



The Faith of Abel?

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Hebrews 11:4

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What we have learned so far in our study ...

- The Theme of the Book - Jesus is "Better" ...
- The Outline of the Book of Hebrews ...

A Better Person: Jesus (1-6)

A Better Priesthood: Jesus (7-10)

A Better Principle: Faith (11-13)

The Examples of Faith (11)

The Features of Faith — Faith Described vs. 1-3

*"The **assurance** of things hoped for..."* Is the **ATTITUDE** of faith.

*"the **conviction** of things not seen ..."* Is the **ACTIONS** of faith.

*"for by it the men of old gained **approval** ..."* Is the **APPROVAL** of faith.

*"by faith we **understand** that the worlds ..."* Is the **ACCEPTANCE** of faith.

The Family of Faith — Faith Displayed vs. 4-40

What we are going to learn today in our study ...

Hebrews 11:4

Abel: The **FIRST** man of faith.

Abel: The **WORSHIP** of faith. v. 4 — A picture of what it looks like when you first come to **SAVING** faith in Jesus Christ.

LESSON - The Faith of Abel 11:4

I. THE STORY — Genesis 4:1-5

3 things are established in this story

- The **PLACE** of worship. "an offering to the Lord ..." vs. 3,4
- The **TIME** for worship. "it came about in the course of time." v. 3
- The **WAY** to worship. "the Lord had regard He had no regard." vs. 4,5

The 2 responses in the story

- Abel is **OBEDIENT**.
- Cain is **DISOBEDIENT**.

II. THE SIGNIFICANCE — Hebrews 11:4

"Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain"

- Because it was a **BLOOD** offering.
- Because it was done in **OBEDIENCE**.
- Because it was by **FAITH**.

*"Through which he obtained the testimony that he was righteous,
God testifying about his gifts"*

- Because he came on the only terms that God provides — A **SACRIFICE** for sin.
- Because he proved he obtained righteousness by his **OBEDIENCE**.

Note the contrast with Cain who proved that he didn't obtain God's righteousness:

1. He became **ANGRY**. (Genesis 4:5-6)
2. He rejected God's **GRACE**. (Genesis 4:7)
3. He **MURDERED**. (Genesis 4:8)
4. He **AVOIDED** the Lord. (Genesis 4:9)
5. He failed to **REPENT**. (Genesis 4:10-15)
6. He walked **AWAY** from God. (Genesis 4:16)

"and through faith, though he is dead, still speaks"

- You must come by **FAITH**, not **WORKS**.
- This is based on the **REVELATION** of God, not the **REASONING** of man.
- To neglect God's **ONLY** way is to invite God's **JUDGMENT**.

Today's Growth Point — How does this passage apply to you and your GCG?