

# AFFIRMING FAITH

## LESSON 4: CAVE MAN OR INTELLIGENT

If evolution is not an accepted theory, then the next question that comes to mind, is where did man come from? Even without evolution, many still see man in his origin as nothing more than a club wielding brute.

**MAN – SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT** It is interesting that much of history and the Bible coincide in the progression of man's social development.

### AGRICULTURE

Plant and animal domestication, were key factors in the early development of man. Once again, it is the records of the Sumerians and Chinese that record the earliest



**Figure 1 Sumerian Clay Sickle circa 3000 B.C.**

Development of organized agriculture. Evidence of the mass plantings and gatherings of Wheat, Rye, Rice, Peas, Lentils and Flax are recorded in the earliest of writing.

It is interesting that the Bible records this too regarding man...

**Gen 2:8,15** *"And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed... the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it."*



Figure 2 Earliest Clay Tablet Showing Domestication

## ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Domestication and use of animals to further man and increase agricultural output. Some of the earliest known domestications were of animals. Domestic pigs had multiple points of origin in Eurasia, including Europe, East Asia and Southwest Asia, where wild boar was first domesticated approximately 10,500 years ago<sup>1</sup>. Sheep were domesticated in

Mesopotamia between 11,000 and 9,000 BC.<sup>2</sup> Cattle were domesticated from the wild aurochs in the areas of modern Turkey

and Pakistan around 8,500 BC.<sup>3</sup> Camels were domesticated late, perhaps around 3,000 BC.<sup>4</sup>

**Gen 4:2,20** *"And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a*

<sup>1</sup> Larson, Greger; Dobney, Keith; Albarella, Umberto; Fang, Meiyang; Matisoo-Smith, Elizabeth; Robins, Judith; Lowden, Stewart; Finlayson, Heather; Brand, Tina (2005-03-11). "Worldwide Phylogeography of Wild Boar Reveals Multiple Centers of Pig Domestication". *Science*. 307 (5715): 1618–1621. doi:10.1126/science.1106927. PMID 15761152

<sup>2</sup> Ensminger, M.E.; Parker, R.O. (1986). *Sheep and Goat Science* (Fifth ed.). Interstate Printers and Publishers. ISBN 0-8134-2464-X.

<sup>3</sup> McTavish, E.J., Decker, J.E., Schnabel, R.D., Taylor, J.F. and Hillis, D.M. (2013). "New World cattle show ancestry from multiple independent domestication events". *PNAS*. 110: 1398–406. Bibcode:2013PNAS..110E1398M. doi:10.1073/pnas.1303367110. PMC 3625352 Freely accessible. PMID 23530234

<sup>4</sup> Sapir-Hen, Lidar; Erez Ben-Yosef (2013). "The Introduction of Domestic Camels to the Southern Levant: Evidence from the Arava Valley" (PDF). *Tel Aviv*. 40: 277–285. doi:10.1179/033443513X13753505864089

*keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground...Adah bore Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock."*

## **METALURGY**

The earliest recorded metal employed by humans appears to be gold, which can be found on top of the ground, in rivers, or mines. Small amounts of natural gold have been found in Spanish caves dating to earliest recorded time. Silver, copper, tin and meteoric iron show the beginnings of limited metalworking in early cultures in Mesopotamian and Chinese records. Egyptian weapons made from meteoric iron in about 3000 BC were highly prized as "daggers from heaven<sup>5</sup>".



Figure 3 Serbian Copper Axe

The first evidence of extractive metallurgy (smelting), dates from the 5th and 6th millennia BC. has been found at archaeological sites in present-day Serbia. The earliest evidence of copper smelting is found at the Serbian site and produced a copper axe dating from 5500 BC, belonging to the Vinča culture

**Gen 4:22** *Zillah also bore Tubal-cain; he was the forger of all instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah.*

<sup>5</sup> W. Keller (1963) The Bible as History. p. 156. ISBN 0-340-00312-X

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## MATHEMATICS

The earliest recorded instances of mathematical use are disputed. A bone found



Figure 4 The Ishango Bone  
Showing delineated markings

near the headwaters of the Nile in the northeastern Congo, contains a series of marks carved in three columns running the length of the bone demonstrating either a tally of the earliest known sequences of prime numbers or referencing a six-month lunar calendar. Later development of mathematics in Egypt made use of multiplication by 2. Predynastic Egyptians of the 5th millennium BC pictorially represented geometric design, and megalithic monuments in England and Scotland, dating from the 3rd millennium BC, incorporate geometric ideas such as circles, ellipses, and Pythagorean triples in their design. The oldest undisputed mathematical documents however date from Babylonian and dynastic Egyptian sources.

*Gen 4:13-15 Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." Then the LORD said to him, "Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him **sevenfold**." And the LORD put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him*

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## URBAN AND SOCIETAL DEVELOPMENT

In the ancient world, very often a 'city' describes an urban center of dense population and a certain pattern of buildings spreading out from a central religious complex such as a temple (though, frustratingly, this could sometimes apply equally well to a 'village' or 'settlement'). It is said that these developed because agricultural development led to societal groups, that then formed larger groups for mutual development and protection. These then became cities, where buildings began to become more complex through time. developed in the region known as Mesopotamia between 4500 and 3100 BC. The city of Uruk, today considered the oldest in the world, was first settled in c. 4500 BCE and walled cities, for defense, were common by 2900 BC throughout the region. The city of Eridu, close to Uruk, was considered the first city in the world by the Sumerians while other cities which lay claim to the title of 'first city' are Byblos, Jericho, Damascus, Aleppo, Jerusalem, Sidon, Luoyang, Athens, Argos, and Varasani.

*Gen 4:16,17 Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden. Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. **When he built a city**, he called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch.*

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It is interesting, that all of the things that man thinks of as sources of development of man beyond carrying clubs, are all mentioned in the first chapters of the Bible. What does this tell you? \_\_\_\_\_

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If we take the position that Evolution is not an acceptable alternative, and that man and the evidence of man's existence shows that early man was more developed than what we are lead to hear in various media, what does this tell us about Adam and Eve and their offspring? \_\_\_\_\_

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Why do you suppose, we have to "dumb down" man, if we do not believe Biblical text? \_\_\_\_\_

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