

## HEROES OF FAITH

### Part One: Abel's Pleasing Worship

Text: Heb. 11:4, Gen. 4:1-7

- Heb. 11:6 = faith is the only way to please God, come to God, find God, and be rewarded by God.
- Heb. 11:4-5: two illustrations of God-pleasing faith:
  - Vs. 5, Enoch pleased God with a more excellent walk.
  - Vs. 4, Abel pleased God by his more excellent worship.

#### I. ABEL'S MORE \_\_\_\_\_ OFFERING (GEN. 4:4)

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ offering—"of the flock" of sheep; an animal sacrifice.
2. A \_\_\_\_\_ offering—"and of the fat thereof"
  - Abel's blood sacrifice satisfied God's \_\_\_\_\_ and requirements.
3. A \_\_\_\_\_ and prioritized offering—"of the firstlings"
  - Abel gave the first lambs of that year to the Lord and modeled the right way to give to God, to give the \_\_\_\_\_ and best.
4. A \_\_\_\_\_ offering—"And the Lord had respect to Abel and to his offering"
  - Had respect = "to look \_\_\_\_\_ at something."
  - God accepted the \_\_\_\_\_ because it was the kind He required and had taught them to give;
  - God accepted Abel because this offering was the expression of genuine \_\_\_\_\_ in his heart.
  - Heb. 11:4: Abel's offering was "more excellent" because:
    - It was offered in \_\_\_\_\_ to God's instructions.
    - It was offered in anticipation of Christ's \_\_\_\_\_.

#### II. CAIN'S \_\_\_\_\_ OFFERING (GEN. 4:3, 5)

1. An \_\_\_\_\_ offering—"of the fruit of the ground," not an animal sacrifice as God instructed.
  - Cain knew better but wanted to offer in his own way.
2. An \_\_\_\_\_ offering—all Cain's idea, not God's idea.
  - His act of "worship" was not God-worship but \_\_\_\_\_-worship.
3. An \_\_\_\_\_ offering—a bloodless offering that couldn't atone for \_\_\_\_\_.
4. An \_\_\_\_\_ offering—
  - Although Cain's produce was valuable and beautiful in his sight, it wasn't sufficient in God's sight to atone for his sins.
  - Application: Our good works are never enough to \_\_\_\_\_ God's approval.

5. An \_\_\_\_\_ offering—(vs. 5) "unto Cain and his offering he [God] had not respect."
  - Because God didn't accept Cain's offering, He didn't \_\_\_\_\_ Cain either.
  - Cain didn't offer by faith because he didn't \_\_\_\_\_ God's Word and wasn't trusting in Christ.

#### APPLICATIONS

- To unbelievers: Which of those two brothers are you most like?
  - If you were to die today, would you be in \_\_\_\_\_ with Abel or in hell with Cain?
  - There must be a time when you are forgiven of your sins and \_\_\_\_\_ by God.
- To believers: We are no longer the servants of sin, so we should not willingly yield our members to sin's \_\_\_\_\_ but rather should be ruling over sin with the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 6:12-14).
- Final thought: Don't walk on the "way of Cain" (Jude 1:11). Walk on the way of \_\_\_\_\_ with godly Abel.