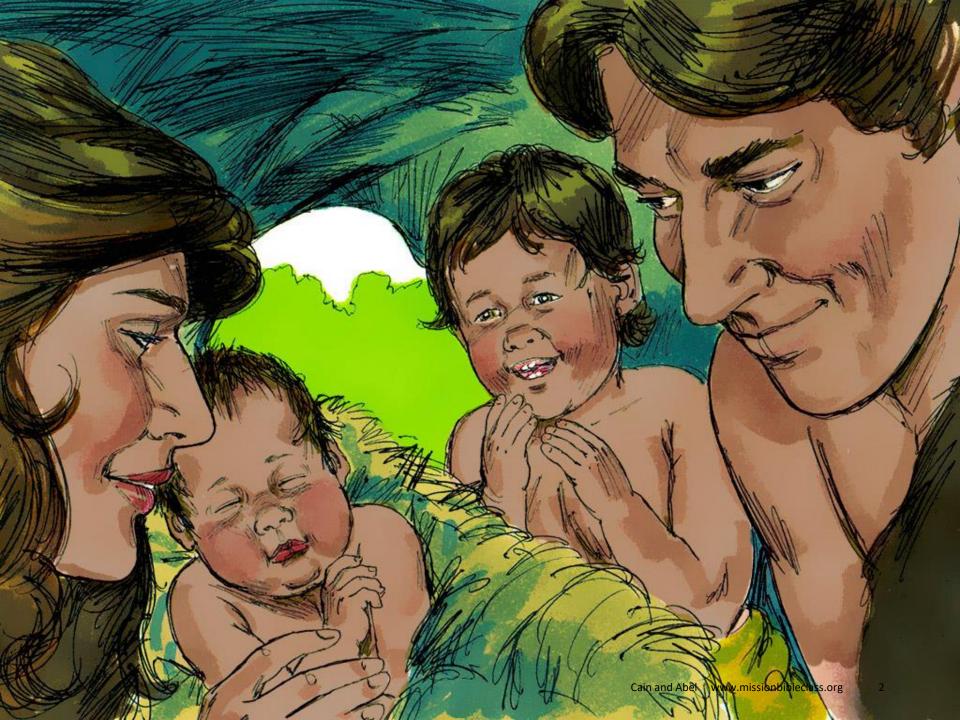
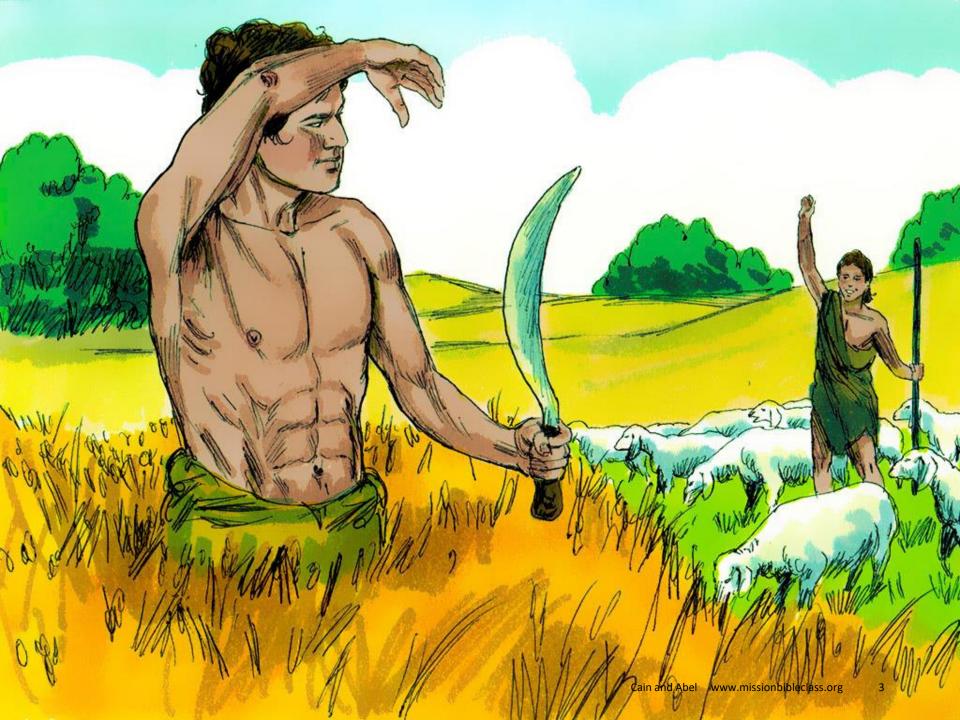
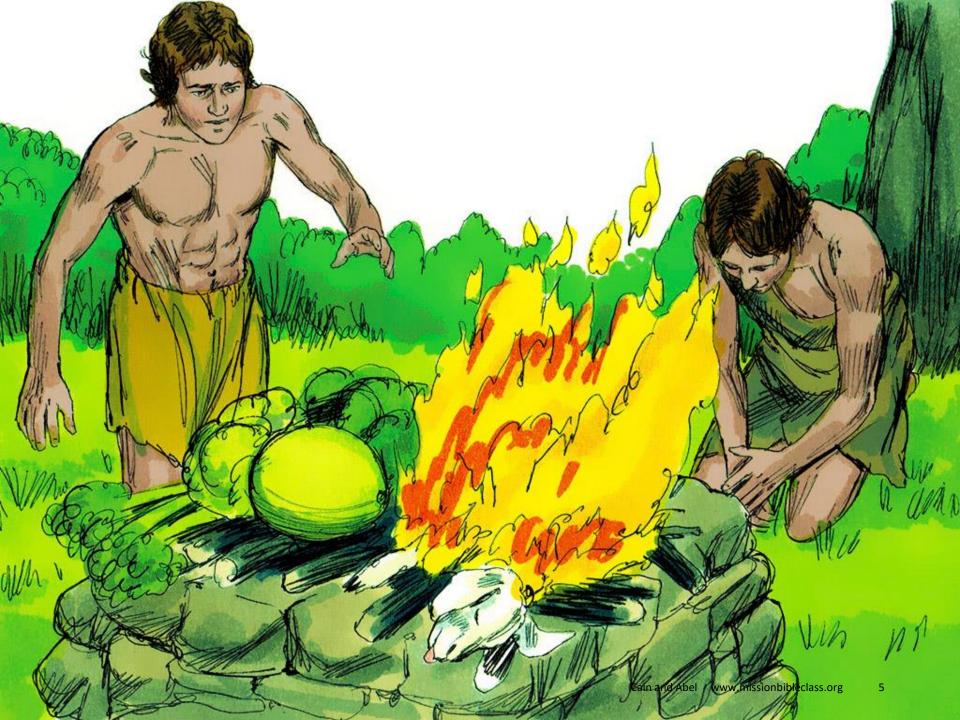
Cain and Abe

