

Abel's Prayer

As a child I used to love to hear stories that started with 'Long, long ago'. It was reassuring to think that adults were wise and knew all that happened long ago! One grows up to discover that people generally have no idea, and that each person only concentrates on their own personal sphere of life, endeavouring to learn all that they can about their own environment, and chosen professional discipline.

I am amused to hear various 'experts' expressing their opinions on the earth's past history. They throw figures around of millions and billions of years, to the closest 10 or 100 million. Personally, I don't have any confidence in values when the people talk of measurements with a variance of 10% or greater! That just sounds like a guess to me!

I once heard an Analytical Chemist comment on his laboratory analyzers (used to measure various concentrations of elements in solution). He was laughing at the time when he said, "We like to measure in parts per million, and report in percentage!" Knowing that his analyzers could accurately determine concentrations of standard solutions to the fourth figure after the decimal point; this gave him confidence that the results he was reporting expressed in percentage, were very accurate. His knowledge, of the analyzers performance to the true standard, gave him faith and confidence in his work.

So then, how do Christian's build their faith in God?

"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." (Rom 10:17)

"Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and imposters will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." (2Ti 3:12-17)

"Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies.

Test all things; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil." (1Th 5:19-22)

There are many books of scripture that were not bound together with the Bible. I have found these books to build up, and not break down my faith. They testify to the same events in the Bible as being true, and provide additional information, background and detail to the accounts in the Bible. After all, if you read something you don't like, you can always research it further to discover the truth; but if you have no knowledge of the subject, you will just remain ignorant! The chances of making a mistake is greater when one performs work in a state of ignorance, than when one has knowledge and a deeper understanding of the work to be performed!

Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge (Pro 12:1)

Here follows a good example of the combining testimony of scripture.

The Book of Genesis

Cain murders Abel

Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said,

"I have acquired a man from the Lord."

Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. So the Lord said to Cain,

"Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."

Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him. Then the Lord said to Cain,

"Where is Abel your brother?"

He said,

"I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?"

And He said,

"What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground. So now you are cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth."

And Cain said to the Lord,

"My punishment is greater than I can bear! Surely You have driven me out this day from the face of the ground; I shall be hidden from Your face; I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth, and it will happen that anyone who finds me will kill me."

And the Lord said to him,

"Therefore, whoever kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold."

And the Lord set a mark on Cain, lest anyone finding him should kill him.

The family of Cain

Then Cain went out from the presence of the Lord and dwelt in the land of Nod on the east of Eden. And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. And he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son - Enoch. To Enoch was born Irad; and Irad begot Mehujael, and Mehujael begot Methushael, and Methushael begot Lamech. Then Lamech took for himself two wives: the name of one was Adah, and the name of the second was Zillah. And Adah bore Jabal. He was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. His brother's name was Jubal. He was the father of all those who play the harp and flute. And as for Zillah, she bore Tubal-Cain (*!descendant of Cain*), an instructor of every craftsman in bronze and iron. And the sister of Tubal-Cain was Naamah. Then Lamech said to his wives:

"Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; Wives of Lamech, listen to my speech! For I have killed a man for wounding me, even a young man for hurting me. If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, then Lamech seventy-sevenfold."

And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth,

"For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed."

And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the Lord. (Gen 4:1-26)

"Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs. But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. Surely for your lifeblood I will demand a reckoning; from the hand of every beast I will require it, and from the hand of man. From the hand of every man's brother I will require the life of man. Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed; for in the image of God He made man." (Gen 9:3-6)

'For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.'
(Lev 17:11)

"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends."
(Joh 15:13)

The Book of Enoch

I saw the spirit of a dead man, and his voice went out to heaven and made petitions. And I asked Raphael the angel who was with me, and I said to him:

'This spirit which petitions, Whose is it, whose voice goes up and petitions heaven?'

