June 15, 2008 The Bridge Bible Fellowship Pastor Paul S. Brown Hebrews 11:4

"Jesus Christ is Infinitely Better!" Examples of Faith, Part One: Abel

I.	Jesus Christ:	Infinitely Better	in His	PERSON 1-	7
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- II. Jesus Christ: Infinitely Better in His WORK (8:1-10:18)
- III. Christianity: An Infinitely Better WALK OF FAITH 10:19-13:24
  - A. The Confidence of Faith (10:19-39)
  - B. The Examples of Faith (11)
    - 1. Definition (Description) of Faith (11:1-3)
    - 2. Examples of Faith (11:4-40)
      - a. Abel (v. 4)

1	) True		
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2) True \_\_\_\_\_

3) True \_\_\_\_\_

## **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. Why does the author begin his list of examples of faith with Abel? Why not Adam and Eve? How does this fit with how he described faith in v. 1?
- 2. Why was Abel's sacrifice better than Cain's? What did they know about the kind of sacrifice God wanted? How would they have known? (See Gen. 8:20-21; 12:7-8; 13:18; 22:9) Why was Abel's sacrifice an example of "faith"?
- 3. What was wrong with Cain's offering? What does Jude mean when he talks men having "gone the way of Cain" (Jude 11)? How do people do that today?
- 4. What is "worship"? Does God care about the WAY we worship? Can people approach God any way they want to (religion)?
- 5. In what sense was Abel righteous? Who determined that he was righteous? On what basis? How was his righteousness connected to his faith and to his sacrifice?
- 6. How is it that Abel is still speaking? Is this the same as when his blood was speaking to God from the ground (Gen. 4:8-10)? What is it about Abel that is still speaking to us today?
- 7. Is your life characterized by this kind of faith right now? If not, why not?
- 8. Do you live in a constant state of true worship of the one and only true & living God? Are you giving to Him what He desires from you? Are you giving to Him your best? Are you doing it by faith?
- 9. What are you trusting in to make you righteous before God? Do you know for sure that you are righteous before Him?
- 10. Did genuine, persevering faith in Abel guarantee him an easy life? Should we expect life to be easy if we truly trust the Lord? Why or why not?
- 11. What kind of living testimony are you today? How can the watching world see that you are right with God entirely by grace through faith? If you were to die soon, would your life continue to be a testimony to future generations? What can you do differently this week to begin leaving a better legacy of faith?