

Lessons from Genesis-part two

Cain and Abel,

The Great Deception Continues

In the story of Cain and Abel we are going to see that they are presented as types of Satan and the Messiah, respectively. We will see that Eve makes another bad choice that has resulted in the greatest deception ever foisted off on man. We will also see that pseudo-Christianity proudly displays the mark of Cain, which is also the mark of Satan.

God's Judgment on the Serpent

God said to the serpent, "...I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between **your seed** and **her Seed**; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel" (Genesis 3:15). Her "Seed" is Jesus Christ, "...born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem [1805, *to ransom, to purchase for one's self*] them that were under the law..." (Galatians 4:4).

Jesus will ultimately destroy Satan, for when it says, "He shall bruise your head," that means a mortal wound. "And the God of peace shall bruise [4937, *to break down, to crush*] Satan under your feet shortly..." (Romans 16:20).

Originally, the one who became Satan was the "...anointed cherub that covers..." (Ezekiel 28:14). He was one of the two cherubim who covered the throne of God (Exodus 25:20). The Eternal says of him, but "Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty, you have corrupted your wisdom by reason of your brightness: I will cast you to the ground...I will bring forth a fire from the midst of you, it shall devour you, and I will bring you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of them that behold you" (Ezekiel 28:17, 18).

Satan's ultimate destiny is eternal destruction. By contrast, when it says, "you shall bruise His heel," it indicates the temporary sufferings of Jesus Christ.

Adam Was Not Deceived

"And Adam called his wife's name Eve: because she was the mother of all [3605, *the whole, totality*] living" (Genesis 3:20). Eve is *Strong's* 2332, meaning life, or life giver. At this point Eve has not given birth to any children, so this is not just referring to all that would descend from her. Hence, Eve represents the totality of all who are born throughout history.

Adam is a type of the Messiah. Adam, "...who is the figure [5179, *type, model*] of Him that was to come" (Romans 5:14). "...Adam was first formed, then Eve" (1 Timothy 2:13). Eve was given physical life through Adam. Eve is a type of the bride, who will be given eternal life through Jesus Christ. Adam was the first physical man God created, and he was brought forth **from the earth** (Genesis 2:7). Jesus is the first man to be resurrected from the dead, i.e. the first to be brought forth **from the earth** as a fully spiritual being, to receive eternal life.

"And Adam was **not deceived**, but the woman being deceived **was in the transgression** [3847, *a disregarding, a violation of the law*]" (v. 14). Adam was not deceived by the serpent's tactics, but once Eve ate of the forbidden fruit he knew that she was subject to death, and would be separated from him. Therefore he partook of the fruit of the tree, thus taking on the transgression of Eve. This is a type of Jesus taking on the sins of His bride. "Husbands, love

your wives, even as Christ also loved the [*congregation*] and gave **Himself for it**" (Ephesians 5:25).

Satan's Great Deception Continues

When Eve heard God's judgment on the Serpent, she correctly understood that a redeemer would come from her seed. She made an assumption that the Redeemer would come directly from her. What she didn't realize was that the coming of the Redeemer was about four thousand years away. Her misunderstanding caused her to make a grave error that has plagued **all** of mankind to this day.

We have to consider Eve's mindset when we read the following verse. "And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD" (Genesis 4:1). The literal rendering of verse one is, "Now the man having come to know Eve his wife, she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a Man, even Yahweh!" (Genesis 4:1).¹ The "*New American Standard Bible*," in a footnote for verse one, renders it as "*man, the LORD*."² The "*Companion Bible*," in its notes for verse one, has, "a man even Yahweh."³

In Eve's mind, her firstborn son Cain was the Promised One who would redeem them from the curse brought about because of their sin. Eve made the assumption that "her Seed" meant the Redeemer would come directly from her, instead of one of her descendants. Through Eve's error, God revealed that mankind was going to look to Satan as his god. Cain is a type of Satan, as we shall see.

Cain is *Strong's* 7014, the same as 7013, which means: a spear (2 Samuel 21:16). A spear can be used to defend ones family, possessions, etc., or it can be used to acquire another's possessions by force. Cain is often interpreted as meaning "acquired," as in "I have gotten" or "acquired" a man. Eve sees Cain as a powerful one who will redeem them from their curse. It is interesting to note that it was a spear that pierced Jesus' side when He was on the cross (John 19:34).

