

Series: Champion of God

Title: Abel, the Champion of Worship

Text: (Heb 11:1-4*) - God's Hall of Fame!

Abel: 1st of God's heroes in "God's Hall of Fame"

(Heb 11:4) *"By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice..."*

Abel was a very ordinary man, a Sinner just like us.

God is not Looking at your Fame, Fortune, Friends,
but according to your FAITH. (Heb 11:6)

The Object of our Faith that Makes the Difference!

Faith is our Response to God's Word.

Our OBEDIENCE determines our WORSHIP.

Obedience is the Ultimate display of Worship.

(Heb 11:4) *"By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain."*

(Gen 4:1-4) story of Cain & Abel's sacrifice.

(Gen 4:1-2a) Adam & Eve had two sons, Cain & Abel

(Gen 4:3-4a) Both of these boys were religious boys,
and they both came to worship the Lord.

Their Worship involved making an offering.

Their Worship describes all religions of today.

There is a Difference BETWEEN Religions:

Some People today, believe all religions are the same.

Some people believe all religions lead to heaven.

There really is only 2 kinds of religion in the world.

WE divide world religions into different categories.

Researcher David Barrett: 9900 different Religions.

Even Christianity is divided into little segments:

Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterian, Episcopalian,

All religion can be put into two categories:

True Religion and False Religion. That's it.

Its Determined by the Object of a person's FAITH.

False Religion is Faith in Anything or Any Person

other than the Person & Work of Jesus Christ.

Jesus: not "A" way to Heaven, but THE way: Jn14:6

Cain & Abel, represent all religions of the World.

I. The Religion of Cain: (Gen 4:2-3)

Cain was a farmer; nothing wrong w/ being a farmer.

(Gen 3:17-19) *"Cursed is the ground."*

Cain was cursed as a sinner the a son of Adam.

(1 Cor 15:22) *"In Adam all die."*

(Is 64:6) *But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags;*

So here is a Cursed Sinner, with Wicked Hands,

offering to the Lord the fruit of the Cursed Ground.

The Object of Cain's Faith was his own

Righteousness through Good Works.

Many people have that kind of religion.

They believe they're going to get to God by effort.
They believe they're going to get to God by works.

They believe in Culture, but not in Calvary.

They believe in Tradition, but not in Truth.

What's the Big Deal? God said what He wants.

(John 4:23-24) *True Worshippers: spirit & Truth!*

(Heb 9:22) It's Not What God Said He Would Accept!

"Without shedding of blood is no remission."

Cain brought a bloodless sacrifice;

What motivated him to do it?

He got the idea in his own Pride!

He did not get it by Divine Revelation.

***People need to turn from Religion of Performance,
to Relationship with Jesus Christ.***

Religious people are the hardest to win Jesus Christ.

Did you know that?

It was THE MOST religious society on the face of the earth, that crucified Jesus Christ.

THE Religion of Cain.

It is the religion of works, and ***God will not accept it!***

It's amazing how many people have this religion.

II. The Religion of Abel.

(Heb 11:4) *"a more excellent sacrifice."*

Which means God received his offering.

How did Abel Worship the Lord? brought an Offering
(Gen 4:4) *"firstlings of his flock & of the fat thereof."*

What Offering did Abel bring?

An animal, specifically, Abel brought a lamb.

The 1st Gospel sermon had already been preached in

(Gen 3:15) ***"God said to the serpent,***

"And I will put enmity [warfare]

between thee & the woman,

& between thy seed," the [Antichrist]

"and her seed [that is Jesus Christ];

& it shall bruise thy head, [Resurrection]

(Rev 1:18) *I am he that liveth, and was dead; and,*

behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

and thou shalt bruise his heel." [Crucifixion]

The Shadow of Calvary extends back to Eden!

Satan is going to wound Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ is going to crush Satan's head!

And then God gave an illustration of that sermon.

(Gen 3:21) *"Unto Adam also and to his wife did the*

LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them."

Salvation is spoken of as a covering, as a robe of

righteousness! (Rev 7:9,13-14)(Ps 32:1)

Innocent blood Had to be shed. Why? (Heb 9:22)
"Without shedding of blood is no remission of sin."

Cain and Abel knew this.

Abel was ALSO a prophet of God. A man of God.

(Gen 4:3) *And in process of time..*

(Luke 11:49-51) Jesus lists Able as a prophet who had been slain for preaching the truth.

"all of the prophets, from Abel to Zacharias"

Every prophet Preaches the Same Message!

(Acts 10:43) *"To him [to Jesus] give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins."*

Calvary's Shadow extends the entire length of Time.

