

Communion Meditation – Jesus in Genesis

Genesis 4.11-15

Jesus and Longsuffering

June 6th, 2010

“Why did God not execute Cain?”

- It may be because the death penalty requirement wasn't met
 - **Num 35.30** ~ “one witness is not sufficient testimony against a person for the death penalty”
- But that law wasn't yet in place ~ Death penalty instituted in **Gen 9.6**
- **v12** - But God did penalize Cain for the crime – He did judge him . . .

God's Knowledge versus Man's Knowledge

- God is 3 Persons in 1 Being and God sees all ~ perfect witness
- Though God can judge and punish perfectly He does not do so . . .
 - God doesn't zap us for our sins – else the world would be empty
- God could have executed Cain ~ But He restrains the severity of His judgment
 - **v12** – “the ground shall no longer yield” ~ “fugitive and a vagabond”

Jesus: Savior of the World

- **1 Tim 4.10** ~ “We trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.”
 - I'd understood this to mean Jesus is the only Savior available
 - But God has granted men the responsibility of self-government
 - He aided us by establishing civil laws for Israel ~ many used today
 - But in doing this He withheld His perfect judgment
- God acted as Cain's Savior that day ~ He extended undeserved mercy to him
- God is the Savior of **all men** ~ especially of those who believe

Our Longsuffering God

- **Read Rom 9.22-23** ~ “vessels of wrath and mercy”
- **Read 2 Pet 3.9** ~ “God is longsuffering toward us”
- **Read 1 Tim 1.15-16** ~ “in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering”

The cross of Christ is the source of saving grace on this earth . . .

But the cross of Christ is also the source of all common grace . . .

This grace restrains sin and provides life, law and order to earth . . .