

## ***“Heroes Of The Faith” – ABEL – II***

**INTRODUCTION: Hebrews 11:1** – What is “*faith*”?

- The OBJECT of our faith is important – Luke 17:6
- Faith is based on a “*revelation*” from God – Rom. 10:17

**Genesis 4:1-10** – The story of Cain and Abel – **Genesis 3:7**

- People still try to hide from God – **4:9**, compare, **3:9**.
  - Man’s “*goodness*” doesn’t impress God, like “*fig leaves*”.
  - Some try to hide from God in CHURCH ... Cain was a “*faker*”.
  - Cain’s HEART didn’t look good to God – Proverbs 15:8
  - See God’s REACTION to the “*fig leaf*” aprons – **3:21**
- 1 **TRUTH #1** – A sinner must have a “*covering*” for sin.
  - 2 **TRUTH #2** – Any “*covering*” you make is worthless.
  - 2 **TRUTH #3** – Only God can provide the necessary “*covering*”.
  - 3 **TRUTH #4** – God only accepts the “*shedding of blood*” – **3:21**
    - The “*shedding of blood*” is a GRUESOME thing.
    - A “*bloody sacrifice*” shows God takes sin SERIOUSLY.

God is holy and must punish sin – **Genesis 3:17-18**

- 1 Sin Deserves Death – **3:19**, Romans 6:23
  - 2 God Is Merciful – He provides an innocent substitute – Heb. 9:22
- Christianity is called a “*Bloody Religion*” ... Romans 5:9, Acts 20:28
  - The “*sacrificial animal*” pictures Jesus – Isaiah 53:7, 1 Peter 1:18-19

**Hebrews 11:4** – Both knew what was “*acceptable*” to God.

- Abel did it God’s way ... Cain did it his way.

**Genesis 4:3-5** – Both brought an offering ... their very best.

- Cain took after his father ... a farmer – **3:23**
- The innocent was to die for the guilty ... the “*shedding of blood*”.
- Cain tried to please God HIS WAY – Proverbs 14:12 – God isn’t impressed by our “*good works*” – Hebrews 11:6.
- God is only “*impressed*” with HIMSELF! Nothing is GREATER!
- “*Faith & obedience*” is what God expects from us.

**Hebrews 11:4** – Abel still speaks to us today – **Genesis 4:10**

**Hebrews 12:24** – The death of Jesus was “*bloody*” ... ON PURPOSE!

- There’s no forgiveness without BLOOD – Heb. 9:22, 1 John 1:7
- God gave Cain a 2<sup>nd</sup> chance ... Is this your 2<sup>nd</sup> chance?