

LOVE NOT THE WORLD

(Genesis 4 and 1 John 2:15-17)

We are so privileged to live in the United States of America. We are often called “the great melting pot.” Even our national motto: “E Pluribus Unum.” (Out of Many, One) Though today it feels like we are a very divided people. St. Augustine in writing his book, City Of God, tells that there are only two groups of people in the world, and that each of these transcends national boundaries. The two “cities,” or “societies,” are formed by different loves. The first, the Earthly, loves itself even to the contempt of God. The second, the Heavenly, loves the Lord. Genesis 4 tells of man’s first civilization as “Cain went out FROM the presence of the Lord.” His city was based on a very simple idea: “to make the world a comfortable and respectable place to live, APART FROM GOD. Every civilization since Cain has been secular and anti-God.

TWO DISTINCT “CITIES” IN THE WORLD WARNING US TO BE APART OF THE ONE THAT LOVES THE LORD. We must escape the Cainitic mindset!

“For the world and its desires are passing away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.”

I. The Cainitic City Is Characterized By A Secular Godlessness. (Gen.4:13-24)

Everyone is born into this “family.” Note a few of the characteristics of this “city.” INDEPENDENT...

- A. Restlessness: Cain in having rejected God remained a restless wanderer at heart even after he settled down. (vv13-17)
 - 1. God curses Cain...(vv.11-12) God had cursed the serpent, the land, and now Cain.
 - 2. He was restless because he was rootless. Our deep roots can be only in God alone. If they are not in Him, we are merely vagabonds. Augustine: “our hearts are restless...”
 - 3. This helps us understand the frantic activity of our day.
- B. Closeness Without Community: Cain in rejecting God, sought to bring people around him. (17-24)
 - 1. The birth of a son. (v.17) “Enoch”
Remember Cain had been the 1st human baby born. A huge disappointment to his...
Where did Cain’s wife come from? (Gen 5:4) She was a sister, niece or great niece...
 - 2. The building of a city. (v.17b)
Yet, cities are some of the loneliest places in the world. Often they are filled with crime and death. Unsaved, degenerate people stacked up upon each other...
- C. Culture, Physical Beauty, and Pleasure: These are the essence of the Cainitic City without God.
 - 1. This city was advanced: agriculture, metallurgy, musical instruments, and the arts.
 - 2. Physical beauty and charm is expressed in the names of Lamech’s wives, “beauty,” and

