

BY FAITH ABEL...

*Hebrews 11:4*

INTRODUCTION:

- A. God's people are to live by faith
  - 1) We must be just *10:38*
  - 2) Faith must be the foundation
  
- B. By having faith the men of old had a good testimony before God.
  - 1) Faith is believing God *11:2*
  - 2) Faith is a "moving" force
  
- I. The History Of Abel's Offering To God
  - A. Things Cain and Abel had in common *Genesis 4:1-15 (4)*
    - 1) They had the same parents
    - 2) They had the same home life
    - 3) They had the same religious training
    - 4) They were both mature heads of families
    - 5) They were both responsible men
    - 6) They had the same opportunities
    - 7) They both made an offering
  
  - B. Abel's offering pleased God
    - 1) He brought the right offering
    - 2) These people knew what God required
    - 3) It was a "shed blood" offering
    - 4) It was brought in faith
  
  - C. Cain's offering was not accepted
    - 1) It was without blood shed
    - 2) *Hebrews 9:22*
    - 3) It was without faith

## II. Abel's Offering To God, An Analysis

### A. *"By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain..."*

- 1) "offered" = προσφέρω = "to bear or bring towards any place or person", "to offer", "to present"
- 2) "excellent" = πλείων = "more", "greater" thus pleasing
- 3) "sacrifice" = θυσία = "the act of killing and offering in sacrifice"
- 4) "Faith made Abel's sacrifice greater in the sight of God than Cain's..." GSPD

### B. *"...by which he obtained witness that he was righteous..."*

- 1) "obtained" = μαρτυρῶ = "to have good witness", "to obtain attestation"
- 2) "witness" = (see above)
- 3) "righteous" = δίκαιος = "right", "just" Fulfilling all claims which are right and becoming; just as it should be; a right state, of which God is the standard.
- 4) "...God approved of him as being righteous..."

### C. *"God testifying of his gifts:..."*

- 1) "testifying" = μαρτυρῶ = "to witness in favour"
- 2) "gifts" = δῶρον = "a present", "a motive offering"
- 3) "for God acknowledged his gifts" BER
- 4) *Matthew 23:35* - "the blood of righteous Abel..."

### D. *"...and by it he being dead yet speaketh."*

- 1) "dead" = ἀποθνήσκω = "to become quite dead"
- 2) "speaketh" = λαλέω = "to speak" ~~Μεσολαεῖται~~ = "is spoken of" The testimony of God was used continually of Abel.
- 3) "and because of his faith he is still spoken of"