And he answered me saying:

'This is the spirit which went out from Abel, whom his brother Cain slew, and he makes his suit against him until his offspring is destroyed from the face of the earth, and his offspring are annihilated from among the children of men.'

(Enoch 22:4-7)

The Book of Jasher

And Adam and his wife went contrary to the command of God which He commanded them, and God knew it, and His anger was set ablaze against them and He cursed them. And the Lord God drove them that day from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which they were taken, and they went and lived at the east of the garden of Eden; and Adam had sex with his wife Eve and she bore two sons and three daughters. She called the name of the first born Cain, saying,

"I have obtained a man from the Lord,"

and the name of the other she called Abel, for she said,

"Empty we came into the earth, and empty we shall be taken from it."

And the boys grew up and their father gave them a possession in the land; and Cain was a farmer of the ground, and Abel a keeper of sheep. And it was at the expiration of a few years, that they brought a first-fruit offering to the Lord, and Cain brought from the fruit of the ground, and Abel brought from the firstlings of his flock from the fat thereof, and God turned and inclined to Abel and his offering, and a fire came down from the Lord from heaven and consumed it.

And to Cain and his offering the Lord did not turn, and He did not incline to it, for he had brought from the inferior fruit of the ground before the Lord, and Cain was jealous against his brother Abel on account of this, and he sought an opportunity to kill him.

Some time after, Cain and Abel his brother went one day into the field to do their work; and they were both in the field, Cain farming and plowing his ground, and Abel feeding his flock; and the flock passed that part which Cain had plowed in the ground, and it sorely grieved Cain on this account. And Cain approached his brother Abel in anger, and he said to him,

"What gives you the right to come and live here and bring your flock to feed in my land?"

And Abel answered his brother Cain and said to him,

"What gives you the right to eat the flesh of my flock and clothe yourself with their wool? Take off the wool of my sheep with which you have clothed yourself, and pay me for their resources you have used and flesh which you have eaten, and when you shall have done this, I will then go from your land as you have said."

Cain said to his brother Abel,

"Certainly if I kill you this day, who will require your blood from me?"

And Abel answered Cain, saying,

"Certainly God who has made us in the earth, he will avenge my cause, and He will require my blood from you should you kill me, for the Lord is the judge and arbiter, and it is He who will repay man according to his evil, and the wicked man according to the wickedness that he may do on earth. And now, if you should kill me here, certainly God knows your secret views, and will judge you for the evil which you did declare to do to me this day."

When Cain heard the words which Abel his brother had spoken, the anger of Cain was set ablaze against his brother Abel for declaring this thing. Cain hurried and rose up, and took the iron part of his plowing instrument, with which he suddenly struck his brother and he killed him, and Cain spilt the blood of his brother Abel on the earth, and the blood of Abel streamed on the earth before the flock.

And after this Cain repented having slain his brother, and he was sadly grieved, and he wept over him and it troubled him greatly. Cain rose up and dug a hole in the field, wherein he put his brother's body, and he turned the dust over it. And the Lord knew what Cain had done to his brother, and the Lord appeared to Cain and said to him,

"Where is Abel your brother that was with you?"

And Cain lied, and said,

"I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?"

And the Lord said to him,

"What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries to me from the ground where you have slain him. For you have slain your brother and have lied before Me, and imagined in your heart that I saw you not, nor knew all your actions. But you did this thing and did kill your brother for naught and because he spoke rightly to you, and now, therefore, cursed be you from the ground which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand, and wherein you did bury him. It shall be when you till it, the land will no longer give you its strength as in the beginning, for thorns and thistles shall the ground produce, and you shall be moving and wandering in the earth until the day of your death."

And at that time Cain went out from the presence of the Lord, from the place where he was, and he went moving and wandering in the land toward the east of Eden, he and all those belonging to him. Cain had sex with his wife in those days, and she conceived and gave birth to a son, and he called his name Enoch, saying,

"In that time the Lord began to give him rest and quiet in the earth."

