

THE
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WAR



GENESIS 3:14-15

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

THE
SEED
WAR



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As marriage in the Bible specifies one man for one woman for life, this means Christians have to be able to explain how Adam and Eve's sons could marry and have children to propagate the human race. Thus we need to be able to answer the question concerning Cain's wife.

One can actually answer this question with just a little Bible knowledge. Genesis 5:4 tells us that Adam and Eve "begat sons and daughters." Josephus, the Jewish historian, states that "The number of Adam's children, as says the old tradition, was thirty-three sons and twenty-three daughters." The point, of course, is that Adam and Eve did have many children.

Therefore, brothers must have married sisters at the beginning. Remember that the law against close intermarriage was not given until the time of Moses—e.g. "none of you shall approach to any that is near of kin to him" (Leviticus 18:6).

THE
SEED
WAR

GENESIS 3:14-15

There was nothing wrong with brother and sister marriages, originally. If you think about it, that is the only way to populate the world, starting with only one pair. Notice that Abraham married his half sister with no condemnation from God, even though this was later forbidden.

Also, as Adam and Eve were created perfect, their genes would have been perfect. As the curse God placed upon creation started to operate only after they sinned, their descendants would not have had many mistakes in their genes. These mistakes (harmful mutations) add up only after a long period of time.

Adam and Eve's children could have married and not had the problems of deformities in their offspring as might well happen today, if such close relatives married and had children. This is because today humans have lots of mistakes—because of the curse—in their genes. This may cause problems when matching pairs are inherited from both parents, as is much more likely with close intermarriage.

Some people, say that there must have been people other than Adam and Eve, because Cain went to the land of Nod and found his wife. First of all, the Scriptures quoted above make it obvious that there was only one man and one woman from whom came all other human beings.

THE
SEED
WAR



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Secondly, the Scripture says that Cain went to the Land of Nod and "knew" (had sexual relations with) his wife. John Calvin, in his commentary on Genesis, and most other conservative expositors, make the point that Cain was married *before* he went to the land of Nod.

THE
SEED
WAR


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Now back to the original question: Who was Cain's wife? In Genesis 4:14, after Cain murders Abel, he says to God "whoever finds me will kill me."

Obviously, by that time, there were already many other people living on the earth. After he murdered Abel, Cain left and went to live in the land of Nod, east of Eden (Genesis 4:16).

Since men and women lived to be hundreds of years old in the primeval world, populations grew rapidly, and Cain had plenty of time to marry a sister (or possibly a niece), move to Nod, and build a city for his own descendants and others.

THE
SEED
WAR

The image features a sunset background with a silhouette of a warrior on the right, holding a spear and a shield, and a smaller silhouette of a figure on the left, also holding a spear. The warrior is standing on a dark, jagged horizon line.

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**2. Only Adam and Eve's descendants
can be saved.**

THE
SEED
WAR



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The most important aspect of the topic is this: if we cannot defend the fact that all humans can trace their ancestry back to Adam and Eve, then the whole gospel message has problems

THE
SEED
WAR

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When the first man, Adam, sinned, he forfeited his right to live with a holy God. God, who is infinitely just, had to judge this rebellion with death. Adam and all of his descendants would have been alienated from God forever. However, God, in his infinite mercy, provided a means of deliverance from sin and its final effect of eternal separation from the Creator God. In Hebrews 9:22, we learn that "without shedding of blood is no remission."

The Bible teaches, of course, that the atoning death of Christ was "for the sins of the whole world" (1 John 2:2). In fact, it was only when "by one man sin entered into the world" that death came into the world and then "passed upon all men" (Romans 5:12).

Thus the idea that there were "pre-Adamite men" or other human-like creatures in the world unaffected by Adam's sin is theological nonsense. "As by the offense of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon *all* men unto justification of life" (Romans 5:18).

Since all men and women are descendants of Adam and Eve and "all the world" has "become guilty before God" (Romans 3:19), and since "the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men" (Titus 2:11), all people—of every age and every place—can be saved, if they simply believe on the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 16:31).

This wonderful solution to the problem of sin and death is beyond anything we finite humans could ever imagine. God made another Adam! He, Himself, in the person of Jesus Christ, the perfect sinless son of God, came to earth to be a man born of a woman—a perfect man—man as God intended man to be. Paul calls Christ the "last Adam" (I Corinthians 15:45).

1 Corinthians 15:45

⁴⁵ So also it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living soul.” The last Adam *became a life-giving spirit.*

THE
SEED
WAR

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The seed of Satan attacks and kills Abel. This seems to be a great victory for the seed of Satan. No Abel means no more seed, which means no coming Saviour, which means to the serpent that his head will not be bruised. However, the Lord knows the end from the beginning. The Lord knew what He was saying in Genesis 3:15 and I will still bruise your head, because I have a seed in the stead of Abel and his name is Seth.

²⁵ Adam had relations with his wife again; and she gave birth to a son, and named him Seth, for, *she said*, “God has appointed me another offspring in place of Abel, for Cain killed him.” ²⁶ To Seth, to him also a son was born; and he called his name Enosh. Then *men* began to call upon the name of the Lord.

At that time men began to call on the name
of the LORD. Genesis 4:26b

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