



TITLE:

By Faith Abel ...

TEXT:

Hebrews 11:4

By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

INTRODUCTION

- In the hall of faith, God begins with salvation.
- By faith, Abel obtained a good report (v. 2, 39).
- By sure confidence, by proven evidence, Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain.
- See Gen. 4:1-10.
 - Abel was a keeper of sheep.
 - He offered the firstlings of his flock and the fat thereof.
 - The LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering.
 - Cain was a tiller of the ground.
 - He offered the fruit of the ground.
 - The LORD had NOT respect unto Cain and to his offering.
 - Cain slew Abel.
- Abel was a prophet - the first prophet (Luke 11:50-51).
 - He received words from God.
 - He declared words from God.
 - He knows the Messiah:
 - He knows the coat of skins that the LORD gave to his parents (Gen. 3:21).
 - He knows the prophecy about Seed of the woman (Gen. 3:15).
 - He knows the atoning sacrifice of the Messiah - the Lamb of God.

BY FAITH ABEL OFFERED A MORE EXCELLENT SACRIFICE

- By faith on the words of God he received, he offered the right sacrifice. Abel followed God's plan of salvation. His offering is respect for God's word. He didn't make the offering up.
 - His offering continually speaks today (v.4).
 - .. speaks man's sinful condition and confession of sins
 - .. speaks of wages of sin - death
 - .. speaks the necessity of blood sacrifice
 - .. speaks the necessity of a substitute
 - .. speaks of the imputed righteousness
 - .. speaks of grace and not of works
 - His offering is more excellent sacrifice than Cain.
- Cain represents false religion, false gospel. The Way of Cain (Jude 11).
 - His offering is similar to the aprons that his parents did.
 - His offering rejects God's words.
 - His offering shows self-righteousness.
 - His offering shows religious deed.
 - His offering tells that there are multiple paths to God.
 - His offering is a bloodless religion.
 - His offering shows pride and self-will.
- God is testifying:
 - Abel's offering is acceptable to God.
 - Abel is righteous before God.