

# Make Church a Part of Your Life

## WEEKLY SERMONETTE

### “The Way of Cain”

From Preacher/Teacher Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Ministries

by Henry Morris, Ph.D.  
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“Whoso boasteth himself of a false gift is like clouds and wind without rain.” (Proverbs 25:14)

Cain initially was a religious man, evidently proud of his achievements as a “tiller of the ground” which God had “cursed.” (Genesis 4:2; 3:17) He assumed that God would be much impressed with the beautiful basket of his “fruit of the ground” which he presented as an “offering unto the Lord.” Cain became bitterly angry when God “had not respect” to Cain and his offering (Genesis 4:3-5).

“By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain,” shedding the blood of an innocent lamb in substitution for his own sin and guilt before God, “by which he obtained witness that he was righteous” (Hebrews 11:4). Since “faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17), Abel was merely obeying God’s Word, but Cain, proud and self-righteous in attitude, was pre-

suming to offer up his own merits in payment for the privilege of coming to God.

This was a “false gift,” however, with no meritorious value at all before God, “like clouds and wind without rain.” The apostle Jude warns against any such presumption, especially now that we can

freely come to God through His own perfect “Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). “Woe unto them!” says Jude, “for they have gone in the way of Cain . . . clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit,

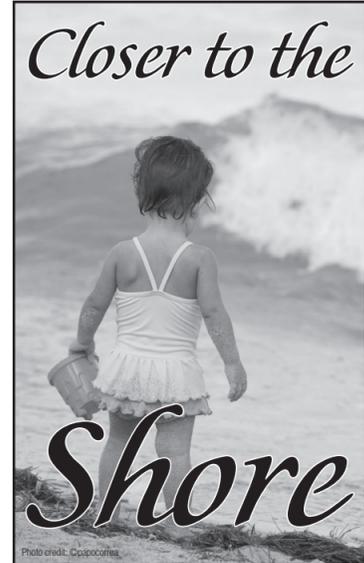
twice dead, plucked up by the roots” (Jude 11-12). This severe indictment was lodged against all who, like Cain, are superficially religious, but who, by their self-righteous resentment against God, are “turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ” (Jude 4). We must not boast of our gifts to God, but only of His gift to us. HMM

The only “work” that has value to God is our receiving the gift of forgiveness offered to us through Christ’s death on the cross in our place. Once we are saved, God has prepared works for us to do. (Ephesians 2:10) Asking Him to show us our specific “works” and doing them will be pleasing to Him.

At CrossRoads Church, we believe in the absolute truth of a literal, historical creation as spelled out in the Biblical book of Genesis because we believe God above any man!

If any of you have a specific question about creation or God’s Word, feel free to contact us; we would be honored, with the Lord’s help, to answer and help you. Romans 3:4 declares,

“Let God be true, and every man a liar.”



*Wading into the waves, the surf envelopes us with its foamy coolness; it can also endanger us with its powerful undertow if we venture out too far. It’s easy to wander from the safety of the shore. In the same way, we may lose sight of God as we become*

*preoccupied with life. Before we know it, life can wear us down and leave us feeling separated from God. But He is always with us, waiting for us to seek Him. Stay close to the protection of God’s love at your house of worship.*

**Weekly Scripture Reading**

Genesis 45.1-28	Genesis 46.1-27	Genesis 46.28-47.26	Genesis 47.27-48.22	Genesis 49.29-50.26	Exodus 33.1-23	Exodus 34.1-35
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Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society  
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