

# GLEANINGS

## THE FIRST MURDER VICTIM

The first man that the Bible records as a murder victim was Abel (please read article GE-29-Abel Is In Paradise). “8. *Cain said to his brother Abel, ‘Let us go out into the field.’ Now when they were out in the field, Cain turned against his brother Abel and slew him.*” *Genesis 4:8 Confraternity–Douay Version (Saint Joseph New Catholic Edition).*

Many people in the Old Testament believed in the resurrection of the dead. “<sup>17</sup>*By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, <sup>18</sup>even though God had said to him, ‘It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.’ <sup>19</sup>Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death.*” (*Hebrews 11:17-19 New International Version*)

The problem was that until Jesus Christ was resurrected from the dead, never to die again, those who had asked Jesus Christ to pay their sin debt had no guarantee that they would be resurrected to a better life with Christ even though they died believing it. In other words, until Jesus Christ shared death as the rest of mankind and then had victory over the one who had the power of death by His resurrection, mankind was a captive of death. Please read article GE- 26 (Which Book Is Your Name In?) for a better understanding of why Jesus Christ took what we deserved so that we could have what He deserved.

"<sup>14</sup> Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself (Jesus Christ) likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup> and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage." *Hebrews 2:14-15 NIV*