

### Cain's City and Society

Josephus records seven key points about Cain:

- (1) Cain was "a covetous man . . . wholly intent upon getting." This statement reveals the evil leader's true character — completely selfish!
- (2) Cain was the first man to plough and force the ground.
- (3) Cain did not repent, but only grew worse in his wickedness. He "only aimed to procure everything that was for his own bodily pleasure, though it obliged him to be injurious to his neighbors." He increased his wealth by violence and robbery.
- (4) Cain "became a great leader of men into wicked courses." He was a dominant personality with an overwhelming impact on society.
- (5) Cain was "the author of measures and weights." He was not only the inventor of wrong farming methods but he was the originator of trading — with the motive of getting. His aim was to give the least to get the most. His weights and measures must have been dishonest. This is supported by Josephus' statement that Cain "changed the world into cunning craftiness." Cain was the original pre-Flood wheeler-dealer!
- (6) "He first of all set boundaries about lands . . . ." Cain was the first to build fences around his land. He said, "Don't trespass! This is mine!" He didn't want to let anybody else's cattle grazing on his land. This was the feeling and attitude he cultivated and promoted in himself and others.
- (7) "He built a city, and fortified it with walls, and he compelled his family to come together to it . . . ." The Bible speaks of this same city: Cain "built a city, and called the name of the city, after the name of his son, Enoch" (Genesis 4:17).

In recent years, archaeologists made a startling discovery. In their excavations at the site of ancient Jericho (adjacent to present-day Jericho in Palestine) they were dumb-founded to uncover an immense town in an early "Pre-pottery Neolithic" state some 4000 years, as they measure time, before any city of this type should have existed! This vast town flourished at a time when only villages of tents and huts should have been in use — but there it was! It was of comparatively large proportion, of great duration — and it had a huge, massive wall around it! When the archaeological findings are correctly interpreted, it is evident this city must have existed before the Flood!

In short, when the statements of the Bible and Josephus are correlated with the findings of archaeology, there is only one logical conclusion for this unparalleled phenomenon: Pre-Flood Jericho was the walled city of Enoch which Cain built!

Here are some details concerning this city. It occupied an area of not less than ten acres — large dimensions for that very early time, and especially since it was completely surrounded by a great wall. Thousands of people lived in and

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around this heavily fortified town — and it is these fortifications that form the most astonishing feature of this whole remarkable discovery.

The defences of earliest Jericho are described as "astounding for any period!" They consisted of a ditch, wall, and tower. The ditch or moat was some 23 feet wide and 6 or 7 seven feet deep. Inside this protective ditch the wall itself was built, a remarkable structure over five feet thick and some 17 or more feet high! And adjoining the wall was a great circular stone tower — which was still standing when the site was excavated — reaching a height of over 26 feet.

James Kellaart makes this significant observation: "The prodigious labour involved in the erection of these defences implies an ample labour force, a central authority to plan, organize and direct the work and an economical surplus to pay for it." (Earliest Civilizations of the Near East, London, 1965, p. 36.) Such was the power and authority Cain had mustered.

To recapitulate: Early in his life, after having been driven out by God, Cain wandered over many areas of the world. He did not stay in any one place very long. And the children he had over the course of these many decades also were nomads who migrated and engaged in hunting and fishing. The implication in Josephus' account is that Cain did not build this famous walled city until well into his life span (he lived over 900 years!). Some centuries elapsed before he began this project. We should also note the location of this city: It was in "Seth's land" or Palestine. Cain had dared to come back into forbidden territory! When He drove Cain out, God had in effect told him and his future children: "This area of the world is for Seth and his family. The rest of the world is for you to wander in." But the infamous Cain was not interested in obeying any of God's orders.

Archaeologists have concluded that pre-Flood Jericho could not have supported its immense population by agriculture alone. They conclude that this famous city must have existed on the basis of trade and commerce! How could a city like this carry on trade? Remember what Josephus said — that Cain was the inventor of weights and measures, implying that he was engaged in trading. But also recall that he procured "spoils by robbery." In other words, he must have forced surrounding peoples to pay tribute, and he must have engaged in looting and pillage! This was the source of his commercial resources!

In addition, with the Dead Sea then already in existence and located near by, Cain must have controlled the salt trade of the world. This was a lucrative business because all people need salt for meats and vegetables.

Cain, then, built this great walled town and made it the world center of trade and commerce. From it he pillaged the rest of society. He sent marauding bands out to steal and loot! Then they would escape their pursuers by hiding inside the city's impenetrable walls! This was Cain's headquarters, the focal point of that society's "civilization."