Now we will see how differently Eve views her second son. "And she again bare his brother Abel..." (Genesis 4:2). It does not say that she conceived again, which indicates that Cain and Abel were probably twins. Abel is *Strong's* 1893, the same as 1892, which means: emptiness, vanity, transitory, useless. Eve saw Abel as useless, worthless, and certainly not the one who would save them. Compare this with a description of the Messiah.

"Who has believed what we have heard? And the arm of Yahweh to whom was it revealed? When He came up as a sapling before Him, And as a root out of dry ground He had neither beauty nor majesty, When we beheld Him there was nothing to behold, that we should desire Him; Despised was He, and forsaken of men, Man of pains, and familiar with sickness, Yea like one from whom the face is hidden. Despised and we esteemed Him not" (Isaiah 53:1-3, *Rotherham's Emphasized Bible*).

Jesus, in the flesh, was not highly esteemed. His appearance, like Abel, was apparently not anything special. Cain, on the other hand, must have had the appearance of a mighty one.

Abel was a shepherd. "...And Abel was a keeper [7462, *to feed, to pasture, to tend*] of sheep..." (Genesis 4:2). Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd **gives His life for the sheep**" (John 10:11). We see that Abel is used as a type of Jesus Christ, but Eve, i.e. the world, did not esteem him as the Savior.

¹ Joseph Bryant Rotherham, *Rotherham's Emphasized Bible*, Kregal Publications, 1994.

² *New American Standard Bible*, The Lockman Foundation, © 1977.

³ *The Companion Bible*, Kregal Publications, 1990.

The world has instead followed after Satan. Satan is called “the god of this world” (2 Corinthians 4:4). All of the gods of all of this world’s religions are Satan, who appears in different disguises, and this world’s form of “Christianity” is no exception. “And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel [32, *a messenger*] of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed into ministers of righteousness...” (1 Corinthians 11:14, 15).

The true messenger of light is Jesus Christ, but pseudo-Christianity, like Eve, has followed after Satan. The ministers of this world’s “Christianity” deny Jesus Christ through their teachings. “...[T]here shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in [3919, *to bring in secretly, or craftily*], damnable heresies, even denying [720, *to contradict, refuse*] the Lord that bought them...” (2 Peter 2:1).

To contradict the teachings of Jesus Christ is to deny Him. “[N]o lie is of the truth. Who is a liar but he that denies [720, *to contradict*] that Jesus is the Christ?” (1 John 2:21, 22). To contradict the teachings of Jesus is to deny that He is the Christ. “He is antichrist that denies [720, *contradicts*] the Father and the Son” (v. 22).

Eve was deceived again because she made a choice between her two sons, which was based on her emotions, and on the outward appearance. When a choice is made that is based on emotion it is invariably going to be a bad choice. The world has continued to follow Eve’s choice ever since. “[T]hat old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceives [4105, *to lead astray, cause to wander*] the whole [3650, *all, entire*] world...” (Revelation 12:9).

God’s judgment is not based on emotion, or on the outward appearance, but on truth. “[F]or the LORD sees not as man sees; for man **looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart**” (1 Samuel 16:6, 7). Abel would prove to be righteous, while Cain turned out to be a murderer.

The Faith of Abel

Cain and Abel brought offerings to God, and the Eternal “...had respect to Abel and his offering: but to Cain and to his offering He had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell” (Genesis 4:4, 5). Cain pouted because his unacceptable offering was not accepted by the Eternal.

Why did God accept Abel’s offering, but refused Cain’s offering? “By faith [4102, *belief, assurance, firm conviction*] Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts [1435, *offering, sacrifice, consecrated to God*]...” (Hebrews 11:4). Abel’s offering was from a pure heart.

The difference between Abel and Cain was a matter of faith. “Now faith is the substance [5287, *that which has foundation, is firm*] of things hoped for, the evidence [1650, *that by which a thing is proved or tested*] of things not seen” (Hebrews 11:1). Truth is based on substance and evidence. True faith isn’t just some emotional feeling, or something that has to be worked up through some emotional fervor. Satan uses the tactic of emotionalism to advance his agenda in the religious and political systems of this world.