At that time Cain also began to build a city; and he built the city and he called the name of the city Enoch, according to the name of his son; for in those days the Lord had given him rest on the earth, and he did not move about and wander as in the beginning. And Irad was born to Enoch, and Irad had Mechuyael and Mechuyael had Methusael.

It was in the hundred and thirtieth year of the life of Adam on the earth, that he again had sex with Eve his wife, and she conceived and gave birth to a son and he looked like Adam, and she called his name Seth, saying,

"Because God has appointed me another offspring in the place of Abel, for Cain has slain him."

And Seth lived one hundred and five years, and he had a son; and Seth called the name of his son Enosh, saying,

"Because in that time the sons of men began to reproduce, and to afflict their souls and hearts by disobeying and rebelling against God."

It was in the days of Enosh that the sons of men continued to rebel and go contrary to God, to increase the anger of the Lord against the sons of men. (Jasher 1:11-2:3)

When Cainan was seventy years old, he had three sons and two daughters. These are the names of the children of Cainan; the name of the first born was Mahlallel, the second was Enan, and the third was Mered, and their sisters were Adah and Zillah; these are the five children of Cainan that were born to him. Lamech, the son of Methusael, became related to Cainan by marriage, and he took his two daughters for his wives, and Adah conceived and gave birth to a son to Lamech, and she called his name Jabal. And she again conceived and gave birth to a son, and called his name Jubal; and Zillah, her sister, was unable to conceive in those days and had no offspring. (Jasher 2:15-18)

And in the end of days and years, when Zillah became old, the Lord opened her womb. She conceived and gave birth to a son and she called his name Tubal Cain, saying,

"After I had withered away I have obtained him from Almighty God."

And she conceived again and gave birth to a daughter, and she called her name Naamah, for she said,

"After I had withered away have I obtained pleasure and delight."

Lamech was old and advanced in years, and his eyes were dim that he could not see, and Tubal Cain, his son, was leading him and it was one day that Lamech went into the field and Tubal Cain his son was with him, and while they were walking in the field, Cain the son of Adam advanced towards them; for Lamech was very old and could not see much, and Tubal Cain his son was very young. Tubal Cain told his father to draw his bow, and with the arrows he struck Cain, who was yet far off, and he killed him, because he appeared to be an animal to them. And the arrows entered Cain's body although he was at a distance from them, and he fell to the ground and died.

The Lord rewarded Cain's evil according to his wickedness, which he had done to his brother Abel, according to the word of the Lord which he had spoken. And it came to pass when Cain had died, that Lamech and Tubal went to see the animal which they had slain, and they saw, and behold Cain their grandfather was fallen dead on the earth.

Lamech was very much grieved at having done this, and in clapping his hands together (in grief) he struck his son and caused his death. And the wives of Lamech heard what Lamech had done, and they sought to kill him. The wives of Lamech hated him from that day, because he killed Cain and Tubal Cain, and the wives of Lamech separated from him, and would not listen to him in those days. And Lamech came to his wives, and he begged them to listen to him about this matter. He said to his wives Adah and Zillah,

"Hear my voice O wives of Lamech, attend to my words, for now you have imagined and said that I killed a man with my wounds, and a child with my stripes for they did no violence, but certainly know that I am old and grayheaded, and that my eyes are heavy through age, and I did this thing unknowingly."

