

FIRST

WHAT COMES FIRST SHAPES EVERYTHING ELSE

| FIRST THINGS FIRST |



GENESIS 4:3-5

“When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the Lord. Abel also brought a gift - the best portions of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The Lord accepted Abel and his gift, but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected.”

GENESIS 4:6-8

“‘Why are you so angry?’ the Lord asked Cain. ‘Why do you look so dejected? You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master.’ One day Cain suggested to his brother, ‘Let’s go out into the fields.’ And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother, Abel, and killed him.”

**When God reveals things to us,
it's one of His greatest acts of grace.**

Revealing isn't punishment; it's **mercy.**

Stewardship: How we temporarily manage and leverage what God has given to us for:

- His Glory
- Purposes
- Kingdom

The way we manage and leverage
what God has entrusted to us reveals
what is already happening in our **hearts.**



STEWARDSHIP
REVEALS OUR PRIORITIES.

GENESIS 4:3-4

“When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the Lord. Abel also brought a gift—the best portions of the firstborn lambs from his flock....”



F I R S T
reveals priority.

“

Honor the Lord with your wealth,
with the firstfruits of all your crops.

PROVERBS 3:9





**WE DON'T ACCIDENTALLY
PUT GOD FIRST.**

**WE INTENTIONALLY BUILD
OUR LIVES AROUND HIM.**

STEWARDSHIP REVEALS
WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT GOD.

GENESIS 4:3-4

“When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the Lord. Abel also brought a gift—the best portions of the firstborn lambs from his flock....”



GENESIS 4:5-8

but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected. "Why are you so angry?" the Lord asked Cain. "Why do you look so dejected? You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master." One day Cain suggested to his brother, "Let's go out into the fields." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother, Abel, and killed him.

CAIN **WASN'T** CONFUSED ON WHAT GOD WAS
ASKING FOR.

CAIN DIDN'T HAVE THE *RIGHT BELIEFS* ABOUT GOD.

HEBREWS 11:4

“It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. Abel’s offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man, and God showed his approval of his gifts. Although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us by his example of faith.”



PSALM 24:1-2

“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it.
The world and all its people belong to him.
For he laid the earth’s foundation on the
seas and built it on the ocean depths.”

JAMES 1:17

“Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens....”

EVERY ACT OF STEWARDSHIP
REVEALS SOMETHING ABOUT
WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT.



STEWARDSHIP REVEALS
WHAT RULES OUR HEARTS.

THE OFFERING
DOESN'T **CREATE**
WHAT'S IN OUR HEART;
IT **EXPOSES** IT.

GENESIS 4:6

“Why are you so angry?”
the Lord asked Cain.

“Why do you
look so dejected?”

MATTHEW 6:21

“Wherever your treasure is,
there the desires of your heart
will also be.”



The way we handle
treasure reveals
what's in our heart.



**STEWARDSHIP
IS THE MRI
OF THE SOUL.**



**STEWARDSHIP
REVEALS WHAT GOD
WANTS TO TRANSFORM.**



GENESIS 4:6-7

⁶ "Why are you so angry?" the Lord asked Cain. "Why do you look so dejected?"

⁷ You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master."

God rejected the **offering**;
He didn't reject the *person*.



**WHAT DOES MY
STEWARDSHIP
REVEAL ABOUT
MY HEART?**