True faith comes from proving and believing the truth. “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). Here we see that faith is based on the Word of God, which is truth (John 17:17). It is something that you can prove. Abel listened to God, and was obedient. Jesus said of Himself, “...I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father has taught Me, I speak these things. And He that sent Me is with Me...**for I always do those things that please Him**” (John 8:28, 29).

Notice Jesus' example of **hearing and doing**. Just hearing the Word is not enough. "Yea, a man may say, you have faith, and I have works: show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works" (James 2:18). To say that you believe in God is absolutely meaningless. "You believe that there is one God; you do well: **the devils also believe**, and tremble. But will you know, O **vain** [2756, *empty, fruitless, void of effect*] **man**, that faith **without works is dead?**" (vv. 19, 20).

To say that all you have to do is "to believe on the name of Jesus, and you'll be saved" is another of Satan's lies that he has foisted off on the gullible world of pseudo-Christianity. Jesus Christ is not the king of a Marxist/Socialist welfare state of leeches who believe that "once saved always saved," and that is all there is to it. That way, like its faith, **is dead, and it leads to eternal death**. You prove your faith in God by your obedience to God. To obey God is not earning your salvation.

"Was not Abraham our father **justified by works**, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? You see that faith worked with his works, and **by works was faith made perfect** [5048, *complete*]? And the scripture was fulfilled which says, Abraham **believed God, and it was imputed to him for righteousness**: and he was called the friend of God" (James 2:21-23). What a concept. God actually wants those in His kingdom who will obey Him.

Abel believed God, but Cain did not. Who did Cain believe? There are really only two choices. Elijah said to the people of Israel, "...How long halt you between two opinions? If the LORD [*Yahweh*] be God, follow Him: but if Baal, then follow him..." (1 Kings 18:21). Baal is *Strong's* 1168. It means: master, owner, or a possessor. Baal, as are all of the names of the various pagan gods, is another name for Satan.

One either belongs to Yahweh or he belongs to Satan. Satan is called "...the god of this world [*who*] has blinded the minds of them which **believe not** [571, *unfaithful, infidel, pagan*], lest the **light** of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, **should shine unto them**" (2 Corinthians 4:4).

Cain Murders Abel

God said to Cain, "If you do well, shall you not be accepted? And if you do not well, sin lies at the door. And to you shall be his desire, and you shall rule over him" (Genesis 4:7, 8). God was warning Cain to "Be not overcome of evil, but **overcome** [3528, *conquer, vanquish, subdue, prevail*] **evil** [2556, *wicked, immoral*] with **good** [18, *upright, virtuous, moral*]" (Romans 12:21).

God was giving Cain some correction for his own good. "For whom the Lord loves He **chastens** [3809, *education, instruction, correction, discipline*], and scourges every son He receives" (Hebrews 12:6). Correction is for our benefit. "Now no chastening for the present seems to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to them which are **exercised** [1128, *to train, to exercise vigorously*] thereby" (v. 11). We need to learn to look at correction from a positive perspective, because of the positive results that come from it.

God offered Cain two choices. "See, I have set before you this day life and good, and death and evil; in that I command you this day to love the LORD your God, **to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments** and His **statutes** and His **judgments, that you may live...**" (Deuteronomy 30:15, 16).

Cain chose the way that leads to death. So "...Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him" (Genesis 4:8). Why did he make that choice? "...Cain, who was of that wicked

one...slew his brother. And why did he slay him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous" (1 John 3:12). Cain was most likely spoiled rotten by his mother. He was not used to being corrected, but rather he was used to getting his own way. Thus the one whom Eve thought was going to be her redeemer turned out to be the first murderer.

God said to Cain, "...the voice of your brother's blood cries to Me from the ground" (v. 10). The shed blood of Abel was a type of the shed blood of Jesus Christ. We are come "...to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the **blood** of sprinkling, that speaks better things than that **of Abel**" (Hebrews 12:24).

Jesus said, "...the devil...was a **murderer from the beginning**, and abode not in the truth..." (John 8:44). Cain committed the first murder, i.e. he was a murderer from the beginning, and the truth was not in him. Cain tried to hide the murder of his brother by lying to God (Genesis 4:9). Cain's murder of his brother Abel was a type of Satan's murder of Jesus Christ. Satan is the one who is ultimately responsible for Jesus' death.