And the wives of Lamech listened to him in this matter, and they returned to him with the advice of their father Adam, but they bore no children to him from that time, knowing that God's anger was increasing in those days against the sons of men, to destroy them with the waters of the flood for their evil acts. Mahlallel the son of Cainan lived sixty-five years and he had Jared; and Jared lived sixty-two years and he had Enoch. (Jasher 2:23-37)

The Book of Jubilees

The angel of the presence (of the Lord) spoke to Moses according to the word of the Lord ... (Jub 2:1)

In the third week in the second jubilee she gave birth to Cain, and in the fourth jubilee she gave birth to Abel, and in the fifth jubilee she gave birth to her daughter Awan. In the first year of the third jubilee, Cain killed Abel because God accepted the sacrifice of Abel, and did not accept the offering of Cain. And he killed him in the field, and his blood cried from the ground to heaven, complaining because he had killed him. The Lord blamed Cain, because he had killed Abel, and He made him a fugitive on the earth because of the blood of his brother, and He cursed him on the earth. Because of this it is written on the heavenly tablets, "Cursed is he who kills his neighbor treacherously, and let all who have seen and heard say, 'So be it', and the man who has seen and not reported it, let him be accursed as the one committing it." For this reason we announce when we come before the Lord our God all the sin that is committed in heaven and on earth, and in light and in darkness, and everywhere.

And Adam and his wife mourned for Abel four weeks of years, and in the fourth year of the fifth week they became joyful, and Adam knew his wife again, and she gave birth to a son, and he called his name Seth, for he said,

"God has raised up a second offspring to us on the earth instead of Abel; for Cain killed him."

In the sixth week he begat his daughter Azura. And Cain took Awan his sister to be his wife and she gave birth to Enoch at the close of the fourth jubilee.

In the first year of the first week of the fifth jubilee, houses were built on the earth, and Cain built a city, and called its name after the name of his son Enoch. Adam knew Eve his wife and she gave birth to a total of nine sons. In the fifth week of the fifth jubilee Seth took Azura his sister to be his wife, and in the fourth year of the sixth week she gave birth to Enos. He began to call on the name of the Lord on the earth.

In the seventh jubilee in the third week Enos took Noam his sister to be his wife, and she gave birth to a son in the third year of the fifth week, and he called his name Kenan (*!Cainan*). At the close of the eighth jubilee Kenan took Mualeleth his sister to be his wife, and she gave birth to a son in the ninth jubilee, in the first week in the third year of this week, and he called his name Mahalalel.

In the second week of the tenth jubilee Mahalalel took to him to wife Dinah, the daughter of Barakiel the daughter of his father's brother, and she gave birth to a son in the third week in the sixth year, and he call his name Jared, for in his days the angels of the Lord descended on the earth, those who are named the Watchers, that they should instruct the children of men, and that they should do judgment and uprightness on the earth.

In the eleventh jubilee Jared took to himself a wife, and her name was Baraka, the daughter of Rasujal, a daughter of his father's brother, in the fourth week of this jubilee, and she gave birth to a son in the fifth week, in the fourth year of the jubilee, and he called his name Enoch.

He was the first among men that are born on earth who learned writing and knowledge and wisdom and who wrote down the signs of heaven according to the order of their months in a book, that men might know the seasons of the years according to the order of their separate months.

He was the first to write a testimony and he testified to the sons of men among the generations of the earth, and recounted the weeks of the jubilees, and made known to them the days of the years, and set in order the months and recounted the Sabbaths of the years as we made them, known to him. And what was and what will be he saw in a vision of his sleep, as it will happen to the children of men throughout their generations until the day of judgment; he saw and understood everything, and wrote his testimony, and placed the testimony on earth for all the children of men and for their generations.

In the twelfth jubilee, in the seventh week of it, he took to himself a wife, and her name was Edna, the daughter of Danel, the daughter of his father's brother, and in the sixth year in this week she gave birth to a son and he called his name Methuselah. He was with the angels of God these six jubilees of years, and they showed him everything that is on earth and in the heavens, the rule of the sun, and he wrote down everything. And he testified to the Watchers, who had sinned with the daughters of men; for these had begun to unite themselves, so as to be defiled with the daughters of men, and Enoch testified against them all. And he was taken from among the children of men, and we conducted him into the Garden of Eden in majesty and honor, and there he wrote down the condemnation and judgment of the world, and all the wickedness of the children of men. Because of it God brought the waters of the flood on all the land of Eden; for there he was set as a sign and that he should testify against all the children of men, that he should recount all the deeds of the generations until the day of condemnation.

