

Seth

I am called Seth. My name means “appointed” or “granted.” I have several sisters and when I started to notice that I was a boy and they were girls, I asked if there were any other boys to play with. I learned that I had two older brothers. One had gone away and one was dead. Mom and Dad always cried when I asked about them.

Finally, when they thought I was old enough, they told me the full story of creation, sin, the curse, animal sacrifice and the expulsion from the Garden. God had put Mom and Dad in a perfect environment but allowed them to choose whether to obey or disobey. Their choice changed the entire creation! Then the choice of their first son, Cain, to kill his brother, Abel, not only ended that brother’s life, but changed the life of the murderer as well.

We had serious family discussion about sin and its consequences. I was scared that I might do something terrible. Dad told me to be careful to obey the LORD. To do that I must call on his name and worship him. We all did that regularly.

Mom and Dad had told us the revelation they received from the Creator. He created everything -- out of nothing -- in 6 days and on the seventh day, he rested. That seemed like a good pattern. We were reminded of our debt of gratitude to the One Who not only made us but continued to sustain us with food and strength even after sin. Rest every seven days also refreshed our bodies from the strain of continuous work.

Dad had also made records of his life and that of his sons. He knew that death was prophesied for him and Mom and that violent death was a real possibility. So, he wanted the descriptions of the past to be preserved for children born in the future. I was to safeguard these documents and pass them on to someone who could pass them further.

Dad and I looked at the stars and could imagine pictures that reminded us of the prophecy he had been given regarding a coming descendant who would crush the serpent’s head. I used these pictures to teach my children and grandchildren that there was hope. We wanted to know more of the Creator who made us and had a plan for the future.

Our family kept the tradition of worshipping the LORD. But the family of Cain did not seem interested. They were angry at the LORD. They failed to acknowledge His continuing care. After all, His world retained beauty and pleasure, even for those who did not acknowledge or obey Him.

Praise the name of the LORD!

Genesis 3, 4 and 5