

Cain and Abel

Adam and Eve were the first people that God created. They were married and together they started the first family. First, they had a son named Cain. Then they had a second son named Abel. Everyone in the family had very important jobs to do. Cain's job was to be a farmer and tend the crops. Abel's job was to be a shepherd. Abel took care of the sheep. Because everyone was doing their job, they had plenty of fruits, vegetables, meat, and dairy for the whole family.

Everyone in the family worked together and everyone praised God for the blessings He had given them. They did this by offering sacrifices to Him. A sacrifice is a gift to God to show how much you love Him. Sometimes it was a "thank you" kind of sacrifice and sometimes it was an "I'm sorry I messed up and did something I shouldn't have done" kind of sacrifice. God had given them very specific rules about how to sacrifice. He expected them to give the very best part of their blessings back to Him and He expected them to do it because they loved Him and not because He was making them do it.

One day Cain and Abel were offering their sacrifices to God. Cain gave God fruits and vegetables, and Abel killed the firstborn animal from his flock as an offering. God liked Abel's sacrifice, but He did not like Cain's. Cain maybe didn't give God the best. Maybe he didn't give God enough. Maybe he had a grumpy attitude about having to give anything to God. The bible doesn't tell us why God didn't like Cain's offering, but it did tell us that when it happened, Cain felt a little sad, but he was also very angry. God told Cain not to get so mad about what had happened, but he should just try to do it again the right way. Cain didn't listen. He got very mad and not just at God but at Abel too. He was so mad, he went out into the field where Abel was, and he attacked him and killed him. He killed his own brother instead of trying to fix his mistake.

Later, God asked Cain where Abel was. Cain knew exactly where Abel was but instead of telling God, he said "I know not, Am I my brother's keeper?" He lied to God and even talked to God in a sassy attitude. God knew exactly what had happened and He was very disappointed with Cain. He told Cain he would no longer be able to be a farmer and that he had to leave his family. Cain moved by himself to a place called Nod. There Cain lived the rest of his life raising his own family away from Adam and Eve. Cain stopped praising God and he didn't teach his family to love God the way they should. Cain's family became a big group of people who did very bad things.