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## 1 The First Baby in the World and His Brother

## **GENESIS 3:1-4:17**

The first man's name was Adam and his wife was called Eve. They lived in a beautiful garden away in the east country which was called Eden. The garden was filled with beautiful trees and flowers of all kinds. But they did not live in Eden long for they did not obey God's command. They ate the fruit of a tree which had been forbidden them. They were driven forth by an angel and had to give up their beautiful garden home.

So Adam and his wife went out into the world to live and to work. For a time they were all alone, but after a while God gave them a little child of their own, the first baby that ever came into the world. They named him Cain. A few years later, another baby came whom they named Abel.

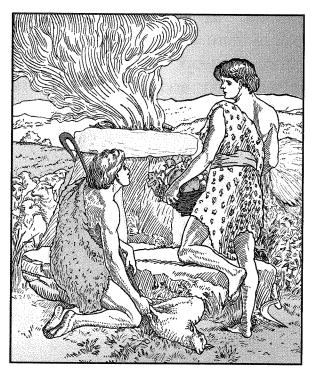
When the two boys grew up, they

worked, as their father worked before them. Cain, the older brother, chose to work in the fields, and raised grain and fruits. Abel, the younger brother, had a flock of sheep and became a shepherd.

While Adam and Eve were living in the Garden of Eden, they could talk with God and hear God's voice speaking to them. But now that they were out in the world, they could no longer talk with God freely, as before. The sin of Adam had broken the friendship between God and mankind. So when they came to God, they built an altar of stones and laid upon it, something as a gift to



Adam and Eve Driven from the Garden of Eden



Cain's Jealousy over Abel's Sacrifice

God, and burned it, to show that it was given to God, whom they could not see. Then before the altar, they prayed to God, and asked God to forgive their sins. They also prayed to God to bless them and do good to them.

Each of these brothers, Cain and Abel, offered upon the altar to God his own gift. Cain brought the fruits and the grain which he had grown. Abel brought a sheep from his flock, and killed it and burned it upon the altar.

God was pleased with Abel and his offering, but was not pleased with Cain's offering. God wished Cain to offer a blood sacrifice, as Abel

offered. Cain's heart was not right when he came before God to worship because he tried to approach God on his own terms.

God showed that He was not pleased with Cain. Cain, instead of being sorry for his sin, and asking God to forgive him, was very angry with God, and angry also toward his brother Abel. When they were out in the field together, Cain struck his brother Abel and killed him. So the first baby in the world grew up to be the murderer of his own brother.

And the Lord said to Cain, "Where is Abel, your brother?"

And Cain answered, "I do not know; why should I take care of my brother?"

Then the Lord said to Cain "What is this that you have done? Your brother's blood is like a voice crying to me from the ground. Do you see how the ground has opened, like a mouth, to drink your brother's blood? As long as you live, you shall be under God's curse for the murder of your brother. You shall wander over the earth, and shall never find a home, because you have done this wicked deed."

And Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. Thou hast driven me out from

among men; and thou hast hid thy grace from me. If any man finds me he will kill me, because I shall be alone, and no one will be my friend."

And God said to Cain, "If anyone harms Cain, he shall be punished for it." And the Lord God placed a mark on Cain, so that whoever met him should know him, and should know also that God had forbidden any man to harm him. Then Cain and his wife went away from Adam's home to live in a place by themselves, and there they had children. And Cain's family built a city in that land; and Cain named the city after his first child, whom he had called Enoch.

## **Comprehension Exercise**

Complete the sentences using the words below.

	Abel			
	Adam			
	Eden			
	Cain	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
1. The first man was named				
2.	2. The name of the first baby that was born in the world was			
3.	murdered by his brot	was her.		
4.	Adam and Eve lived f garden of	first in the		