

# THE WAY OF CAIN

## I. The way of Cain

### A. Two offerings and two attitudes of heart

1. Abel brought God the first of the increase, in faith, & his sacrifice was accepted (Gen. 4:4) (Heb.11:4)
2. Cain brought God his offering that wasn't the first, best, and in faith & his sacrifice was rejected (Gen. 4:3).

### B. Cain's self deception

1. Cain was angry because he deceived himself into believing that God would accept any kind sacrifice or offering (Gen. 4:5-7).
2. Cain took his anger out on Abel (Gen. 4:8).

## II. The way of Cain is a force leading away from God (apostasy) (Jude 1:10-12).

### A. The way of Cain specifically is:

1. A way of thinking in which a person redefines what is acceptable to God that gradually influences a way of living & departure from what they once believed (Gen. 4:3-8).
2. It is a gradual journey because it is a "way" or a road; a travelled way.
3. It is based on self deception (A person convinces themselves their way is OK).
4. It is serving God "my way."

### B. It is a way that starts while among the Church (Cain did bring an offering to the appointed place of worship

1. It makes claims of non-accountability and non-responsibility Gen. 4:9.
2. Manifests in lack of love for ones brethren and a departure from the faith 1 Jn. 3:13-15.
3. Creates restlessness and wandering Gen. 4:12, 16, 17

# SUMMARY THOUGHTS ON THE WAY OF CAIN

1. It is a “way” a road, a travelled way, a course of conduct, a way of thinking: a course of conduct and way of thinking that redefines what is acceptable to God.
2. It is a road people travel on so it is a gradual journey that leads them to serve God their way.
3. It is a force that leads away from God and towards apostasy (since it is listed as one of the six examples of apostasy in the Book of Jude).
4. It involves selfishness and gives evidences of varying degrees to a lack of love for the brethren 1 John 3:11, 12. (After lying about it, he claimed non accountability and non responsibility for being his brother’s keeper Gen. 4:9).
5. It involves offence & self deception as evidenced by Cain’s initial anger toward God when his offering wasn’t accepted (Gen. 4:5). He wouldn’t have been angry if he wasn’t convinced that his way was right and OK.
6. I believe it happens while people are in Church and serving because Cain did bring an offering to the place of worship.
7. They have evil works in their life un-repented of (1 John 3:12) when the light of God shines on it their countenance falls but they don’t repent (Gen. 4:6). It opens the door to sin to come in, that is couched as a predator ready to pounce on its prey (Gen. 4:8).
8. It can lead to departure from God’s appointed place of worship, family affection and association into a restless life of wandering Gen. 4:12, 16, 17.

# THE WAY OF CAIN

## THE WAY OUT OF SELF DECEPTION

1. Put the Word of God first place and final authority. Be doers of it.
2. Earnestly pray God's will to be done. (A submitted will is the key)
3. Consider others to provoke unto love & don't develop the habit of forsaking the assembling of the brethren at Church
4. Continually honor the Lord with the firstfruits of all increase.
5. Don't adapt down or alter the standard of the Word to fit a declining culture.