God's punishment on Cain was that he would be "...a fugitive [5128, *to move to and fro, to vacillate*] and a vagabond [5110, *to wander, to be a fugitive*] shall you be in the earth" (Genesis 4:12). This is a description of Satan. When Satan came before the throne of God, "...the LORD said to Satan, From where do you come? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From **going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it**" (Job 1:7).

Satan is also described as "...a roaring lion [*who*] walks about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8). Leviathan is a type of Satan. "In that day the LORD with His sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the fleeing [1281, *fugitive*] serpent, that crooked serpent; and He shall slay the dragon that is in the midst of the sea" (Isaiah 27:1). The sea represents the people of the earth who are under the influence of Satan, and his system Mystery Babylon (Revelation 17:15).

Cain is a type of Satan, and Abel is a type of Jesus Christ. These are the two seeds. You are either of the seed of Satan or of the Seed of Jesus Christ. Everyone begins life as the seed of Satan, i.e. they are born of flesh and blood and they have a carnal mind that "...is enmity against God: for it is **not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be**. So then they that are in the flesh **cannot please God**" (Romans 8:7, 8). Of course so-called "Christianity" rejects God's law, which is a revelation of its carnal mindset.

The Two Seeds and the New Birth

In order to become the seed of Jesus Christ, one must be reborn from above. Jesus said to Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews, "...Except a man be born again [509, *from above*], he cannot see [1492, *to perceive, to discern, to discover*] the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). Jesus is using a physical example to explain a spiritual principle. A baby that is in the womb is in total darkness, which symbolizes a person that is spiritually blind. Therefore in order to be able to see, i.e. to be able to understand the truth of the kingdom of God, a person must undergo a new spiritual birth from above.

"Nicodemus said to Him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into His mother's womb and be born?" (v. 4). Nicodemus clearly understood that Jesus was talking about a birth, and not just a conception, but he was trying to understand what Jesus was saying from a purely physical perspective instead of a spiritual perspective.

Jesus replied, "...Except a man **be born of water** and of the **Spirit**, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (v. 5). What does it mean to be "born of water and of the Spirit"? "...**Repent, and be baptized** [907, *to be immersed in water*] every one of you in the name of

Jesus Christ for the remission [859, *deliverance from captivity*] of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the **Holy Spirit**" (Acts 2:38).

Being "born of water and of the Spirit" pictures being baptized and receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit. God is Spirit (John 4:4); therefore the Holy Spirit that emanates from God is His genetic code. In order to be His, we must have His spirit abiding within us. "...Now if any man **have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His**" (Romans 8:9).

Jesus said to Nicodemus, "That which **is born of the flesh is flesh**; and that which **is born of the Spirit is spirit**. Marvel not that I said to you, You must be born again [509, *from above*] (John 3:6, 7). Jesus made a clear distinction between the two seeds. That which is born of the flesh is none of His, because that which is born of the flesh "...is enmity against God: for it is **not subject to the law of God**, neither indeed can be. So then **they that are in the flesh cannot please God**" (Romans 8:7, 8).

Anyone who does not have the Spirit of God is of the seed of Satan. When Satan was tempting Jesus, "...the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him **all the kingdoms of the world**, and the glory of them; and said to Him, **All these things will I give to you**, if you will fall down and worship me" (Matthew 4:8, 9). Satan rules over all of the kingdoms of men. He is their master and owner, and they are all born of corruptible seed.

The Spirit that emanates from God is the incorruptible seed that is eternal. "Being born again [313, *to be brought forth*], **not of corruptible seed**, but of **incorruptible**, by the Word of God, **which lives and abides forever**....As newborn [738, *just born*] **babes** [1025, *an infant*], desire the sincere **milk of the word**, that you may grow thereby" (1 Peter 1:23; 2:2). A baby does not drink milk in the womb. It must first undergo the birth process.

Before a baby is born, it will turn in the womb until it is head and face down. This is a position of humility. The turning of the baby represents repentance. True repentance is not only being sorry for your former conduct, but it is a requirement that you turn from your former ways.

When the baby is born, it comes forth from the womb through **blood and water**. After Jesus was dead on the cross, "...one of the soldiers with a spear pierced His side, and forthwith came there out **blood and water**" (John 19:34). This is the blood and the water of the birth process that is from above. The blood symbolizes the shed blood of Jesus Christ, and the water represents baptism. You are to be baptized "in the name of Jesus Christ" (Acts 2:38).

