

#### Christ In The Blood Sacrifice Of Able Hebrews 11 verse 4

Today, we wish to look at a New Testament Scripture, which will take us back to the very beginning of time when the fall of mankind in sin was manifested. Please look with me at **Heb 11:4** "By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh." This text tells us that the sacrifice of Abel, which witnessed that Abel was righteous, even with Abel being dead, still speaks to us today.

Now, let's go to **Ge 4:1-12; 1 ¶** "And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD. 2 And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. 3 ¶ And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. 4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: 5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. 6 ¶ And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? 7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him."

Now that we have the background of Able's sacrifice being acceptable and his own blood being shed, we need another scripture, seen in **Ge 3:13-15; 13** "And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. 14 ¶ And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: 15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." Herein, we see the prophecy that the seed of the woman would bruise the head of the serpent. This is why Eve said in **Ge 4:1** "And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD." Eve said this because she though that this was the one that God prophesied of to come and bruise the head of Satan. However, her understanding was wrong, for the promised seed came through Seth, who is named in the lineage to Christ, seen in **Lu 3:38** "Which was the son of Enos, which was the son of Seth, which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God."

Now let's look at **Ge 4:3-5; 3 ¶** "And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. 4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: 5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell." We see here that "in process of time" both Cain and Able brought sacrifices to God. Process of time has the definition of the end of time, which would seem to indicate the sabbath day, which God used until the resurrection of Christ, as the day set aside to worship God. Jesus resurrected on the first day of the week, establishing a new way as seen in **Heb 10:20** "By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; 21 And having an high priest over the house of God; 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water."

Now, scripture does not tell us this here, but we believe that God had communicated to these men the need to offer a sacrifice to God. We also believe that God had told them the kind of sacrifice they needed to bring. We understand, as we read of the acceptable sacrifice of Abel, that God expected a blood sacrifice. Why? Because God had told Eve that she would be the mother of the man who would bring salvation and deliverance to earth. How can we say this? This is why Eve said when Cain was born "**I have gotten a man from the LORD.**" She was expecting a man to save them from their lost condition.

Let's look at our text in **Heb 11:4** "By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh." We see that Abel offered his sacrifice "**the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof.**" If God had not communicated to these men the knowledge to know what to do sacrificially, then Able would not have been enabled to exercise his faith to make a proper sacrifice. We also remember that when God gave the sacrificial law that there was a sacrifice of firstlings of the flock and the fat thereof. Isreal was not to eat the fat.

Why was the sacrifice of Cain not accepted? Obviously, Cain disregarded the commandment of God as to what to sacrifice. Why? Because he was not a child of God. How do we know this? Because the bible tells us this in **1Jo 3:12** "Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him?"

**Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.**" Thus, we see in Cain, the inherited sin nature from fallen Adam, that all mankind possesses. We understand that Cain slew his brother Abel in jealous rage, because Abel's sacrifice was accepted by God and Cain's was not. Cain had a stubborn and rebellious heart, as we all do until the new birth, and instead of making a proper sacrifice, he brought the work of his own hands. Everyone who believes you can save yourself eternally needs to consider this.

Now, do you see that the sacrifice of Abel was a prophetic picture of the coming of Jesus Christ? After Cain murdered Abel, Eve understood that Cain was not the promised seed. We can consider one more scripture that will help make this easier to understand, seen in **Ge 4:25-26; 25 ¶ "And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew. 26 And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the LORD."**

Herein, we see that Seth was the seed through which the promise of God to Eve was to come, which was fulfilled in the birth of Jesus Christ. There is another prophesy here seen in "**For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.**" Herein, we see the fulfillment of the sacrificial and ceremonial law service, when the promised seed, Jesus the Christ, gave his life on the cross to save God's chosen people. Understand, Eve said that Seth is a substitute for Abel who was killed by Cain. Jesus was killed according to the will of God, through the hands of sinful men such as Cain, and was our substitutional sacrifice for the debt of sin we could not pay. The firstborn of many brethren who sacrificed himself to give us eternal remission of sins and eternal life in Christ.

Likewise, we see that through the seed of Seth "**then began men to call upon the name of the LORD.**" Thus, we understand that when Jesus died upon the cross, and the veil of the temple was rent in twain, it signified the end of the ceremonial and sacrificial law service, and the beginning of the age of Salvation by the Grace of God, in which men call upon the name of the Lord.

This helps us to understand that before the world was God knew those that were his, seen in: **2Ti 1:9-10; 9 "Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, 10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:**" Since God already knew what He would require to save fallen mankind, in the beginning of the scriptures, God gives us revelation; of one who would come, whose blood would cry to God from the earth, which we see in **Heb 11:8 ¶ "And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him. 9 ¶ And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper? 10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground. 11 And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand; 12 When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth."** As the blood of righteous Abel was shed and cried out to God from the ground; the blood of Jesus was shed on the cross, and it is applied to every child of God. Jesus's blood cries out to God from the ground, we are dust of the earth, to God the Father.

We come around the communion table of the Lord's Supper and eat of the unleavened bread, a type of the body of Jesus, and drink of the wine, a type of the shed blood of Jesus, who is the only truly righteous one, which is the prophetic picture of the blood sacrifice of Abel being accepted by God. We do these things in remembrance of the promise of a seed to Eve, which was Jesus giving unto us salvation, which encompasses the eternal remission of sins by the sacrifice of himself.

Now back to our text in **Heb 11:4 "By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh."** We see, in the eternal perspective that Jesus, who was righteousness, offered a more excellent sacrifice than that of Abel. The sacrifice of Abel, who is dead yet speaketh to us. The sacrifice of Jesus, who was dead, but now is risen, speaks to us of the fulfillment of the prophesy in Genesis. The sacrifice of Jesus on our behalf, which was accepted by God the Father, is what makes us righteous in the sight of God. Thank you, King Jesus, for fulfilling the prophesy given in Genesis, and saving every heir of Grace in time and eternity. Hallelujah! Amen!