

The Voices of Our Brothers?

KJV Genesis 4:9 And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?

Why did God mention Abel's name wasn't Abel his only brother?

Abel means “**breath/voice**”!

It could be that God was asking Cain “**where is the (breath or voice) of your brother it has ceased to move upon the earth and be heard in the heavens**”!

Once murdered Abel's voice was lost from the earth and the only one who could hear his voice was God—through Abel's blood!

Abel's voice was removed too soon from the earth—whenever someone loses their voice they are silenced and lose their impact on the world!

- Cain didn't just remove a son from his parents and a brother from his life he removed **a voice of truth** from the world!

The murder of **John F Kennedy, Malcom X and Martin Luther King** was about **silencing their voices from off the earth!**

The ancient rabbi's gave their opinions of what happened just before Cain killed Abel, they fill in the blanks so to speak.

After God clearly tells Cain “**If you do what is right you will be accepted if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it.**” (verse 7)

ESV Genesis 4:8 Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him.

The ancient Rabbi's try to give us insight into their conversation:

And Cain said unto Hebel his brother, Let us go out into the field; and it came to pass that, when they were in the field, Cain answered and said to Hebel his brother,

I thought that the world was created in mercy, but it is not governed according to the merit of good works nor is there any judgment, nor a Judge, nor shall there be any future state in which good rewards shall be given to the righteous, or punishment executed on the wicked; and now there is respect of persons in judgment.

On what account is it that thy sacrifice has been accepted, and mine not received with complacency?

And Hebel answered and said, The world was created in mercy, and it is governed according to the fruit of good works; there is a Judge, a future world, and a coming judgment, where good rewards shall be given to the righteous, and the impious punished;

And there is no respect of persons in judgment; but because my works were better and more precious than thine, my oblation was received with complacency. And because of these things they contended on the face of the field, and Cain rose up against Hebel his brother, and struck a stone into his forehead, and killed him."

It appears that Cain wasn't trying to hear what Abel had to say!

He disagreed so strongly that **he murdered his brother to remove his voice and view point** from off the face of the earth!

➤ I don't believe it's the believer's responsibility to remove opposing voices from the earth—this is what Satan does.

We are to simply stand for righteousness, be a light and stand on the truth of God's Word.

In **Matt 13:30** Jesus says to let the Wheat and Tare (the false and true) **grow together until the end** of the world.

Our job is not to eliminate lies, falsehoods or fake news—our job is to grow the Truth, be the Truth and expand the Truth through love!

Haters try to silence voices that are contrary to their own; love expands, amplifies and strengthens voices that build up, encourage and lead others to Truth!

Jesus said ^{ESV} **John 15:10** *If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.*

Cain's response to God after asking him about Abel was: "*Am I my brother's keeper*" (guardian, observer and protector). **Gen 4:9.**

Brotherly love guards, honors and respects the words of a righteous brother. After Cain rejected Abel's words he silences Abel's voice!

People we love we keep their **words/voices** alive, repeating them to our friends, coworkers and even our family members.

KJV Job 21:34 How then comfort ye me in vain, seeing in your answers there remaineth falsehood?

Job tells his friends and brothers—they cannot comfort him with empty words, lies, fake news and personal opinions.

ESV Ecclesiastes 9:17 The words (voices) of the wise heard in quiet are better than the shouting of a ruler among fools.

The **quiet words** (voice) of the wise heard (listened to, observe and respected) are better than the loud cries, shouts (hype) of a popular person with a great following of fools.

Popularity doesn't mean the person is wise, or is your friend and brother.

Solomon calls some **rulers of fools** (simple minded people).

ESV Matthew 7:13-14 "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many.

14 For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

The last thing we should do is follow the wisdom of the crowd Jesus said.

If everyone is doing it, it's probably a good reason we shouldn't!

Often times it's the advice that's hard to hear and hard to do that's best for us; it's the choice that few are willing to make that's just and right!

This is where a brother comes in, to tell us what's right not what we want to hear!

KJV Proverbs 27:6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

Someone can appear to be a friend because of the wonderful things they say that make us feel good about ourselves; while someone else appears to be an enemy because they often oppose our views and make us feel bad.

KJV Proverbs 27:17 Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

Through the friction of opposing movement, views and opinions are we made better by our friends and brothers.