

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH
THE BOOK OF JUDE
CHARACTERISTICS OF THE APOSTATE
“FOR THEY HAVE GONE IN THE WAY OF CAIN” (VS 11)

INTRODUCTION

Cain’s life is synonymous with envy, hatred, and violence. However, there is more to “*the way of Cain*” than that. “*The way of Cain*” is popular today and is becoming more popular. Many today have gone or are going “*in the way of Cain.*” So, what exactly is “*the way of Cain?*”

I. “THE WAY OF CAIN” IS THE WAY OF UNBELIEF!

(Hebrews 11:4; Genesis 4:1-10)

A. Cain’s Unbelief Is Shown By His Actions!

He was guilty of coming to God in a way other than that prescribed by the LORD God!

- 1. His Brother Able’s Actions Showed His Faith—Able’s Way Was The Way of Grace! *(Genesis 4:3-4)***
 - a. The LORD Had A Prescribed Place! *(Vs 3)***
 - b. The LORD Had A Prescribed Time! *(Vs 3)***
 - c. The LORD Had A Prescribed Means! *(Vs 4)***
 - d. The LORD Had Respect Unto Able’s Attitude!**
 - 1) Able’s Sacrifice Looked Inward—To See Himself As A Sinner!**
 - 2) Able’s Sacrifice Looked Upward—To See A Holy God!**
 - e. The LORD Had Respect Unto Able’s Offering!**
 - 1) Able’s Sacrifice Looked Backward—To See God’s Example! *(Genesis 3:21)***
 - 2) Able’s Sacrifice Looked Forward—To See God’s Provision! (i.e. The Lamb Of God!)**

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- 2. Cain’s Actions Showed His Unbelief—Cain’s Way Was The Way of Works! *(Vs 5)***
 - a. The LORD Did Not Have Respect Toward Cain’s Attitude! *(Vs 5, Vs 7)***
 - 1) Cain’s Sacrifice Did Not Look Inward— It Was Full of His Work!**
 - 2) Cain’s Sacrifice Did Not Look Upward— It Was Full of Himself, Not The LORD!**
 - b. The LORD Did Not Have Respect Unto Cain’s Offering! *(Vs 5)***
 - 1) Cain’s Sacrifice Did Not Look Backward—God’s Example Wasn’t Followed! (No shedding of blood!)**
 - 2) Cain’s Sacrifice Did Not Look Forward— The Lamb Of God Was Ignored!**

Cain’s Unbelief Is Shown By His Actions!

B. Cain’s Unbelief Is Shown By His Attitude! *(Vs 6-8)*

- 1. Cain Was Dissatisfied With God’s Revealed Will!**
 - a. Cain Was Angry!**

Wroth— to glow or grow warm; figuratively (usually) to blaze up, of anger, zeal, jealousy.
 - b. Cain’s Countenance Fell! (i.e. His Face Fell!)**
- 2. Cain Vented His Anger Against The Righteous Abel! *(Vs 8)***

“THE WAY OF CAIN” IS THE WAY OF UNBELIEF...

II. “THE WAY OF CAIN” IS THE WAY OF SELF- RIGHTEOUSNESS!

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**A. Cain Thought He Could Please God Since He Pleas
Himself!**

Proverbs 14:12–“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”

Jeremiah 10:23–“O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.

B. Cain’s Self-Righteousness Led To:

1. Arrogance!

Luke 18:11–“The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.”

Proverbs 16:18–“Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Envy! (i.e. The displeasure over the advantage and/or success of others)

3. A Hardened Heart! (He killed his own brother!)

4. A Lying Tongue! (Vs 9-10)

III. “THE WAY OF CAIN” IS THE WAY OF HATE!
(1 John. 3:10-12) Cain hated his brother!

IV. “THE WAY OF CAIN” IS THE WAY OF DESTRUCTION!
Jude 11– “Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain...”

Conclusion

God judged Cain for the way in which he went. God will judge the apostate and those who follow them who choose to go in **“the way of Cain.”**