

“Am I My Brother’s Keeper?”

Text: Genesis 4:9

Introduction:

1. The story of Cain and Abel is well known by students of the Bible.
2. Out of anger, jealous, and rebelliousness, Cain murdered his brother (Gen. 4:1-8).
3. In an attempt to hide his guilt, Cain declared to the Lord that he did not know where his brother was.
4. Then, he asked the question that all should consider – especially Christians.
5. The Bible answer to this question is, “Yes!” I am my brother’s keeper.

I. Responsibilities to Brethren

- A. The word translated ‘keeper’ means, “To keep, guard, observe; keep watch and ward, protect; to save the life of, to preserve; to watch for, to wait for.”
- B. As Christians, we are to love one another.
 1. Jesus commanded it (John 13:34-35; 15:12-13, 17).
 2. Paul taught it (Rom. 13:8; 1 Thes. 4:9).
 3. Peter preached it (1 Peter 1:22).
 4. John declared it (1 John 3:10-12; 4:7-8, 11-12).
- C. Love is more than a feeling – it must be demonstrated (1 John 3:17-18).
 1. Prefer one another (Rom. 12:10)
 2. Receive one another (Rom. 15:7)
 3. Edify one another (Rom. 14:19)
 4. Serve one another (Gal. 5:13-14)
 5. Bear one another’s burdens (Gal. 6:1-2)
 6. Forgive one another (Eph. 4:31-32)
 7. Submit to one another (Eph. 5:21)
 8. Teach one another (Col. 3:16)
 9. Comfort one another (1 Thes. 4:18)
 10. Exhort one another (Heb. 3:12-13)
 11. Consider one another (Heb. 10:24-25)
 12. Be hospitable to one another (1 Pet. 4:8-10)

II. Receiving the Brethren

- A. How are we to treat one who becomes a brother or sister in Christ?
- B. Receive
- C. Edify
- D. Serve
- E. Submit
- F. Teach
- G. Be Hospitable

III. Restoring the Brethren

- A. How are we to treat a brother or sister who has become lost?
- B. Consider
- C. Exhort
- D. Bear Burdens
- E. Forgive