

Cain

Who was Cain's wife?

Was it permissible for him to marry his sister? Did not God forbid this later under the law of Moses?

Cain married one of his own sisters. Many people assume that Adam and Eve had only two children—Cain and Abel. But in Genesis 5:4 we are told that Adam begot sons and daughters. One of those sons is mentioned by name—Seth—in Genesis 5:3, 4

At that time in the world's history, there was no divine law against a man's marrying his own sister. Genetic defects would not be the expected result of such a union because the race was still pure.

However, God did forbid this practice later, when He gave the law to Moses. See Leviticus 18:9 and also Ezekiel 22:11.

Today, the backlog of genetic defects makes it unwise for a person to marry a near relative. But in the early days of man's history, God permitted men to marry sisters or relatives so that the earth might be populated.