BUT IN OUR FLOURISHING WE'RE FURTHER FALLING

- Humanity flourishes dubiously through Cain (4:17-18)
- Humanity flourishes in agriculture, the arts, and technology (4:19-22)
- Lamech's (even worse) beastly fallenness:
 - o his perversion of marriage (4:19)
 - o his extreme murder of a boy (4:23)
 - o his boast of his excessive violence (4:24)
 - o his civilised song about his beastly acts (4:23-24)

GENESIS 4:25-26—SETH THE SECOND ABEL

...BUT THERE'S A GLIMMER OF HOPE

- Another Abel given to Eve (4:25)
- A tiny sign of humanity and spiritual life (4:26)