When a baby comes out of the womb through **blood and water**, it is like coming out through a **door** that leads to liberty from the bondage of the womb, which symbolizes the bondage of this world. Jesus said, "I am **the door**: by Me if any man enter in, **he shall be saved**..." (John 10:9). Jesus is the bloodied door through which we must enter in order to be saved.

The exodus of Israel from Egypt required that the children of Israel pass through a bloody door. After killing the Passover lambs, the people were to "...take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses wherein they shall eat it" (Exodus 12:7). The bloody door was a type of Jesus Christ.

When the children of Israel came to the Red Sea, the Eternal opened the sea for them, like the opening of a door, and they passed through the sea on dry ground (Exodus 14:21, 22). When they came up out of the sea, then the Eternal shut the door behind them, and the Egyptians, which represent the old man of sin, were buried in the sea. This was a type of baptism (1 Corinthians 10:1, 2). Jesus "...has the key of David, He that opens, and no man shuts; and shuts, and no man opens" (Revelation 3:7).

When the baby comes out of the womb, through blood and water, it sees light for the first time in its life. The light symbolizes the Holy Spirit, which is a gift from above. “Every good gift is **from above** [509], and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of His own will **begat** [616, *to bring forth from the womb, produce*] He us with the word of truth that we should be a kind of first fruits of His creatures” (James 1:17, 18). As a result of being born from above, we are now counted as “...My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty” (2 Corinthians 6:18).

Through the process of being born from above, we are now of the household of God, and that means that we are spiritual Israelites. Israel is *Strong's* 3478. It means: he will rule as God.

Only Spiritual Israelites Will be in the Kingdom of God

Human genealogy does not determine whether you will receive eternal life or not, because “...all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). No matter what your genealogy is, “[T]he wages of sin is death: but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 6:23). Eternal life can come only through being born from above through Jesus Christ. For, “...there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all in all” (Colossians 3:11).

The apostle Paul said of Israel, “...Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come to the **Gentiles** [1484, *aliens, multitude, people, nations*], for to provoke them to jealousy. Now if the fall of them be the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; How much more their fullness?” (Romans 11:11, 12).

Paul uses the analogy of an olive tree and two kinds of branches. The natural branches, which are Israel, have been broken off, and the wild olive branches that are grafted in represent those who are aliens from the commonwealth of Israel (vv. 16-24). “Wherefore remember. That you being in time past **Gentiles** [1484, *aliens, foreigners*] **in the flesh**...that at that time you were without Christ, **being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise**...But you who sometimes were far off are made nigh **by the blood of Christ**...For through Him we both have access by **one Spirit** to the Father. Now therefore **you are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God**” (Ephesians 2:11-13, 18, 19).

Everyone who is saved will be a spiritual Israelite. There will be 144,000 in the first resurrection, made up of the twelve tribes of Israel (Revelation 7:4-8). Those in the first resurrection are not all Israelites “in the flesh” through human birth, but they have become Israelites by being born from above through Jesus Christ.

Israel is *Strong's* 3478. It means: “he will rule as God, or with God.” Those who are in the first resurrection “...shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall **reign** [936, *to possess regal authority, to govern, to rule*] with Him a thousand years” (Revelation 20:6).

The Mark of Cain

God’s punishment on Cain for murdering his brother was, “When you till the ground, it shall not henceforth yield to you her strength; a **fugitive** [5128, *to move to and fro, to vacillate*] and a **vagabond** [5110, *to wander, to flee*] shall you be in the earth” (Genesis 4:12). This is a description of Satan, who wanders “to and fro in the earth” (Job 2:2).

Cain said that his punishment was too much, “...and I shall be a fugitive and vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that finds me shall slay me” (Genesis 4:14).

Cain showed no repentance for murdering his own brother, but he was worried that someone might kill him. “And the LORD said to him, Therefore whosoever slays Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the LORD set a **mark** upon Cain, lest anyone finding him should kill him. And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod [5112, *to wander, flee*], on the **east** of Eden” (vv. 15, 16). Since Cain is a type of Satan, then the mark that God put on Cain would apply to Satan as well. The “mark” would be a warning to stay away.

