

# Genesis 4:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.

## Analysis

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**And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath ...** This passage belongs to the primeval history section (Genesis 1-11) which establishes universal truths about God, humanity, sin, and divine purposes before focusing on Abraham and Israel. These chapters answer fundamental questions about human origins, the spread of wickedness, God's judgment, and the preservation of a righteous remnant.

Recurring patterns emerge: human sin escalating from individual disobedience to societal corruption, divine patience followed by judgment, gracious preservation of a remnant, and covenant promises ensuring redemptive purposes continue. The genealogies connect historical persons, demonstrate the fulfillment of divine promises (blessing and multiplication), and trace the line leading to Abraham and ultimately Christ.

Key theological themes in this section include:

1. sin's destructive progression affecting all humanity
2. God's righteous judgment while preserving mercy
3. human pride and autonomy opposing divine sovereignty
4. cultural development as both blessing and potential idolatry
5. God's sovereign plan advancing despite human rebellion.

These narratives provide the necessary context for understanding God's calling of Abraham and the covenant promises through which all nations will be blessed.

## Historical Context

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The primeval history (Genesis 1-11) parallels ancient Near Eastern traditions including Sumerian King Lists (pre-flood longevity), Akkadian flood traditions (Atrahasis, Gilgamesh), and Mesopotamian city foundation myths. However, Genesis demythologizes these traditions, presenting monotheistic history rather than polytheistic mythology. The genealogies connecting Adam to Noah to Abraham provide historical framework absent in pagan myths.

Archaeological evidence confirms ancient urbanization (chapter 4's cities), agricultural development, metallurgy, and musical instruments emerging in Mesopotamia's early history. The Babel account reflects Mesopotamian ziggurat construction (stepped pyramid temples), particularly in Babylon. Linguistic diversity requiring explanation was obvious to ancient peoples, making the Babel narrative culturally relevant.

For Israel in covenant with Yahweh, these chapters explained their relationship to surrounding nations. All peoples descended from Noah, but Israel descended from Shem through Abraham—chosen for blessing all nations. The flood demonstrated God's justice and mercy: judging wickedness while preserving the righteous. This pattern would recur throughout Israel's history, assuring them that God's covenant faithfulness endures despite judgment on the wicked.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. What does this passage reveal about God's sovereignty and human responsibility?
2. How should this truth about City Building shape our daily decisions and priorities?
3. What connections can we trace from this verse to Jesus' life, death, and resurrection?

## Interlinear Text

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אֶת	וַתִּקְרָא	בן	וַתֵּלֶד	אִשְׁתּוֹ	אֶת	עוֹד	אָדָם	וַיָּדַע
	<b>and called</b>	<b>a son</b>	<b>and she bare</b>	<b>his wife</b>		<b>again</b>		<b>knew</b>
H853	H7121	H1121	H3205	H802		H5750	H121	H3045
זֶרַע	אֱלֹהִים	לִי	שֶׁת	כִּי	שֵׁת	שְׁמוֹ		
<b>seed</b>	<b>For God</b>		<b>said she hath appointed</b>		<b>Seth</b>	<b>his name</b>		
H2233	H430	H0	H7896		H8352	H8034		
קַיִן	הָרַג	כִּי	הָבֵל	בְּתַחַת	אֲחֵר			
<b>Cain</b>	<b>slew</b>	<b>whom</b>	<b>of Abel</b>	<b>instead</b>	<b>me another</b>			
H7014	H2026	H3588	H1893	H8478	H312			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Genesis 4:8** (Parallel theme): And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

**1 Chronicles 1:1** (Parallel theme): Adam, Sheth, Enosh,

**Luke 3:38** (References God): Which was the son of Enos, which was the son of Seth, which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God.