

Abel's Offering (Hebrews 11:4)

When life seems twisted and hard, we should check how Worship is in our daily life. Worship - in Spirit and in truth - is the most important thing in faith because it is "life-rope" in spirit. By worshipping, we will be filled spiritually; enter the most Holy Place and then please God. **"Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks(John 4:23)** Spirit and truth means worship offered with obedience to the anointing and the Word. As saved children of God, we have joy, life, excitement and blessing when we worship God.

However, not all worship could please God. **"The multitude of your sacrifices— what are they to me?" says the Lord. "I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; I have no pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats. When you come to appear before me, who has asked this of you, this trampling of my courts? Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations— I cannot bear your worthless assemblies(Isaiah 1:11-13)** God does not accept our Worship which is not followed by life.

Today's verse tells about Abel. (Difference to Cain) **"By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.(Hebrews 11:4)**

1) Not doing what is right. **"If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it."**(Genesis 4:7) Cain worshipped but not changed his life.

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.(Romans 12:1-2) We should offer our whole life as living sacrifice. Worship is not limited only in the church but also spread out (expand) to our whole life. Worship is not conform to the pattern of this world, be transformed by the renewing mind. All things are holy if its purpose is to pleasing God.

2) Cain worshipped with his own thought. **"Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the Lord. And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering(Genesis 4:3-4).** Both Abel and Cain brought offering but bible says Abel brought better offering than Cain did. Reason why? We could not come to God because of shame and fear from our sins so that should be covered by blood of lamb. Abel did with blood of firstborn of flock to confess he is sinner in front of God. Worship should be from our faith in God's Word. God blessed Abel with his offering but Cain was very angry and killed his brother. We could be getting worse if we do not change through the worship. God did not accept Cain's offering because of his disobedience.

-Bible shows another example of disobedience of worship: King Saul who abolished from the throne. **"Why did you not obey the Lord? Why did you pounce on the plunder and do evil in the eyes of the Lord?(1 Samuel 15:19)** King Saul excuse/spared the best of the sheep and cattle to sacrifice to God and totally destroyed the rest from Amalekites. Saul followed his own thought not by God. However God wanted to see his obedience not winning/ losing the war. The will of obedience, power of faith come from worship. -Worship which is not based on God's Word could not please God. **"But Samuel replied: "Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams(1 Samuel 15:22)** Remember offering and obedience is not separate. The worship which could be pleasing to God is when we listen to Word, obey God's will in living sacrifice.

Worship is also choice. We could offer worship according to God's Word or by own thought and emotion but result is on us. God gives us freewill to choose. We have freedom to commit sin, not to pray, not do worship but its result will be our own. We will reap whatever we sow. We will get fruit of what we do by prayer, worship, word and power of God.

Blessed Solomon by worship. After Solomon offered a thousand burnt offering, God was pleased and gave him a wise and discerning heart to be a great king. He received wisdom from God after worship.

"The king went to Gibeon to offer sacrifices, for that was the most important high place, and Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you."(1 King 3:4-5) Through worship, worldly people become God's people, it is the first stage of discipline.

We will fall off when we do not worship. Solomon was blessed with good offering to God in his beginning but lost his heart to God in his last years. **"They were from nations about which the Lord had told the Israelites, "You must not intermarry with them, because they will surely turn your hearts after their gods." Nevertheless, Solomon held fast to them in love. He had seven hundred wives of royal birth and three hundred concubines, and his wives led him astray. As Solomon grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and his heart was not fully devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father had been.(1 Kings 11:2-4)** We should stop whatever if it blocks - to worship God. **"The Lord became angry with Solomon because his**

heart had turned away from the Lord, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice.(1 kings 11:9) Though God told him twice, he disobeyed to Word of God. **“Yet I will not tear the whole kingdom from him, but will give him one tribe for the sake of David my servant and for the sake of Jerusalem, which I have chosen.”(1 Kings 11:13)**Solomon’s neglecting worship resulted in weakness of spirit. We should check our spirit if we face difficulties. All matters will be solved when we recover worship because it is the rule of kingdom of heaven. God blessed Solomon prosperity when worship is the first priority. However, when worship was broken in his life - kingdom collapsed.

We should know/what priority there is in life. Do the things what pleases God: Serving God as Worship, surrender to God, depend on God then do own things. It is because of wrong priority we are in suffering. Bible shows that Worship is the first priority in our life.