

Sermon Outline
Old Testament Portraits of Christ
#2 Abel

ABEL, A TYPE OF CHRIST (Gen.4:1-10).

- (1) Abel was a shepherd (Gen. 4:2). Our Lord is a "shepherd"—the Good Shepherd.

- (2) It was as a shepherd that Abel presented his offering unto God. It was as the Shepherd that Jesus presented His offering to God (John 10:11).

- (3) Though giving no cause for it, Abel was hated by his brother. Though giving no cause for it, Jesus was hated by His brethren according to the flesh (John 15:25).

- (4) It was out of "envy" that Cain killed Abel. It was through "envy" that Jesus was delivered up to be crucified (Matthew 27:18).

- (5) Abel did not die a natural death. Our Lord did not die a natural death. He was "slain" by wicked hands (Acts 2:23).

- (6) Abel met with a violent end at the hand of his own brother. Jesus was crucified by "The House of Israel" (Acts 2:36), His own brethren according to the flesh.

- (7) After his death God declared that Abel's blood "cried" unto Him, and severe punishment was meted out upon his murderer. After His death our Lord's murderers were severely punished by God (Mark 12:9).

Turning from Abel to his offering, note:

- (8) Abel presented an offering "unto God" (Heb. 11:4). The Lord Jesus presented an offering "to God" (Eph. 5:2).

- (9) The offering which he presented was "the firstlings of his flock": in other words, a "lamb." The offering Jesus presented was Himself—a "Lamb" (1 Pet. 1:19).

(10) In bringing his offering "by faith," he honored and magnified the Will and Word of the Lord. (10) In presenting Himself as an offering He honored and magnified the Will and Word of God (Heb. 10:7-9).

(11) The offering which Abel presented is described as an "excellent" one (Heb. 11:4). The offering Christ presented was an "excellent" one—it was a "sweet smelling savor" (Eph. 5:2).

(12) God had "respect unto Abel and to his offering": in other words, He accepted them. God accepted Christ's offering - the proof of this is seen in the fact that He is now seated at God's right hand (Heb. 10:12).

(13) In the presentation of his offering Abel "obtained witness that he was righteous" (Heb. 11:4). While presenting Himself on the Cross as an offering to God, Jesus "obtained witness that He was righteous"—the centurion crying, "Certainly this was a *righteous* man" (Luke 23:47).

(14) After he had presented his offering God publicly "*testified*" His acceptance of it. God publicly testified His acceptance of Christ's offering by raising Him from the dead (Acts 2:32).

(15) Finally, Abel's offering still "speaks" to God—"By *it* he being dead *yet speaketh*." Christ's offering now "speaks" to God (Heb. 12:24).

This sermon outline was prepared by Pastor Joe Jacowitz.
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