

# Being ABEL Minded

## Introduction

1. **Everything we do in life is a result of a choice that is made.**
  - A. **We choose our spouse, our home, our vehicle, what food to eat, what to wear, what to say, where to go, our political views, and whether or not we are religious.**
    - 1) **Religiously, we choose what to believe and what church to belong to.**
2. **Ultimately, we decide, we make a choice, on who we become religiously, and build our character, based on our knowledge and understanding of the Bible – God’s Holy and inspired Word.**
3. **The reason there are so many different religions in the world is because people twist the scriptures to coincide with their will rather than changing their life to coincide with God’s will.**

2 Peter 3:16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, **which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction**, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.

- A. **Again, this is all a matter of choice that man has made.**

## Abel's Mind Set

- 1. It is obvious through scripture that Abel was a man who heard the word of God and made a choice to follow His teaching.**

**Genesis 4:1-8**

- A. Jesus spoke of Abel's righteousness**

Matthew 23:35 that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah.....

- B. His sacrifice was based on the faith He had in God – he chose to do His will.**

Hebrews 11:4 **By faith** Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it **he being dead still speaks**.

- 2. Cain knew God's will, the same as Abel, however he chose to offer his own offering, that which was not authorized by God.**

## The Christian's Mind Set

1. **Every Christian must have the mind set of Abel. In that all that we bring to God must be offered as a result of faith.**
2. **We must choose to obey God and to be submissive to Him.**  
**Philippians 2:1-5**
  - A. **If we adapt this mind set then we will be looking out for the interests of others and not be self-centered.**
3. **Each Christian has a responsibility to be pleasing to God in every aspect of their life.**
  - A. **We must really think about the words of Paul that were written by the inspiration of God in Romans 12:**

Romans 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you **present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy**, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And **do not be conformed to this world**, but **be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that you may **prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God**.

4. **We must strive to do everything according to the authority of Jesus.**

Colossians 3:17 And **whatever you do in word or deed**, **do all in the name of the Lord Jesus**, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

- A. **“In the name of” means by the authority of.**
  - 1) **We have to have a mind set that shows that we want to be submissive to the teaching of Christ.**

## The Judgment Awaits

1. **Abel was judged to be righteous in God's sight because he proved himself to be faithful in his submissiveness to Him.**
2. **Cain was judged to be unrighteous in God's sight because he also proved to be unfaithful in following His will.**
  - A. **Both, Cain and Abel, made a choice. Abel chose to obey, while Cain did not.**
    - 1) **As a result of Cain's disobedience, a severe judgment came upon him.**  
**Genesis 4:9-13**
3. **We must understand that in the end, Jesus' words will judge us!**

John 12:48 He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him-- the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

4. **God has promised, that those who practice righteousness and are faithful until death, will receive a crown of life.**  
**Revelation 2:10**
5. **Those who refuse to obey God, will be sentenced to an eternal hell.**

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on **those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ**. These shall be punished with **everlasting destruction** from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power....

## **Conclusion**

- 1. God's word has been given to everyone today.**
  - A. Where we spend our eternity will depend on whether or not we have taken the time to learn about God and do all things in which He has commanded of us.**
- 2. As in the case of Abel and Cain, the choice is ours.**
- 3. Will we choose an eternal heaven, that will be realized through obedience to God's word.....**
  - A. Or will we choose an eternal hell, that is awaiting all who have chosen NOT to do the will of God.**
- 4. Jesus said very plainly:**

Matthew 7:21-23 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, **but he who does the will of My Father in heaven**. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

- 5. May we all be ABEL minded in our life for God!**

