

Enrichment: Scripture

Living like the Biblical Hero Seth

After the Fall, Adam and Eve's family continued to struggle with sin. Their son Cain committed the first murder by killing his brother Abel. He then fled to another land to make a family of his own. His family was a wicked family that defied the Lord. It is known as the evil line of Cain.

Adam and Eve had another son named Seth, and his family remained close to God. Scripture says that Seth's growing family "began to call upon the name of the LORD" (Genesis 4:26). His family is considered to be the righteous line of Seth. He had the courage to break with the sinful trends of his family's history.

The Roman emperor Constantine was much like Seth. He came to power in the fourth century after three hundred years of the Church being persecuted by the Roman Empire. The emperors before him attempted to force Christians to give up their beliefs and offer sacrifice to pagan gods. Many Christians became martyrs because they refused to worship the Roman gods.

That was the trend in history until the reign of Constantine. He came to power in A.D. 312 after military victories that he believed were the result of Christ's intercession. It was ancient tradition for a new emperor to go to the capitol to offer sacrifices to the gods. Constantine, however, refused. He broke ancient tradition even though his family and the government members worshipped false gods.

Constantine further broke ancient tradition by building the first Catholic church in Rome. Emperors of the past constructed temples to one of the gods. Instead of honoring pagan gods, Constantine honored Christ and furthered God's kingdom. The Church began to spread with greater freedom in the years to come because of his efforts.

Both Seth and Constantine could have repeated the sinful trends of their families. Seth could have left to make a name for himself and defied the Lord like Cain had. Constantine could have played it safe and continued to worship false gods like his family and the emperors before him. Instead, both of them chose to call upon the name of the Lord.



Journal Reflection

Are there any unhealthy or sinful trends among your friends or family members that you need to not repeat? Write your answer on the journal page. [Journal pages are available on the parent and student portals.](#)