God had revealed it by Precept & by Example:

"without shedding is no remission of sin"!

There's only two kinds of religion: True & False

(Gen 4) & (Heb 11:4) 2 kinds of religions.

Everybody is Worshiping Something.

The Object of your Faith that makes the difference!

There's only one way to get to Heaven, and that is in the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ! (John 14:6)

What is the Object of your Faith?

What is it You Are Depending ON! It Matters

The Object of our faith Determines your Religion, but it also Determines the Results of your Religion.

"Well what difference does it make?"

(Heb 11:4) *"he obtained witness that he was righteous"*

The practical difference God Declared him Righteous

We Have a Problem: We are all Sinners.

(Rom 3:23) *"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."*

A Man is not a Thief because he Steals;

He Steals because he IS a Thief.

A man is not a Liar because he tells Lies;

He tells Lies because he IS a Liar.

The problem is not what we Do; it's what we Are.

We Do what we Do because we Are what we Are!

God has a problem: - God is a holy God!

God cannot let one sin go unpunished w/o ceasing to be a holy God.

On the Other Hand...

God loves us with an infinite love, everlasting love.

So God Credits the believing sinner with His Righteousness

(Rom 3:22) (Rom 4:5) ***Counted for Righteousness***

Why was Cain's religion not as good as Abel's?

(Rom 3:24) *"Being justified freely by His grace."*

Jesus Christ is not the best way to heaven, Jesus Christ is the ONLY way to Heaven. (John 14:6)
(Rom 3:25) *"Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood"*

God's holiness must be satisfied.

God's righteousness must be propitiated.

(Rom 3:26) *"To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness:"*

Remember how righteous He is?

"that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus."

Remember how good God is?

Why do you think that God put this in Gen 3-4?

Why did God take the trouble to say it in Heb 11:4?

There are two offerings:

One was accepted, and One was Rejected?

The Object of our Faith Determines our Religion.

The Object of our Faith Determines the Result of your Religion.

The Object of our Faith also Determines the Record of our Religion.

(Hebrews 11:4) *"God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh."*

Abel's Faith, was worth dying for!

Now, how long has Abel been dead? 6000 years

And God said, *"You're righteous, Abel."*

6000 years, but *"he being dead yet speaketh."*

He's not really dead. He's still alive.

What is the Object of Your Faith?

Is your Religion Worth Having?

We point at people who are working their way & say, those poor people, if they only knew the truth. Pitiful.

People who believe in Works, LIVE their beliefs.

What will be the record of your FAITH be?

What will be the record of your LIFE b/c of your faith
(James 2:17-26) *Faith without Works is Dead.*

Quote: *The only thing not silenced by the grave is the testimony of a person's life.*

The Object of Our Faith: Jesus Christ, Should Determine the way we live.

(Eph 2:10) *For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

What difference has your Faith made in your life?

What record will your children say your faith has made?

Abel, In One, Bold Move of Obedient Devotion, Paid with His life, but speaks for an eternity!

If you died today, would you go to Heaven?

The Object of our Faith makes the difference!

Faith is our Response to God's Word!

You can't just believe in anything; you've got to believe in the revealed Word of God.

The Bible says, "*Without shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin.*"

The Bible says, "*The blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin.*"

(Eph 2:8-9)

You're saved by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

"*For by grace.*" What is the GIFT of Grace?

G-r-a-c-e: God's riches at Christ's expense.

"*For by grace are ye saved through faith.*"

What is faith?

F-a-i-t-h: Forsaking All, I Trust Him.

Grace: God's Riches At Christ's Expense.

Do you know what grace is?

Grace is God reaching down out of Heaven saying,

"*I love you, I want to save you,*

Here is my righteousness to satisfy my Holiness"

Do you know what faith is?

Faith is our hand reaching up & takes hold of God's grace & Receiving Jesus as our Savior.

Do you want to be saved?

When your hand of faith takes hold of God's hand of grace, that's salvation.

"*For by grace are ye saved through faith!*"

God's riches at Christ's expense! Forsaking all, I trust Him! ***Lord, save me!***

I'm not bringing the fruit of the ground!

I'm pleading the blood of Jesus!

I am coming as a sinner, confessing my sin, trusting Christ, and Him alone to save me.

Abel was a Champion of God, because His Faith Caused Him to Obey, & his Obedience was the highest Praise & Worship God can Receive. And it Cost Him his life!

There are only 2 religions: the True and the False.

What kind do you have?

Is yours worth dying For?

Is the Object of Your Faith Worth Living For?

Worth Worshiping by your Obedience?