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GENESIS 3:14-15

The downward spiral for following one's own evil desires is explained in the letter by James:

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When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

James 1:13-16

"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 slew his brother. And why did he slay him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous."

1 John 3:11-12

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Due to pride and jealousy, Cain ended up murdering his brother by first harboring hatred in his heart.

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Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is your brother Abel?” “I don’t know,” he replied.  
“Am I my brother’s keeper?”

Genesis 4:9

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Not only did Cain lie to the LORD about his sin of murder; he then replies sarcastically by saying, Am I my brother's keeper?

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The LORD said, “What have you done? Listen! Your brother’s blood cries out to me from the ground. Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth.”

Genesis 4:10-12



When Adam sinned, the ground was cursed and it produced thorns and thistles. Instead of tending a garden, through painful toil man had to work to cultivate the plants of the field. Now after Cain defiled the land with the blood of Abel, he was no longer permitted to farm the land. He was to leave home and family and would become a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth.

Cain said to the LORD, “My punishment is more than I can bear. Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.” Genesis 4:13-14

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Cain is horrified with the notion that he was to spend the rest of his life as a degraded outcast in perpetual exile. His fear is ironic. Cain who murdered his brother now fears being murdered.

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But the LORD said to him, “Not so; if anyone kills Cain, he will suffer vengeance seven times over.” Then the LORD put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him. So Cain went out from the LORD’s presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden. Genesis 4:15-16

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The LORD is gracious to Cain. First, Cain is not put to death for the murder of his brother but is exiled. Second, Cain is also given a protective mark. The Hebrew word does not identify the exact nature of the mark God put on Cain. The English word, “mark” is translated from the Hebrew word, *twa* (*owth*) which is most often interpreted as a sign or token.

Although the Scripture doesn't identify the exact nature of Cain's mark, it was a sign or indicator that Cain was not to be killed. Cain could have embraced God's grace and repented but instead bemoaned his punishment as more than he could bear.

Cain finds himself as wanderer who has left the presence of God and become a fugitive. In fact, the LORD drives him from his home, just as years before He had driven his parents from their home. The LORD had placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword to guard the way to the tree of life.

Just as Adam and Eve were driven out from God's presence to move east out of Eden because of their sin, Cain is driven from the presence of God because of sin and he moves east to live in the land of Nod.



Cain lay with his wife, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Cain was then building a city, and he named it after his son Enoch. To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad was the father of Mehujael, and Mehujael was the father of Methushael, and Methushael was the father of Lamech. Lamech married two women, one named Adah and the other Zillah. Adah gave birth to Jabal; he was the father of those who live in tents and raise livestock. Genesis 4:17-20

Here we see the first mention of polygamy. God tells us in Genesis 2:24 that for this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, in order that they will become one flesh. Notice that the word wife is used, not the word wives.

Initially man depended on God and on the food that came from the earth. Now that the earth had been cursed and farming was a sweaty toil, they began to raise cattle. They had to go where there was water and pasture. They did not have God, so their living depended on their own effort and struggle.

His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all who play the harp and flute.

Genesis 4:21

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God had created man with a soul. One aspect of the soul was man's emotions. When our emotions are impacted by our relationship with God we are joyful. In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve were filled with the joy of the LORD, because in His presence is the fullness of joy. Abel found contentment when he shepherded his flock.

The flocks were not being raised for food, but to offer sacrifices to God. However, because the descendants of Cain did not have God, they were dissatisfied and they felt empty. Then they began to play flutes and harps, not for the worship of God, but created music to make themselves happy.

Zillah also had a son, Tubal-Cain, who forged all kinds of tools out of bronze and iron.

Tubal-Cain's sister was Naamah.

Genesis 4:22

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Another group of Cain's descendents created weapons of bronze and iron for defense. When wild beasts came, they could kill them. If enemies attacked, they were armed to fight against them. Why did they do this? The entrance of sin into the world brought death and destruction. Cain's was cast from the LORD's presence and so were his descendants. Cain was an unrepentant murderer and so were his offspring.



Lamech said to his wives, “Adah and Zillah, listen to me; wives of Lamech, hear my words. I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for injuring me. If Cain is avenged seven times, then Lamech seventy-seven times.” Genesis 4:23-24

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The descendants of Cain became progressively increasingly wicked. Lamech is prideful of his evil doings. He mocks the mark of the LORD's sign of protection that was given to Cain. While Jesus taught us to forgive seventy-seven times; Lamech boasts of being avenged seventy-seven times over.

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Adam lay with his wife again, and she gave birth to a son and named him Seth, saying, “God has granted me another child in place of Abel, since Cain killed him.” Seth also had a son, and he named him Enosh. At that time men began to call on the name of the LORD.

Genesis 4:25-26

In order to discredit the book of Genesis as a true historical record, many of those who challenge the divine inspiration of Scripture have asked the question, “Where did Cain get his wife?” In fact, this question was discussed at the famous Scopes Trial and mentioned in the movie *Inherit the Wind*. Christians were mocked and the cause of evolution was furthered because no credible answer was given during the trial.

Cain was the first child of Adam and Eve recorded in Scripture. His brothers, Abel and Seth, were part of the first generation of children ever born on this earth. Even though only these three males are mentioned by name, Adam and Eve had other children.

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When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image; and he named him Seth. After Seth was born, Adam lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters.

Genesis 5:3-4

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The Bible does not record when they were born. Many could have been born in the 130 years before Seth was born. During their lives, Adam and Eve had a number of male and female children.

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The Bible does not tell us how many children were born to Adam and Eve. However, considering their long life spans (Adam lived for 930 years), it would seem reasonable to suggest there were many. Remember, they were commanded to “Be fruitful, and multiply.”



# Where did Cain get his wife?

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First of all, it is vitally important for the Christian to be able to answer this question, as it relates to defending the fact that all humans are descendants of Adam and Eve; and, secondly, that it is *only* their descendants that can be saved. Let's go through these two aspects in some detail.

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1. All humans are descendants of Adam and Eve.

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In Genesis 4:1,2, we read, "And Adam knew Eve his wife: and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD. And she again bare his brother Abel." And in Genesis 5:3, we read, "And Adam lived a hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image: and called his name Seth."

In other words, we are told certain details about three sons born to Adam and Eve. It is recorded in Genesis 3:20, "And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living." Thus all human beings are descendants of the first woman, Eve. There were no other women —just one woman, Eve.

In I Corinthians 15:45, Paul tells us that "the first man Adam was made a living soul." In other words, Adam was the *first* man—there were *no* other men at the beginning. And in Acts 17:26, Paul states that the God who made the world "hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth."

All human beings are related, because they are *all* descendants of the *first* man, Adam, and the *first* woman, Eve.

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