

Dear Dave,

Thank you for writing us at Christian Questions Radio. You wanted to know if Cain and Abel were twins and if they both had the same father. You wondered if Adam was the father of both sons, or was the serpent the father of Cain?

We will quote Genesis 4:1-2 from the Authorized King James Version, the New American Standard Version and the New International Version.

“And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD. And she again bare his brother Abel.” (AKJV)

“Now the man had relations with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to Cain, and she said, ‘I have gotten a manchild with the help of the LORD.’ And again, she gave birth to his brother Abel.” (NAS)

“And Adam lay with his wife Eve and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, ‘With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man.’ Later she gave birth to his brother Abel.” (NIV)

From these scriptures we conclude that Adam was the father of both Cain and Abel. If the serpent (Satan) had been the father of Cain, as some theorize, we believe such an event would have been clearly recorded in scripture. Furthermore, the occurrence would also have been contrary to God’s laws, as we observe later when some angels (2 Peter 2:4, Jude 6) did leave their first estate and mate with human females (Genesis 6:2). The product of this illicit union was a hybrid evil race (the Nephilim), extremely displeasing to God (Genesis 6:5, 11-12). God in the Flood ultimately destroyed that race. Because it was not of pure Adamic stock, the hybrid race will not be eligible for redemption through the blood of Jesus. Even though Adam’s sin plunged all his progeny into sin, God provided a Redeemer through his Son, Jesus. “For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.” (1 Corinthians 15:22) The Nephilim were not sons of Adam or his progeny so redemption through Jesus does not apply to them.

Were Cain and Abel twins? We do not believe that they were. The Bible does not directly say that they were twins. From most of the Bible translations it appears that Abel was born afterwards. “Later she gave birth to his brother Abel.” (Genesis 4:2 NIV) In instances where twins are born, the events are clearly noted. (See Esau and Jacob [Genesis 25:24-26] and Perez and Zerah [Genesis 38:27-30].)

Who was the father of both Cain and Abel? We believe that Adam was. Were Cain and Abel twins? We do not think that they were.

We hope we have answered your questions. Be sure to sign up for CQ Rewind at www.christianquestions.net. The service is free without obligation and will provide you with scriptural perspective on many questions and topics.

Sincerely,

Christian Questions Radio