

CAIN AND ABEL

Old Testament Lesson #4

Adam and Eve had two sons. Their first son was named Cain, and the second was named Abel. Cain became a "tiller of the ground," and Abel became a shepherd. On a certain day, they each took an offering to the LORD. Cain took "some of the fruits of the soil," and Abel offered "fat portions from some of the first-born of his flock." The LORD was pleased with Abel and his offering, but not with Cain and his offering. This made Cain furious!

The Lord asked him why he was angry, and said, "If you do what is right, will you not be accepted?"

Cain invited Abel out into the field. There, Cain attacked and killed Abel.

The LORD asked Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

Cain responded, "I don't know. Am I my brother's keeper?"

The LORD confronted him with what he'd done, explaining that Abel's blood cried out to God from the ground. Because of this, God pronounced a curse upon Cain: The earth would no longer yield crops for him, and he would be "a restless wanderer" for the rest of his life. Because he refused to submit to God, he left the place where he had access to God and dwelt in the land of Nod.

The LORD still showed concern for Cain by placing a mark on him, declaring that anyone who would kill him would be punished "seven times over" (that is, completely).

Adam and Eve had another son they named Seth. Eve's comment was, "God has granted me another child in place of Abel, since Cain killed him."

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- It is not clear from the Scripture why Cain's sacrifice was unacceptable, but Hebrews 11:4 suggests that Cain lacked Abel's faith. Also, Genesis 4:7 implies that Cain had done something wrong.
- Jesus referred to Abel in Matthew 23:35, and Abel's great faith is referenced in Hebrews 11:4.

Cain and Abel

- I. Adam and Eve's two sons took offerings to the Lord.
 - A. Cain took fruits of the soil.
 - B. Abel took fat portions from the firstborn of his flock.
 - C. God was displeased with Cain and his offering, and Cain was angry.
- II. Cain invited Abel into the field.
 - A. Cain killed Abel.
 - B. When God asked Cain where Abel was, Cain lied.
 - C. God put a curse on Cain and made him a restless wanderer.
 - D. God also cared for Cain by placing a mark on him and stating that he would punish anyone who killed Cain.
- III. God gave Adam and Eve another son, named Seth.

ANSWER KEY:

first, Cain, farmer, crops, offering, not, pleased, offering, did, not, do, right, eyes, furious, killed, brother, asked, don't, know, Am, brother's, keeper, cursed, land, could, not, grow, crops, restless, wanderer, still, showed, concern

Abel, shepherd, fat, portions, firstborn, flock, pleased, offering



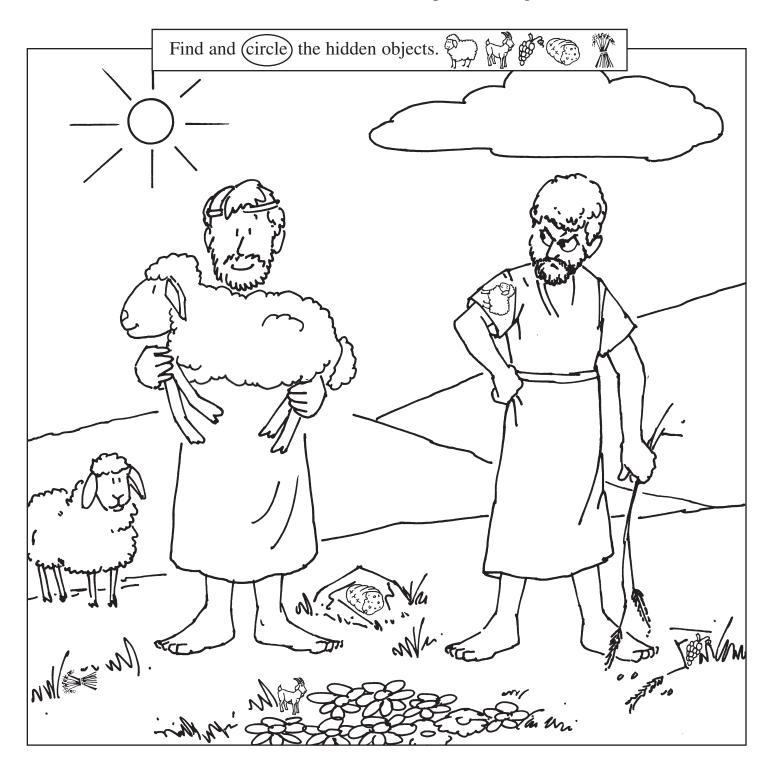
ACTIVITY SHEETS

dam and Eve had 2 sons. Find out about them below.

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bel brought a pleasing gift to God. Cain became angry at Abel because God accepted Abel's gift but not his.



Name _____