Cain’s mark would have to be visible to anyone seeing him. The most visible place would be the forehead. In the Bible, marks are quite often placed on the forehead (Ezekiel 9:4; Revelation 13:16; 14:9; 20:4). The forehead represents the intellect, and Cain’s intellect was that of a murderer and liar. The mark on Cain would **have to be a visible sign that would be understood by others**.

The word translated as “mark” is *Strong’s* 226. It can mean: a sign, mark, symbol, omen, warning, signal, proof, miracle, etc. In Biblical Hebrew, the word mark is טָבַע . Hebrew is read from right to left, beginning with the א Aleph, then ב Vav, and ג Tav. The Paleo Hebrew alphabet is composed of a series of pictures. The word for mark in Paleo Hebrew is אָבָע . The א is the letter Tav. In Hebrew the word tav (אָ) means a “mark.” It is *Strong’s* 8420.

The Tav א placed on the forehead would be a skull with a cross \times on it. Everyone is familiar with the skull and crossbones as an international symbol warning of poison, death, danger, etc (figure 1). However, to an occultist it has the meaning that the physical body is mortal, but that we have immortality inherent within us, because we are god. Satan always twists everything away from the truth, because there is no truth in him.



Figure 1

Satan told Eve, “...You shall not surely die” (Genesis 3:4). In other words, you have an immortal soul. Satan also told her, “...[Y]ou shall be as gods, knowing good and evil” (v. 5). As a god, you have eternal life inherent within you, and you can determine what is good and what is evil, because you are god. Thus Satan turned a symbol that warns of danger into something to be desired.

Of course the skull and crossbones is associated with Halloween, which even some “Christians” see as a heathen abomination. To hallow means to make holy or sacred; sanctify; consecrate; to venerate. There is nothing holy about Halloween. It is but another heathen celebration brought into “Christianity” by the Catholic Church. Halloween is Satan’s counterfeit of the Day of Trumpets, which pictures the resurrection of the saints.

The skull and bones is also used among occultic groups, such as freemasons and several college fraternal organizations. Probably the most well known fraternal organization using it is the “Skull and Bones” secret society at Yale University.

Occultic organizations are of course religious organizations that have their origins in “MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH” (Revelation 17:5). The word mystery is *Strong’s* 3466. It means: an initiated person, a matter to the knowledge of which initiation is necessary, a secret, a concealed power or principle, a hidden meaning of a symbol.

The skull and crossbones is a well known “religious” symbol that is used in the religious practices “...of the synagogue [4864, *a gathering, a congregation*] of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie...” (Revelation 3:9). A “Jew” is a reference to one who is a believer. “But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise **is not of men, but of God**” (Romans 2:29). Those of the church of Satan are counterfeits—psuedo Christians.

Is the Tav ✕ the mark that was placed on Cain? Let's look further. In the later Proto Sinaitic Hebrew, the word for mark became ✕. Notice that the Tav is now an upright cross ✕. The Ankh cross (figure 2) is an ancient Egyptian cross that supposedly represents the breath of life, or has the general meaning of eternal life. The four pointed cross used by pseudo-Christians has descended from the ancient Ankh cross.



Figure 2

Obviously the worship of the cross is not of Christian origin, but of pagan origin. It has been used in ancient pagan religious practices from antiquity. From early times it was believed that the cross "...was a protector and it was placed upon tombs....The vestal Virgins of pagan Rome wore the cross suspended from their necklaces, as the nuns of the Roman Catholic church do now."⁴

The cross was and is still used as a symbol on the forehead. "The Greeks depicted crosses on the headband of their god Tammuz of the Babylonians..."⁵ Tammuz is a counterfeit of Jesus Christ. In mythology, "...Tammuz died, descended to the lower world, was resurrected, and ascended again to earth and then to heaven...Because of His close association with the realm of nature, the fields and animals, he was called 'the shepherd'"⁶

In Catholicism, "When an infant is sprinkled, the priest makes the sign of the cross upon the infant's forehead saying, 'Receive the sign of the cross upon thy forehead.' During confirmation, the candidate is signed with the cross. On Ash Wednesday, ashes are used to make a cross on the foreheads of Catholic members. When they enter the church building, they dip the forefinger of the right hand in 'holy water,' touch the forehead, the chest, the left and right shoulder, thus tracing the figure of the cross. The same sign is made before eating meals. During Mass, the priest makes the sign of the cross 16 times and blesses the altar with the cross sign 30 times."⁷

The cross (✕ or ✕) has been associated with the forehead or skull in pagan worship from antiquity. The sign of the cross is used in pseudo-Christian practice even though nowhere in scripture are we told to observe such practices. On the contrary, we are warned against such pagan practices. "...[Y]ou inquire not after their gods, saying, How did these nations serve their gods? Even so will I do likewise" (Deuteronomy 12:30).

