

# CONQUERING CROUCHING SIN

## HEBREWS 11:4

*How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)*

**BACKGROUND:** Scripture is exciting for me. In the interest of time, I first thought I should skip Abel. Boy was I wrong! While unpacking the Scriptures, I saw that Abel, by faith, became the first to be recorded as making a sin offering. I saw that he was a prophet; and because of his faith, he received God's righteousness before Abraham. Truly all Scripture is God-breathed! (**II Timothy 3:16**)

**ABEL DID.** Abel responded in God-given faith to offer a blood sacrifice to atone for his sins. Abel's sacrifice, as well as all Old Covenant sacrifices, pointed to the complete and final sacrifice made by Jesus on the cross. From the beginning of time, God has provided a way for mankind to be reconciled to Him. (**Hebrews 11:4, fn 11:4, Genesis 4:2-8, Hebrews 1:1, 2, fn 1:1, 2, Matthew 23:30-36, fn 23:34-36, fn 23:35, Hebrews 9:22, fn 9:22, fn 9:15**) *What attitude is necessary for you to accept Jesus' death on the cross for your sins?*

**ABEL BELIEVED GOD,** and because of his faith, God exchanged Abel's sin for His righteousness. Righteousness is a state and condition of God's approval with His forgiveness. Righteousness is God's badge that He gives to all believers. (**Hebrews 11:4, Genesis 4:4, Genesis 15:6, fn 15:6, Romans 4:16-25, fn 4:25, Romans 5:17, fn 5:15-19**) *How could remembering you have been given God's righteousness impact your daily life?*

**CAIN DID NOT.** Cain's indignation at having to humble himself in order to offer his little brother's lamb to cover his sin was too much for the jealous farmer. So with self-made religion, he offered God produce from his farm. However, that was not the way of faith that God had provided in order to receive His forgiveness and righteousness. Abel's sacrifice pointed to the blood of Jesus, the only way to conquer crouching sin. (**Hebrews 11:4, Genesis 4:5-8, fn 4:7, Luke 11:47-51, fn 11:49, fn 11:51, I John 3:11-15, fn 3:12, 13, Galatians 5:16-25, fn 5:17**) *How could you conquer crouching sin that is knocking at the door of your heart?*

*As you daily study the truths about Jesus, in what ways is the presence of the Holy Spirit revealing to you God's majesty and glory?*