He burnt the incense of the sanctuary, even sweet spices acceptable before the Lord on the Mount. For the Lord has four places on the earth, the Garden of Eden, and the Mount of the East, and this mountain on which you are this day, Mount Sinai, and Mount Zion which will be sanctified in the new creation for a sanctification of the earth; through it will the earth be sanctified from all its guilt and its uncleanness throughout the generations of the world.

In the fourteenth jubilee Methuselah took to himself a wife, Edna the daughter of Azrial, the daughter of his father's brother, in the third week, in the first year of this week, and he begat a son and called his name Lamech.

In the fifteenth jubilee in the third week Lamech took to himself a wife, and her name was Betenos the daughter of Baraki'il, the daughter of his father's brother, and in this week she gave birth to a son and he called his name Noah, saying, "This one will comfort me for my trouble and all my work, and for the ground which the Lord has cursed."

At the close of the nineteenth jubilee, in the seventh week in the sixth year of it, Adam died, and all his sons buried him in the land of his creation, and he was the first to be buried in the earth. He lacked seventy years of one thousand years, because one thousand years are as one day in the testimony of the heavens. Therefore was it written concerning the tree of knowledge, "On the day that you eat of it you shall die." Because of this he did not complete the one thousand years but instead he died during it.

At the close of this jubilee Cain was killed after him in the same year; because his house fell on him and he died in the middle of his house, and he was killed by its stones. With a stone he had killed Abel, and by a stone he was killed in righteous judgment.

For this reason it was ordained on the heavenly tablets, with the instrument with which a man kills his neighbor with the same shall he be killed. In the same manner that he wounded him, in like manner shall they deal with him."

In the twenty-fifth jubilee Noah took to himself a wife, and her name was Emzara, the daughter of Rake'el, the daughter of his father's brother, in the first year in the fifth week, and in the third year of it she gave birth to Shem, in the fifth year of it she gave birth to Ham, and in the first year in the sixth week she gave birth to Japheth.
(Jub 4:1-32)

Summary

As you have seen, these books contain a wealth of information which is not in the Bible. The dates, names and events described, all add to one's understanding, supporting the Bible's text and statements. The four Gospels don't match details exactly either!

According to the Genesis 4&5 the following bloodlines are listed:

Adam - Cain - Enoch - Irad - Mehujael - Methushael - Lamech - Jabel, Jubal, Tubal-Cain.

Adam - Abel (killed by Cain).

Adam - Seth - Enosh - Cainan - Mahalalel - Jared - Enoch - Methuselah - Lamech - Noah.

Only Noah, Shem, Ham and Japheth, and their four wives survived the flood. The rest of the unrighteous descendants of Adam that were still alive when the flood came were drowned. Lamech the son of Methusael, became related to Cainan by marriage as he took his two daughters for his wives (Adah and Zillah).

Referring to the book of Jubilees we find out that Cain was killed by his house falling on him. Perhaps it meant, it was the members of his household that killed him, meaning Lamech and Tubal-Cain. If the arrow had a point made from flint-stone that would support both texts.

It's interesting that Cain and Tubal-Cain died on the same day as 'Tubal-Cain' means 'descendant of Cain'. This is an answer to Abel's prayer in the Book of Enoch!

There may be a few things which don't quite add up, but information which does not match in parts, is far better than no information at all. After all, if I wanted to believe in 'nothing', I would believe in Evolution!

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Quotes from :

- 'The Lost Book of Enoch' by Joseph B. Lumpkin - ISBN : 0-9746336-6-6
- 'The Book of Jasher' by Joseph B. Lumpkin - ISBN : 1933580143
- 'The Book of Jubilees' by Joseph B. Lumpkin - ISBN : 19633580097