

ABEL'S FAITH

Hebrews 11:4

Abel's faith caused him to worship and makes him a witness

I. A FAITH THAT WORSHIPS

- We know two things about his offering

A. ABEL OFFERED TO GOD A SACRIFICE

1. A particular time > Gen. 4:3a "so it came about in the course of time"
 - This makes it special
2. A particular man > Abel
 - This makes it personal
3. A particular practice > Offering
 - This makes it uncoerced
4. A particular recipient > God
 - This makes it holy
5. A particular present > sacrifice
 - This makes it significant

B. ABEL OFFERED A BETTER SACRIFICE THAN CAINS

1. Better because it was motivated by faith
2. Better because it came from a man God regarded - Gen. 4:4
3. Better because it was an act of devotion - Gen. 4:4
4. Better because it indicates attentiveness - Gen. 4:4
5. Better because it testifies of Abel's righteousness - Heb. 11:4
6. Better because God approves of it - Heb. 11:4
7. Better in contrast to Cain's failures - See Gen. 4:5-8
 - a. Cain was disregarded by God (5a)
 - b. Cain was angry with God (5b)
 - c. Cain was unrepentant with God (6-7)
 - d. Cain was violent against the godly (8)

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II. A FAITH THAT WITNESSES

- And through faith, though he is dead, he still speaks

A. HE SPEAKS ABOUT FAITH

1. The righteous live by faith - Heb. 10:38
2. Man comes to God by a faith that God demands
3. Abel's testimony is timeless

B. HE SPEAKS ABOUT WORSHIP

1. Man must worship God correctly
2. Righteousness is demonstrated by obedience that is the prerequisite for worship

C. HE SPEAKS ABOUT GOD

1. God honors those who have faith in His word and rightly worship
2. God accepted Abel's offering but did not prevent his murder
3. The first murder produced the first martyr who was the first to meet his Maker in Heaven

CONCLUSION:

What does God see when he looks at our faith?

- Are we worshipping and witnessing?

What do others see when they look at our faith?

- Does it draw attention to our God and His salvation?