

IN OUR LAST STUDY WE WERE REMINDED THAT A TRUE CHILD OF GOD PRACTICES RIGHTEOUSNESS AND NOW WE WILL LOOK AT OUR LOVE FOR THE BRETHREN

WE ALREADY LEARNED ABOUT OUR LOVE FOR THE BRETHREN IN 1JOHN 2:7-11 AS CHRISTIANS WE ARE TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER BECAUSE WE HAVE BEEN BORN OF GOD WE ARE BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST

JOHN CONTINUES TO COME BACK TO THE SAME THREE TOPICS LOVE OBEDIENCE AND TRUTH OBEDIENCE AND LOVE ARE BOTH EVIDENCES OF SONSHIP AND BROTHERHOOD

IN THE EARLIER VERSES WE WERE TOLD THAT OUR LOVE FOR THE BRETHREN IS A MATTER OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS IN THIS SECTION WE ARE TOLD THAT IT IS A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH V14

JOHN BEGINS THIS SECTION WITH LEVELS OF RELATIONSHIP IN WHICH PEOPLE LIVE HE DEALS FIRST WITH MURDER AND HATRED WHICH ARE NOT CHRISTIAN AT ALL

MURDER IS THE LOWEST LEVEL IN WHICH SOMEONE MIGHT LIVE IN RELATIONSHIP TO SOMEONE ELSE IT IS THE LEVEL ON WHICH SATAN EXIST JOHN 8:44 HE WAS A MURDERER FROM THE BEGINNING

V12 CAIN IS AN EXAMPLE OF A LIFE OF HATRED WE FIND THE RECORD IN GENESIS 4:1-16 CAIN AND ABEL HAD THE SAME PARENTS THEY WERE BROTHERS THEY BOTH ARE PRESENTED AS WORSHIPERS THEY BOTH BRING OFFERINGS TO GOD

CAIN DID ALL THAT BUT HE HATED HIS BROTHER HIS SPIRITUAL FATHER WAS SATAN HIS ATTITUDES AND HIS ACTIONS ORIGINATED WITH SATAN CAIN WAS A MURDERER AND A LIAR JUST LIKE SATAN GEN 4:9 CAIN MURDERED HIS BROTHER AND THEN HE LIED ABOUT IT

IN CONTRAST GOD IS LOVE AND TRUTH AND THOSE WHO BELONG TO HIM PRACTICE LOVE AND TRUTH

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CAIN'S OFFERING AND ABEL'S OFFERING WAS FAITH HEB 11:4 AND FAITH IS ALWAYS BASED ON A REVELATION GOD HAS GIVEN ROM 10:17 IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT GOD MUST HAVE GIVEN DEFINITE INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW HE WAS TO BE WORSHIPED

GENESIS 4:4-7 WE ARE TOLD THE RESULTS ABEL WENT AWAY FROM THE ALTAR WITH GOD'S WITNESS OF ACCEPTANCE IN HIS HEART BUT CAIN WENT AWAY ANGRY AND DISAPPOINTED V7 GOD WARNED CAIN THAT SIN WAS CROUCHING AT THE DOOR BUT IF HE OBEYED GOD HE LIKE ABEL WOULD ENJOY PEACE

CAIN DID NOT REPENT HE LISTENED TO THE VOICE OF SATAN RATHER THAN GOD AND KILLED HIS BROTHER HE KNEW HIS BROTHER WAS RIGHTEOUS AND HE WAS NOT

CENTURIES LATER THE PHARISEES DID THE SAME THING TO JESUS MARK 15:9-10 THEIR ENVY LED TO HATRED AND THEIR HATRED LED TO MURDER DO NOT BE DECEIVED THE PRESENT WORLD SYSTEM HATES CHRIST 1JOHN 3:13 AND HIS CHILDREN LIGHT EXPOSES DARKNESS AND DARKNESS HATES THE LIGHT JOHN 3:19-21

SATAN IS THE RULER OF THIS WORLD'S SYSTEMS AND HE CONTROLS IT THROUGH MURDER AND LIES

WHEN THE WORLD LIKE CAIN COMES FACE TO FACE WITH REALITY AND TRUTH IT CAN MAKE ONE OF TWO DECISIONS REPENT AND CHANGE OR DESTROY THE ONE WHO IS EXPOSING IT

JOHN 15:18-25 JESUS WARNED HIS DISCIPLES IF THE WORLD HATES YOU KNOW THAT IT HATED ME BEFORE IT HATED YOU THE WORLD DOES NOT KNOW OUR FATHER

2COR 4:4 THE GOD OF THIS WORLD HAS BLINDED THE MINDS OF THE UNBELIEVING SO THAT THEY MIGHT NOT SEE THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL OF THE GLORY OF CHRIST WHO IS THE IMAGE OF GOD