

THE COLORADO SHOOTER, WHAT MADE HIM DO IT?

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Genesis 4:8 *“And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.”*

Not long after the July 20, 2012 Colorado shooting of twelve innocent people, many are asking who is this guy and why did he do it? Carol Leonnig writing in the Washington Post said “He was known as a very quiet young man, introverted but pleasant. Holmes, 24, had shown scholarly promise in the recent past. He’d earned a merit scholarship out of high school in a sunny San Diego suburb. He had graduated from college with honors. From there, he’d gone to graduate school at the University of Colorado at Denver.

And then something changed. By this spring, Holmes had begun to struggle with poor test scores. He eventually decided to quit school.

The next step, the alleged descent into horrific violence, remains mysterious.”¹

Then there is Joe Coscarelli who attended the James Holmes’ hearing and wrote “Holmes sat in a Colorado court room with red-and-orange-dyed hair and heavy eyelids this morning at his advisement hearing, speaking not a word and appearing to nearly nod off. The 24-year-old looked confused, blinked slowly, and struggled to keep his head up, leading the press to wonder if he'd been drugged.”²

It was this behavior by Holmes that “raised the suspicions of Michael Welner, a forensic psychiatrist who has studied and testified about mass shootings like the one in Aurora. He said the shooters ‘invariably feature a person who is highly paranoid, resents the broader community and decides to kill out of a desire to achieve notoriety.’”³

But as Bob Adelman concludes “The question remains: Why did his evil side prevail over his benign side?”⁴

There will be many theories after the fact as to why this person committed such a crime so can we really know what makes a person a killer? Read again the verse at the beginning of this article for only in the Bible will we find the answer. Genesis 4:8 *“And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.”*

The precursor to why Cain did what he did is found in Genesis 2, 3 and 4.

In Genesis 2:7 – 9, 15 – 17 God tells us *“And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. 8 And the LORD God planted a*

¹ http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/james-eagan-holmes-held-in-colorado-shooting/2012/07/20/gJQA213UyW_print.html

² <http://thenewamerican.com/usnews/crime/item/12210-the-two-sides-of-james-holmes-the-colorado-shooter>

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. 9 And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. 15 And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.”

Then in Genesis Chapter three we are told that the man and woman disobeyed God and did eat of the fruit of tree of knowledge of good and evil. So in Genesis 3:23, 24 God says *“Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. 24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.”*

According to Scripture when Adam and Eve are driven outside the garden their sons are born. The Scriptures say in Genesis 4:1 and 2 *“And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD. 2 And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.”*

Therefore both sons were born outside the beautiful Garden in a world that would now bring forth “thorns and thistles” Genesis 3: 18. From reading Genesis Chapters 1 – 4 it is definitely seen that both the world and man had a change. Man would now be subject to death and was spiritually separated from God at his birth.

Both boys had the same parents and same opportunities. However, one of the boys, Abel, had a heart for and faith in God while Cain, had a rebellious, hardened and faithless heart toward God. Oh, Cain knew there was a God and even brought an offering unto the Lord but due to God rejecting his offering *“Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell”* Genesis 4: 5. The Apostle says in Hebrews 11:4 that it was ***“By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts...”***

Spiritually Abel’s heart was right with God and Cain’s was not. The Lord Jesus speaks of that heart which is without faith and rebellious toward its Maker in Matthew 15:19 *“For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies”*.

Then in Romans 1:28, 29 we are told man *“...did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;*

29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers”.

Six thousand or so years ago man disobeyed God and the result was the first boy born into this world murdered his own brother! Today man continues his rebellion toward God. This rebellion and anger toward God has sought to wipe the knowledge of God out of everything just as the verses in Romans above tell us.

Man has sought to wipe the knowledge of God out of society by removing God from all education and in turn approving of sodomy as normal, adultery as just an affair, lying as self-preservation, cheating is just being shrewd and stealing is alright as long as you don’t get caught. To prove this, just look at the present

educational, financial, political and judicial systems in the Western world. In education evolution by chance is taught rather than creation by a designer. Governments seek to obliterate their self-made financial woes through more borrowing and spending rather than heeding the fact that *“the borrower is servant to the lender”* Proverbs 22:7. Politicians push through legislation that mandates equal rights including marriage for sodomites in spite of the health risks and what God’s Word declares against such. True justice is seldom exacted as crime continues to increase with supposed “mental illness” being given as an excuse. Murder is the result of removing God and the fear of God from almost every aspect of society.

So the answer as to why this man murdered so many people is as Jesus said in Mark 7:21 *“For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders”*. Murder is the result of sin and rebellion against God! Just as Cain was angry with God but could not murder God he therefore took it out on one he could murder, and that was his brother.

Man’s solution to the Aurora, Colorado murders will not be seeking to get back to being a nation of morality and a fear of God but pass laws to prohibit guns and further limit individual freedom. Politicians will think that gun laws will now solve the killing problem. However, Australia has very stringent gun laws but murders continue. Why do they continue? They continue because the problem is not the gun but the man. For as Jeremiah of old said “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it” Jeremiah 17:9. Solomon said in Proverbs 4:23 *“Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.”*

The answer to America’s problem of murder is; the heart of man. For as the Scripture saith in Romans Chapter ten verses eight through eleven *“But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; 9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.”*

It cannot be over emphasized that the plight of America is not the gun but the heart. The answer given here will be to the educator, the politician and the judicial system much too simple but it simply is *“That if thou (singular, one person at a time) shalt confess with thy (singular) mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine (singular, one heart at a time) heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou (singular) shalt be saved”* Romans 10:9.

The Hope of the world is Jesus Christ! Paul the Apostle who wrote the above verse under the moving of the Spirit of God was complicit to murders before he met the Lord Jesus Christ. After that meeting with the resurrected Christ Paul had a changed heart and life and *“And straightway (immediately) he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God”* Acts 9:20.

What America and Australia needs is not more vile entertainment, lessening of morals, regulating guns, but changed hearts, one individual at a time; *“For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation”* Romans 10:10.