

## LAMECH, THE ARROGANT

Lamech was the prominent leader of the Cainite race. His dynasty accomplished great human achievements such as urban commerce, arts and music, inventions, science, technology, and great wealth.

Lamech also epitomized the spiritual arrogant of the Antediluvian unbeliever. “But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, ‘God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.’” (James 4:6; Prov.3:34)

“You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility towards one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” (1 Pet.5:5; Matt.16:21-23)

<b>This lesson will study SIX aspects of the arrogance of Lamech</b>
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We will see in Lamech how achievement, success, and the accumulating of wealth can be a great distraction to the need for grace salvation in Christ.

“Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.” (1 Tim.6:17)

**1. As the leader of the Cainite dynasty, Lamech teaches us at least five principles about worldly substitutes for grace salvation.**

- Intellectual attainments are no substitute for grace salvation (Gen. 4:17).
- Details of life are no substitute for grace salvation (Gen. 4:18)
- Talent and success in the world are no substitute for grace salvation (Gen. 4:20-22)
- External beauty and its perks are no substitute for grace salvation (Gen. 4:19, 22).
- Power and position in the world are no substitute for grace salvation (Gen. 4:23-24).

“For what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? (Mark 8:37)

“How hard it is for those who are wealthy to enter the kingdom of God. For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” (Luke 18:24-25) (RJR)

**2. Lamech’s power lust arrogance was a reflection of his anti-God attitude in life. His sexual perversion of bigamy was one example of it (Rom.1:18-32).**

“Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, that their bodies might be dishonored among them.” (Rom.1:24; Gen.2:18-25)

“As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there **by** waves, and carried about **by** every wind of doctrine, **by** the trickery of men, **by** the craftiness in deceitful scheming.” (Eph.4:14)

“That, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit.” (Eph.4:22)

**3. Lamech’s power lust arrogance is reflected in his wives attitude of disgust towards his relationship with them and others.**

“And Lamech said to his wives, Adah and Zillah, listen (shama / kal imp 2pl) [command] to my voice, you wives of Lamech, give heed (azan / hiphil imp 2pl) [command] to my speech.” (Gen.4:23)

The wives tendency was to ignore his boastful speeches. He was the type of husband who speaks (AT) his wife rather than (TO) her.

The kal impv reflects their awareness that he is an ego- centric blow hard. The hiphil impv reflects their absolute boredom with his arrogant conversations. **He threaten them verbally like, “you had better pay attention if you know what is good for you!”**

Communication was a one way street with Lamech. “My way or the highway!” He was a dictator both at home and at work.

- 4. He had to use his divine delegated position of authority to get the attention of his wives in order to feel secure and in control in his marriage (1 Cor.11:3; Eph.5:23; 1 Pet.3:7).**

Isn't it interesting that he rejected God but wanted the position of divine delegated authority of DI #2, Marriage and DI #4, Nationalism?

- 5. Lamech's poem reflects the insolent arrogance of his personality (Gen.4:23-24).**

There are seven lines to this dramatic poetic song.

In this poem, he boasts of killing a man and the man's child for wounding (petsa) and striking (chabburah) [to bruise] him (Gen.4:23). The man probably challenged his arrogance that resulted in a fight. As Lamech gained control of the fight, the child tried to help his daddy. Lamech is boasting to anyone who will listen of killing both of them.

He is trying to justify this double homicide because he has violated the new Antediluvian law (Gen.4:15).

- 6. He distorts the word of God regarding this new law regarding killing. He does this to justify this ungodly act of double homicide.**

This new law was given on behalf of the victim's rights and not behalf of the criminal. It was an anti-murder and vengeance law designed to protect society.

God established the divine law of sevenfold punishment. Lamech's spiritual arrogance is reflected in his decree of seventy- seven fold. This shows the size of his ego (if / then of Gen.4:24). God was the Supreme Ruler of the Antediluvian civilization and not Lamech no matter how much believes he is.

- Murder attacks the doctrine that man is made in the image according to the likeness of God.
- Murder attacks the conscience of the right of life and pursuit of happiness of DI #1.

Lamech's arrogant attitude typified the evil thinking that will destroy the Antediluvian civilization (Gen.6:1-5; 2 Tim.3:1-17)