

## Who is my Brother?

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Genesis 4 vs. 1-9

Hebrews 11 vs. 1-4

Text: Genesis 4 vs 9: The Lord asked Cain,

"Where is your brother Abel?" He answered:

"I don't know. Am I supposed to take care  
of my brother?"

This is a very interesting story. It is also a  
deeply disturbing story. It is the story of the  
first murder which was committed on earth -  
and what makes it more serious is that it  
was a murder of one brother to his own brother.

Cain & Abel. h

This story raises a number of important  
questions:

① Why did it happen? Was it necessary?

② Why did God reject the offer of Cain?

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And how did Cain know that God  
has rejected his offer?

③ Why did God accept the offer of Abel?

Was it because Abel brought a bigger offering than Cain?

In order to find the answers to these  
questions we have to look at Heb. 11:1-4

b. 3+4

In the same way as God has asked the questions to Cain. He is asking us 2 questions. 2

1) Who is your brother / sister?

| - The answer that God gives through Jesus,  
His Son :

2) Where is your brother / sister?

Why is God asking this question  
of Cain? Because He loves Cain,  
because He wants to protect him  
from destroying himself

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Let us now look at the answers which

Cain gave. Cain says, "I don't know"

① "Am I supposed to take care of my brother?"

What strikes me at once about these answers:

① Cain is lying in order to hide the truth. And once to begin to lie you are forced to continue to lie except if you confess the truth (2nd answer)

Cain said it out of duty & not out of love

② Cain reveals his selfishness, his lack of love, his indifference for his neighbour. "Am I supposed to take care of my brother?" In a certain sense it is correct: I can't take care of all the needs of my brother/sister. Surely he or she must also carry down responsibility! On the other hand is it not one of the major problems of our modern life: We do not really care about the needs of our neighbour?

Many ways in which you can hate your brother :

- telling lies about him
- cross o
- passing AIDS on to your neighbour
- supporting corruption in order to enrich yourself.
- being in pride, selfishness
- not caring about deaths in Lebanon, black tombs, white faces (± 450 killed in last