

Dear Dave,

Thank you once again for writing us at Christian Questions Radio. You wanted to know how we might account for the curse on the serpent's seed if Adam was the father of both Cain and Abel. You also asked why Cain was the first born of heaven and Jesus the first born of man.

"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." (Genesis 3:15)

God told the serpent (Satan) that the seed of the woman (meaning Eve's offspring) would one day bring a fatal blow to Satan and his offspring (the wicked angels who left heaven with Satan and humans who knowingly choose to follow after Satan). We believe the seed of the woman represents not only Jesus who would come from the line of Adam and Eve's third son Seth, but also a heavenly class (faithful Christians) who would become superior to the serpent (Satan) and have the power to crush out evil. We derive this thought from the Apostle Paul's encouraging statement to the church at Rome. "The God of peace will soon [at the end of this evil age] crush Satan under your feet." (Romans 16:20) The "your feet" or "heel" (as it is rendered in Genesis 3:15), we believe, refers to "The Christ" (Jesus and faithful Christians who have obtained the heavenly reward of immortality). They will have power in the next age to finally destroy Satan and his evil followers. The mystery of the seed of the woman is fulfilled in Christ—the Messiah—the promised seed along with all those who belong to Christ: "If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." (Galatians 3:29)

In answer to your second question: Jesus was God's first and only direct creation, his only begotten Son, "the firstborn over all creation." After God created his Son it was by him and through him that all other things in heaven and on earth were created. (Colossians 1:15) Cain was the firstborn of the human race, the natural son of Adam and Eve, not the firstborn of heaven. However, when Eve gave birth to Cain she believed that he was the promised seed that would one day crush the serpent's head. She said, "With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man." (Genesis 4:2) Of course, she later tragically found out that Cain was not the promised seed. In time, Eve would give birth to Seth and her hope would again be revived. Little did our first parents know that another 4000 years would elapse before Jesus, the promised seed, would come on the scene and fulfill the first part of the promise God gave to Abraham. The Church (followers of Jesus during this Gospel age) are the second part of the seed class, who along with Jesus, will not only be instrumental in destroying Satan and "his seed", but also blessing all the nations of the earth (Genesis 22:17-18).

We hope we have shed some light on your questions. Attached is a file of a newsletter, END TIMES, written by a Bible Student group, that will explain more about the promised seed and help you understand the hidden mystery of God's plan that is "now made manifest to his saints." (Colossians 1:26) Be sure to sign up for CQ rewind at www.christianquestions.net. The service is free without obligation and will provide you with scriptural perspective on many questions and topics.

Sincerely,

Christian Questions Radio