



"Abel – A Faith Worth Dying For"

I. Review

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. Hebrews 11:1-3

Faith is something we all **POSSESS**.

Faith is **ACTION**.

*For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the **measure of faith God has given you.** Romans 12:3*

*And without faith it is **impossible** to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. Hebrews 11:6*

Faith is the **HINGE** that your Christian beliefs swing on – in fact faith is the **HINGE** that life swings on.

II. Great Cloud of Witnesses

***Therefore**, since we are surrounded by such a **great cloud of witnesses**, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Hebrews 12:1*

III. Abel – a faith that produced excellence.

***"By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead."** Hebrews 11:4*

"Adam lay with his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, "With the help of the Lord I have brought forth a man." Later she gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the Lord. But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering, but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast. Then the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry?"

Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it." Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him. Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?" The Lord said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth." Genesis 4:1-12

Able could have said – "I can't have faith – just look at **MY FAMILY**."

IV. The Faith of Abel - credited to him as **RIGHTEOUSNESS**.

*"By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. **By faith he was commended as a righteous man**, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead." Hebrews 11:4*

1. A **PLACE** to worship
2. A **TIME** to worship
3. A **WAY** to worship

Abel's **SACRIFICE**.

Cain's **SACRIFICE**.

"Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks." John 4:23

"To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples." John 8:31

"You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that - and shudder. You foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless?" James 2:19-20

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God". Ephesians 2:8

Righteousness is credited to us based on **FAITH**.

Our attitude and actions all matter – our **FAMILY HERITAGE** is not the determining factor of **RIGHTEOUSNESS** – or of our ability to exercise **FAITH**.