The Man on the Cross

"As an instrument of death, of crucifixion, the cross is also very ancient—and pagan. 'The cross was used in ancient times as a punishment for flagrant crimes in Egypt, Assyria, Persia, Palestine, Carthage, Greece, and Rome...Tradition ascribes the invention of the punishment to a woman, the queen SEMIRAMUS'"!⁸ The fact that Jesus was killed on a cross shows that it was used as a form of punishment and death **prior to Christianity**.

There are many "Christians" who use the crucifix in their supposed worship of Jesus. Scripture talks about the shame of the cross. "Looking to Jesus the author and finisher of our

⁴ Ralph Woodrow, *Babylon Mystery Religion Ancient and Modern*, 1966, Ralph Woodrow Evangelistic Association, p. 53

⁵ *ibid*

⁶ Stephen D. Simmons, 'Mesopotamia: Ancient Civilization,' in *Collier's Encyclopedia*, vol. 15, Cromwell Collier and MacMillan, Inc., 1967, p. 749.

⁷ *Op. cit.*, p. 49

⁸ *Ibid.* p. 54.

faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the **shame** [152, *disgrace*], and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God” (Hebrews 12:2).

Why would a Christian want to worship the weapon that was used in the murder of Jesus? If Jesus had been murdered by a sword (figure 3), would you use it in your religious worship? Would you wear it around your neck, or place it on the steeple of your churches, or have statues and pictures of it as part of your worship? Would you pray to the sword? Would that not seem to be a little strange? Satan wants the murder weapon glorified in his church.

The use of heathen symbols in the worship of God is idolatry. “You shall have no other gods before Me. You **shall not make** to you **any graven image** [6459, *idol of wood, stone, etc.*], or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: you shall not bow down to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD your God am a jealous God...” (Exodus 20:3-5).

These so-called “Christian” symbols are idolatrous, and are strictly forbidden by the Word of God. Those who worship God, “...**must worship Him in spirit and in truth**” (John 4:24). What is truth? “...Your word is truth” (John 17:17).

The pagan symbol of the cross is the mark that God has placed on Satan. The man on the cross is not Jesus Christ, but he is none other than Satan, who has pawned himself off as the Savior. “...[F]or Satan himself is transformed [3345, *to transform one’s self into someone, to assume one’s appearance*] into an angel [32, *messenger*] of light” (2 Corinthians 11:14). Jesus Christ is the true messenger of light. Jesus said, “I am the light of the world: he that follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life” (John 8:12). But Satan has actually been able to pawn himself off as the “messenger of light.”

The pagan symbol of the cross is the mark of Satan. Satan “...was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him...” (John 8:44). Satan cannot escape the mark that God placed on him as a warning to all to stay away from him. Therefore he has perverted it into a pseudo Christian symbol as a part of his great deception.

The crucifix is associated with the skull and crossbones symbol. (Note the skull and crossbones at the bottom of the crucifix in figure 4.) Supposedly, it represents Golgotha, where Christ was crucified. “And He bearing His cross went forth into a place called the place of a **skull**, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha” (John 19:17). Note that it is singular, a skull—not skulls, as it is often misinterpreted. It was not a place with skulls laying about.

The Hebrew is *Strong’s* 1538, meaning: the skull, the head as round. The place of the crucifixion was a rounded place, a hill. Specifically the crucifixion took place on the Mount of Olives, which is a hill that is straight east of the temple mount in Jerusalem. This follows the blueprint of the crucifixion site that God revealed in the pattern of the tabernacle about 1500 years prior to the crucifixion.

Satan’s deception has been so successful that he is called “...the god of this world [*who*] has blinded the minds



Figure 3



Figure 4

of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them” (2 Corinthians 4:4). As incredible as it may seem, the religion that the world recognizes as “Christian” is a counterfeit whose head is none other than Satan. The crosses, crucifixes, so-called pictures of Christ, and Sunday as a day of worship are all symbols of “the god of this world.”

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