Genesis 4:1-16, 25











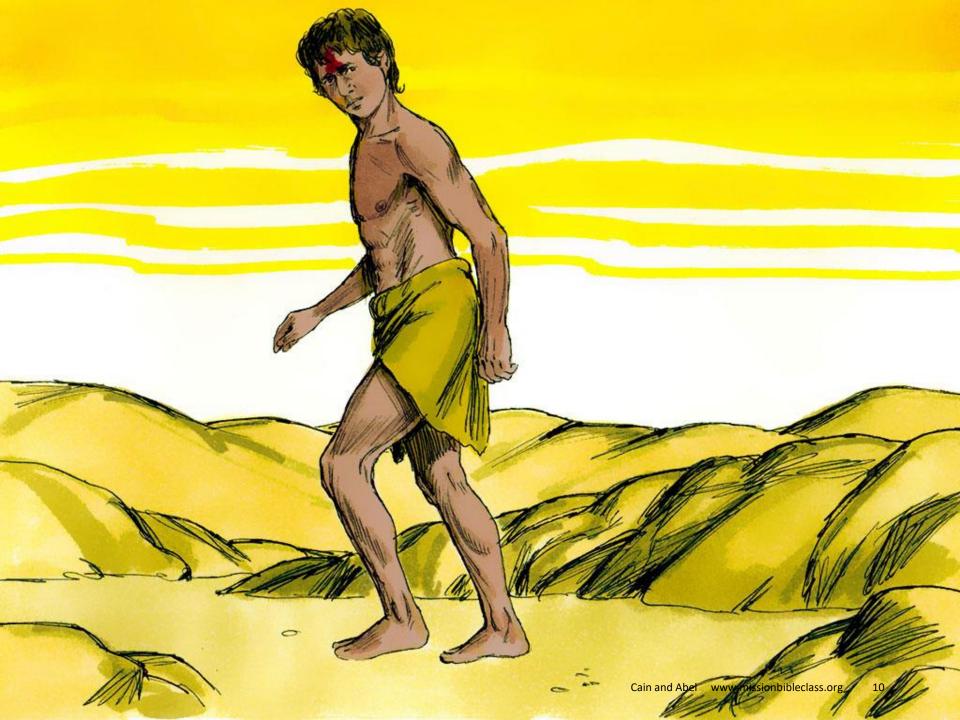




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Cover: Cain and Abel Genesis 4:1-16, 25

2. After Adam and Eve were told to leave the Garden of Eden they found a place to live where they could grow crops and raise animals. They had children. The name of one son was Cain, and the name of another son was Abel.

3. When the brothers grew up Cain became a farmer who worked in the fields. Abel took care of sheep.

4. In those days people showed their devotion to God by bringing gifts and laying them on a platform called an altar.

Cain brought some of the vegetables that he had grown and placed them on the altar.

But Abel's heart was different from Cain's. He did not place just anything on the altar. Abel had faith and he placed the very best of the best of his lambs and placed them on the altar.

5. God was pleased with the offering that Abel made. Why do you think that was? Perhaps it was because he saw that Abel loved God so much that he wanted to give his very best. 6. God was not pleased with Cain's offering. When Cain saw that God was more pleased with Abel he became very angry. God saw how angry Cain was and said, "Cain, why are you so angry? If you do right, I'll accept you. But if you don't do right, you will sin." God knew that if Cain did not stop being angry and jealous, he would do something terribly wrong.

When he heard this Cain should have stopped and told God he was sorry but he was so angry he did not think about doing good things. He did not control his anger but only thought about how God approved of Abel more than him.

7. Cain did not control his anger and jealousy. He became more and more angry that all of his anger just "boiled up" inside.

Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out in the field." While they were in the field, Cain attacked Abel and killed him.

8. When God came to Cain he asked, "Where is your brother Abel?"

Cain answered, "Am I my brother's keeper? Is it my job to keep track of him all the time?"

Cain killed his brother when he thought no one was watching but we know that God sees and knows everything that happens.

9. God knew what Cain had done and he knew that Cain must be punished. "Your brother's blood is still on the ground. Your punishment is that nothing you plant in the ground will grow. You will just wander around the earth finding food wherever you can."

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10. Cain was upset by this. "My punishment is more than I can bear," said Cain. "I will wander around and whoever finds me will kill me."

So God put a special mark on Cain so that anyone seeing the mark would know not to kill him. And then Cain went away from his family and his home.

After the sad story of Cain and Abel Adam and Eve had another son. This son's name was Seth.

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