

Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel



The book of Genesis shows that God gifted humans with more powers and privileges but they refused to be partners with Him in developing the earth.

God placed Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden giving them freedom to eat and enjoy the fruits of creation. Only one fruit of the tree of knowledge was kept out of their reach. But the evil one got the woman to pluck the forbidden fruit and take a bite of it before sharing it with the man.



Adam and Eve hoped to become equal with God but their hopes were shattered as the loving bond between the Creator and them was broken and they could not remain in the Garden of Eden.

After Adam and Eve were thrown out of paradise, they tilled the land for a living and in time gave birth to Cain and Abel. Cain became a farmer while Abel became a shepherd. Both made offerings to God, who was pleased with the lambs from Abel's flock rather than the first fruits from Cain's farm.

Seeing that Cain was overcome with jealousy God told him to beware of evil and control himself. But Cain invited Abel to his farm and killed him. After the crime, Cain got scared and pleaded with God to safeguard him.

The loving God forgave Cain and gave him a sign of His friendship. As with Adam and Eve, God was true to his loving nature and continued his care and protection for humans.

However, when humans break their relationship with God by distrusting and disobeying Him, they must be prepared to bear the consequences of their acts.



Word of God

Genesis 4: 4b – 7

Then Abel brought the first lamb born to one of his sheep, killed it, and gave the best parts of it as an offering. The Lord was pleased with Abel and his offering, but he rejected Cain and his offering. Cain became furious, and he scowled in anger. Then the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why that scowl on your face? If you had done the right thing, you would be smiling; but because you have done evil, sin is crouching at your door. It wants to rule you, but you must overcome it."

Insight



Mabelle and Rajnikant Arole, Social Workers

Dr. Rajnikant Arole and his wife Mabelle provided healthcare facilities to poor people in Jamkhed village in drought-prone Ahmednagar district. The couple had founded Maharashtra Social Forum to carry out their work. The couple was awarded the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay award in 1979. Indian government honoured Rajnikant Arole with the Padma Bhushan. Mabelle died in 1999 while Dr. Arole died in 2011.

Notes

**Know
Now**

Read Cain and Abel, an article in New World Encyclopaedia that explains theologically and Biblically the first murder of a human being by another human being 6000 years ago. With reference to Catholic thinkers like Saint Augustine the article gives a very good study of this narrative in Genesis. Read more - <https://bit.ly/2yBzSq1>

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