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A just weight
and balance

are the
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

- **Hebrews 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.***

- There is in this verse a **glaring omission:**
- **What** that omission be?
 - The names of **Adam** and **Eve**.
- Why are they not mentioned in the “**Hebrew Hall of Fame**”
(**Hebrews 11**)

- It would appear that the **book of Genesis** was before Moses as he wrote.
- First there is mention of **creation**,
 - Following that a reference to **Cain** and **Abel**.
 - And later **Abraham** and **Sarah**.
 - But not a word regarding **Adam** and **Eve**.
 - **It was by design** that Adam and Eve were purposely bypassed in the Hebrew Hall of Fame.

- God walked in the garden in the cool of the evening
 - And called,
"Adam, where art thou?"
(**Genesis 3:9**);
- Those words have come ringing down through the centuries.
 - In a world of sin & darkness.

- Adam being mankind.
 - And where is he?
 - Lost, disinherited, sentenced to eternal death.

- **Romans 3:23**

***For all have sinned,
and come short of
the glory of God.***

- **"Where art thou?"**
- These words live forever!
 - Calling on people to consider their **lives**.
 - To consider their **souls**.
 - To view their **hopeless estate,**
 - And to recognize **their only hope:**
 - **Jesus Christ.**

- The good news is that Adam and Eve's son's are mentioned.
 - One Good son,
 - One Evil son.
- Both teach vital lessons.
 - Today we look at the younger son, Abel.
(**Genesis 4:1-2**)

- **By faith Abel offered unto God.**
(**Hebrews 11:4**)
 - Thus revealing
the reason
for his sacrifice being
"*more excellent*"
than that of Cain.
- It is a Biblical precept that
"*faith comes from hearing God's word*"
(**Romans 10:17**)

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*"faith comes from
hearing God's word"*

(Romans 10:17),

- In the light of that it may be definitely concluded that Abel acted in accordance with God's command,

- Whereas Cain did not.

- *Through which he {Abel} obtained witness that he was righteous.*

(Hebrews 11:4)

- **Hebrews 12:24** (ISV)
*Jesus, the mediator
of a new covenant,
and to the sprinkled blood
that speaks
a better message
than Abel's.*
- The conclusion being
that there is
a divine message
in the blood of Abel.

- Did not God himself speaking of the voice of the blood of Abel,
- Saying, of the blood of Abel, that it cried unto him "from the ground" (Genesis 4:10)
 - It may be inquired:
- "What does the blood of Abel say?"

- The blood of Abel says:

- God takes account all of the injustices perpetrated against the innocent

- And that one day they will be avenged.

- The Lord said to Cain,

"The voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground"
(Genesis 4:10).

- This foretells the hour when God in righteous wrath shall cast evil out of his universe, taking vengeance upon them that deserve it (**Romans 12:19**).

- It was sin that cut down this young man;
- And there is a score to be settled with sin.

- All accounts **will be settled.**
 - This is the thread of eternal and universal justice.
- When Abel, and all the righteous, **shall receive their reward**
 - **And the unrighteous** shall likewise receive theirs.
 - Abel's blood shall **never cease to cry to God** until that is accomplished.

- The blood of Abel says that **the righteous are hated without cause:**
- *For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another,*
- *not as Cain was of the evil one, and slew his brother.*
- *And wherefore slew he him?*
- **Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous.**
 - *Marvel not, brethren, if the world hates you*
(1 John 3:11-13).

- The blood of Abel says:
- That it makes a difference how people worship God.
 - Some things will pass in divine worship and that others will not.

- Scripture teaches us that
“**without faith**”
it is impossible to please God”
(**Hebrews 11:6**).
- Abel’s offering
was by faith.
(**Hebrews 11:4**).
- Cain’s offering
was “**evil**”
because he was
without faith
(**1 John 3:12**)

- Therefore,
any offering
“*without faith*”
no matter
how impressive
it may appear
is evil.

- This was the Divine principle overlooked by Cain to his eternal discredit.

- And yet the great majority of mankind seem not to know this.

- Certainly, the New Testament leaves no doubt whatever on this point.

- John 4:24

- God is a Spirit:
and they that worship him
must worship him
in spirit and in truth.*

- Mark 7:7

- In vain do they worship me,
teaching for doctrines
the commandments of men.*

- And there are many more:

- Acts 17:24,25; Revelation 22:18ff; 2 John 1:1:9; Matthew 15:6; and in 1 Corinthians 4:6, ²²

- The great message of the New Covenant on the subject of divine worship is in perfect agreement with the message of the blood of Abel,

- That the only acceptable worship is in the manner God has commanded.

- From the beginning of time, only two ways are recorded in which God can be worshiped:

- (1) To worship as God has commanded,

- (2) To worship in a manner that man supposes to be just as good!

- Cain should be sufficient warning that the second choice is folly.

- **The blood of Abel says:**
 - Cain was the **first innovator** of how man worships God.
 - **Two brothers** stood the test in the shadow of the gates of Paradise.
 - One **failed** ignobly,
 - The other **succeeded** gloriously
 - And pay the price of it **with his blood.**

- And no man can show anything wrong with Cain's offering except this:
 - It was Cain's choice and not God's order that prompted it.

- Cain might have tried to justify himself, **saying,:**
 - If God wants value, my wheat will buy two lambs;
 - As for all that messy blood, I never liked that anyway.
 - Surely God can save us if we never go near a drop of blood.
 - Surely, God couldn't care about a thing like THAT;
- "It's the spirit of the thing that counts anyway!"

- Even today sinful men rationalize that their ideas are as good as God's.
- Changing the ordinance baptism
 - To sprinkling, pouring, etc.
- When every scholar knows that the originally mode of baptism was immersion.
- And what of instruments of music into the worship of God,
 - Or the doctrine of purgatory,
- Or to elevate Mary the mother of Jesus to a throne in heaven.

