

Who were the first TWO children?

--Cain and Abel

Cain was born first,  
Abel was born  
second.



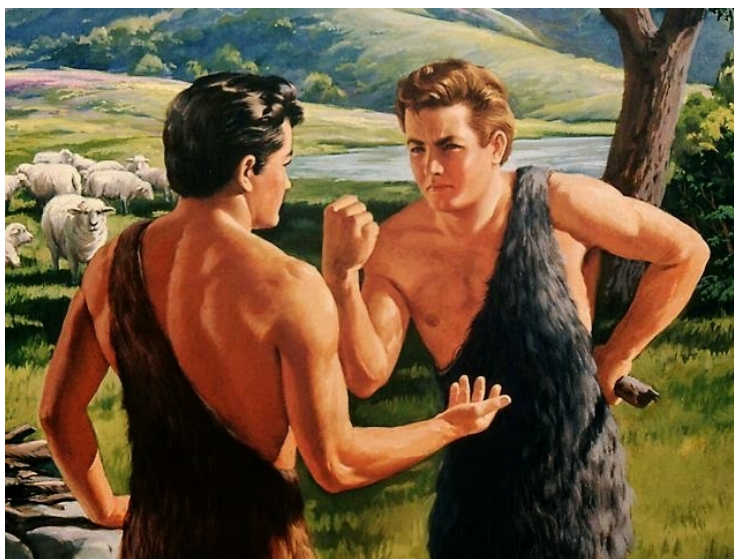
As they grew up, Cain became a gardener like  
his dad,  
and Abel  
became a  
shepherd,  
taking care of  
the family's livestock.



Both Cain and Abel brought offerings from their work to give to the Lord.



The Lord accepted Abel's gift, but wouldn't accept Cain's. This made Cain MAD at his brother!



Do you think it was very fair of the Lord to do that? Remember, God knows things that we don't.



He accepted Abel's offering because he knew Abel loved God with all his heart and wanted to please him always.

God also knew that Cain *didn't* love him with all his heart.

So the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you so angry? Why do you look so offended? You will be accepted if you do what is right, but if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be it's master."

Gen 4:6-7



What is sin? Sin is doing things you know you shouldn't do.

What kind of sin do you think was crouching at Cain's door?

Yes, anger.



Jesus says in Matthew 5:22 that “**everyone who is angry at his brother shall be in danger of judgment.**”

That's like having a **Tiger** outside your door ready to jump on you when you open it!!



So what should Cain do? Should he open the door??

NO! He should go up to the door—NOT open it-- and tell that **Tiger** to: “Go away”! He should tell his anger: “That’s not right! And I won’t obey you! You aren’t my master. GO AWAY!”

But Cain didn’t do that.



Instead, He invited Abel out to a field, and he got angry at him again. He got so angry that he killed his brother.



The bible says that Abel's blood cried out to God from the ground.

Why would Abel's blood cry out?  
What was it crying for?



It was crying out for judgment. His brother had committed a crime against him and that calls for a punishment to be paid.

Remember, Jesus said the **one who's angry at his brother is in danger of judgment?** This is why.

When we do something that we know is wrong—**especially deliberately hurting someone else**, then there are consequences. *And those consequences have to be paid.*

So what did  
God do to  
Cain?





The consequences were that God cursed him and banished him from his garden and crops. The land would no longer be fruitful for him. He would be a wanderer with no home.

That made Cain very sad and scared.



So God said he would mark Cain as his own and would protect him, but there was nothing that could change it.

But here's the GOOD NEWS!



**JESUS** came to change that curse.



When we do things we know we shouldn't do  
We come under that same curse that Cain did,  
just like Adam and Eve.

When we don't give our hearts completely to  
God like Abel, we can find ourselves far from God  
like Cain.

But because Jesus died for us and rose again, if  
we'll be honest about our sin, and tell that **Tiger**  
to "go away!" then it will! And if we look to Jesus  
to help us be like Abel--who is a picture of what  
Jesus is like—we don't have to be far away from  
God like Cain, and can have our home with him  
and be close to him.



# Bible Lessons on the Number TWO: Cain and Abel

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