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## DE-DEMONISING CAIN ... AND WONDERING WHY?

*Philip Culbertson*

### ABSTRACT

Freud's theory of sibling rivalry is cited relatively frequently by both biblical scholars and psychodynamic theorists as an explanation for Cain's murder of Abel. But this seems inadequate to explain fully the dynamics of the story. There seem to be two intergenerational processes at work in Cain's violence that are often overlooked by biblical exegetes – maternal anger and paternal shaming. Yet this too seems overly-simplistic. A man – Cain – is so angry that he wants to murder someone. But who does he want to murder: the brother who seems to have stolen divine favour from him? The biological father whose shame he already carries, so that it erupts when he is shamed again? Or the great Father, the heavenly Lover with the ultimate power to bless or destroy?

### KEYWORDS

Genesis 4; sibling rivalry

### FULL TEXT:

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Haven't you ever wondered why Yahweh hated Esau? Before he was even born? Why would the Lord make such a statement? Because there are many things that He hates and Esau was one of them (Mal. 1:3, Rom. And it is these bloodlines of Cain and Esau working together through the control of vast wealth around the world that are bringing the Antichrist to power. The Parable of The Wheat and Tares. The parable of the wheat and tares is found in Matthew 13:24-30 and 37-43. Haven't you ever wondered why Yahweh hated Esau? Before he was even born? Why would the Lord make such a statement? Because there are many things that He hates and Esau was one of them (Mal. 1:3, Rom. The serpent seed started with Cain and Adam's seed started with Seth. No matter how they have tried to cover it up in the KJV, the Dead Sea Scrolls and even verses such as Gen. 3:15 make it clear that Satan had his own seedline and it started back with Eve. Cain's genealogy is given in Genesis 4: 16–24; while that of Adam (Seth, because Abel was slain before he could have a child) is given in Genesis 5. Notice the Seth's people were calling upon the name of God (Genesis 4:25,26), unlike Cain's who displayed the fruit of knowledge and were very wise. In Genesis 6, these two generations mix, Cain's people are called man, while Adams are called children of God. Noah's children or himself are the link between Cain's and Adam's, they married from across. From there we all got serpents genes. At an allegorical level the 'race of Cain' symbolizes a progressive degradation and corruption of our mind/soul when we turn away from God. Philo of Alexandria (fl. 50 A.