- **The blood of Abel cries:**

- That it does

- **make a difference**

- how people worship God,

- Whether they

- **accept the commandments**

- of the Father,

- Or decide to walk
after their own

- **traditions.**

- The blood of Abel says:
 - Faith is the key to true and acceptable worship.
 - "By faith" is the expression used over and over in the remarkable anthology of Biblical heroes.
(**Hebrews 11:6**)
 - NOT "faith only"
(**James 2:24**)

- **The blood of Abel says:**

- God prescribed **that a lamb** should be sacrificed as a sin offering.

- It was a type of the

"Lamb slain from the foundation of the world,"
(Hebrews 9:22)

- If there was a reason **then**, there is a reason **now**, why people should do what God has decreed,

- And not merely **what they suppose** might serve just as well.

- The blood of Abel says:
- The only true righteousness is in obeying the commandments of God.
- "All thy commandments, O God, are righteousness"
(**Psalms 119:151**).
 - I haven't read anywhere that God has negated His commandments.

- **The blood of Abel says:**
 - Our Lord obeyed an ordinance of God **which technically** did not apply to him,
 - And from which he might justly have **claimed exemption**, since he was sinless;
 - But he was baptized in order to **"fulfill all righteousness"**
(**Matthew 3:16**).

- **The blood of Abel says:**
 - The righteousness of **Zacharias** and **Elizabeth**
(Parents of John the Baptizer)
consisted of this, that:
 - "***They walked in
all the commandments
and ordinances of the Lord,
blameless***"
(**Luke 1:6**).

- **The blood of Abel says:**
- That in a generation given to scoffing at "**ordinances,**"
 - All of God's **commandments** and **ordinances** are the sole basis of the only true righteousness.
 - This was the **fundamental lapse** of ancient Israel.

- **Romans 10:1**

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.

- **10:2** ***For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God,***

- ***but not according to knowledge.***

- **10:3** ***For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness,***

- ***have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.***

- The blood of Abel says:
- “*Why call me Lord, Lord and do not the things which I say.*”
(**Luke 6:46**)
- Millions today are falling into the error of ancient Israel,
 - Walking in their own ways instead of God's way.

- **1 Samuel 15:22**

And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD?

- ***Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams.***

- **15:23 *For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft,***

- ***and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.***

- **The blood of Abel says:**
 - Since faith comes by **hearing God's word** (**Romans 10:17**),
 - It follows that walking by faith **means walking as directed** by God's word.
 - When did God **ever allow man** to dictate terms of worship?

- Abel's blood cries out:
 - for mankind
to obey the voice of God.

- Like Cain
jealousy and envy
lie in the human heart.

- Men want
their own way,
- They want God to act
as they want him to act.

- Never the less
God loved Cain.

- God's mark,

whatever it may have been,
served as protection for Cain

and helped Cain

to endure his years

in the land of Nod,

which is literally Wandering.

- Abel's blood cries out for love:
- Cain murdered his brother,
 - Was weighed in the balance and found guilty,
- Cain experienced the consequences for his sin.

- Cain learned,
as we all learn,
that we can be sure
our sin will find us out.
(Numbers 32:23)

- Abel's blood tells us our sins will find us out.
 - So when Cain killed Abel there were no police officers,
no judges,
no man made justice system to investigate Abel's death.
 - Perhaps Cain thought that he could move on with his life.

- Perhaps the religious leaders who killed Jesus thought the same.
- What a thorn in their side..
 - This One stealing away the hearts of the people.
 - He was a threat to their authority.

- But now that he's been crucified,
- The religious leaders surely thought, "We've eliminated him."
 - Like Pilate, surely thought, "I've washed my hands of him."
 - We don't need to worry about Him anymore.

• **Abel's blood**

changed

Cain's life forever.

• **Christ's blood**

changes

our lives forever.

- Jesus' blood also cried out,
- *And speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.*
(Hebrews 12:24)
- Abel's blood cried out
for justice.
- But Jesus' blood cried out
“Father forgive them.”
(Luke 23:24)

- WHAT DOES THE BLOOD OF ABEL SAY?

"Abel ... he being dead yet speaketh"
(Hebrews 11:4).

- The blood of Abel says that God will one day avenge the evil perpetrated against the innocent
(Romans 12:19).

- WHAT DOES THE BLOOD OF ABEL SAY?

That the
righteous
are hated
without cause
(1 John 3:11-13).

- **WHAT DOES THE BLOOD OF ABEL SAY?**

That it
make a difference
how men worship
Almighty God.

- **Hebrews 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.***

- WHAT DOES THE BLOOD OF ABEL SAY?

That faith
is the
only key
to winning approval
of God
(**Hebrews 11:6**).

- WHAT DOES THE BLOOD OF ABEL SAY?

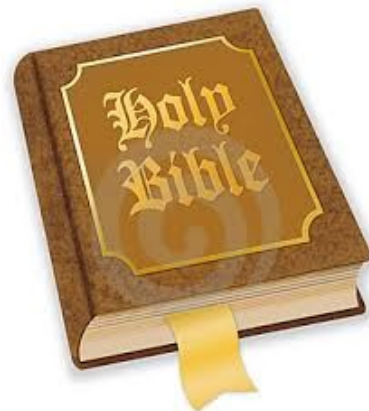
That the
only righteousness
is in obeying the
Word of the Lord
(Romans 1:16-17)

- **Think on these things**
- **Philippians 4:8**

**The doors of the church
are open.**

**The Spirit and the Bride
Say
“Come”.**

Revelation 22:17



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