

The Book of Beginnings

Section 1

The Generations of the Heavens and the Earth (2:4–4:26)

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The Division (4:1–26)

“The Seed of the Serpent”

1. Cain offers an unacceptable sacrifice (vv. 1–7)

“By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain” (Heb. 11:4).

What made it “more acceptable”? Abel offers his sacrifice by faith (Heb. 11:6). He trusts in God’s promise to send a deliverer. As a result, “he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts” (Heb. 11:4).

2. Cain murders his own brother (vv. 8–9)

“For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil, and his brother’s were righteous” (1 Jn. 3:11–12).

Abel “was commended as righteous” (Heb. 11:4). Cain’s enmity toward God extends toward everything that reminds him of God.

3. Cain refuses to repent (vv. 10–15)

God judges Cain for his sin (v. 11). How does Cain respond? “My punishment is too great to bear!” (v. 13). He thinks he’s the victim.

4. Cain departs from God’s presence (vv. 16–24)

(1) The loss of God (v. 16)

(2) The Impact of this Loss (vv. 17–22)

(3) The Extent of this Loss (vv. 23–24)

“The Seed of the Woman”

1. They’re aware of God’s greatness (v. 25)

2. They’re aware of man’s smallness (v. 26)

3. They call upon the name of the LORD (v. 26)

1:1–2 (creation of heavens and earth)	Jn. 1:1–3; Eph. 3:9; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:10; 11:3; Rev. 10:6
1:1–2 (creation out of water)	2 Pet. 3:5–6
1:1–31 (creation of all things)	Acts 14:15; 17:24
1:26 (image of God)	Eph. 4:24; Col. 3:10
1:27 (creation of male and female)	Matt. 19:4; Mk. 10:6; 1 Cor. 11:7
1:31 (creation is very good)	1 Tim. 4:4
2:2 (rest)	Heb. 4:3–4, 10
2:7 (first man)	Lk. 3:38; Acts 17:26; 1 Cor. 15:45
2:9–10 (tree and river)	Rev. 22:1–6
2:16–17 (two federal heads)	Rom. 5:12–21; 1 Cor. 15:21–22
2:21–22 (creation of woman from man)	1 Cor. 11:8; 1 Tim. 2:13
2:24 (one flesh)	Matt. 19:5; Mk. 10:7; 1 Cor. 6:6; Eph. 5:31
3:1 (serpent)	Rev. 20:2
3:1–6 (deception of Eve)	2 Cor. 11:3; 1 Tim. 2:14
3:15 (two seeds)	Rom. 16:20; Gal. 4:4
3:17–19 (creation subjected to curse)	Rom. 8:19–23