

THE VOICE OF THE BLOOD OF JESUS!

TEXT: Hebrews 12:1-3, 18-24

INTRO:

A. The book of Hebrews is about how Jesus is "better" than the types & shadows of the O.T.

1. Christ is better than the Angels (1:4), better than Moses (ch. 3), better than Joshua (ch. 4), better than Aaron (ch. 5-10), and better than the sacrifices (9:23).
2. Through Christ we have a better hope (7:19), a better Testament (7:22), better promises (8:6), better "substance" (eternal reward) (10:34), a better country (11:16), and better things (11:40).

B. Our text points us to Jesus! "Looking unto Jesus" ..."consider Him" (12:2-3).

1. It takes our eyes off the "law" (12:18-21) - The Law is a fearful thing!
 - a. We are "not come" to that mount (Sinai) - To find favor with God.
2. We "are come" to ...Jesus and His blood (12:22, 24).

C. Our text points us to blood.

1. The blood of Jesus! The blood of Able! The blood of Abel's victim!
2. Of all substances blood is the most mysterious and the most sacred.
 - a. The mysterious link between matter and spirit is in the liquid call blood (Lev.17:11).

D. Our text points us to the "voice" of blood it "speaketh" (12:24).

1. A look at the "voice of the blood of Jesus".

I. THE VOICE OF THE BLOOD OF JESUS' SACRIFICE SPEAKS BETTER THAN THE VOICE OF THE BLOOD OF ABEL'S SACRIFICE.

A. The blood of Abel's sacrifice speaks - "It" is a "testimony"

1. It has its testimony! It is a wonderful testimony! It speaks wonderful things!
2. It speaks of the need of a blood sacrifice - "Abel offered .a ..sacrifice" (Heb. 11:4)
 - a. Able recognized his guilt and need of a substitute - So he offered a sacrifice!
 - b. Cain "thought" other wise - Cain might recognize God's benefits - But he would not recognize his need of a bloody substitute.
3. It speaks of the faith that Able had (Heb. 11:4) - "by faith".
 - a. Cain did not have "fear" and he did not have "faith".
4. It speaks of the righteousness that Able had (Heb. 11:4) - "was righteous" - "imputed righteousness"
5. The voice of the blood of Abel's offering speaks volumes!
 - a. It is the FIRST recorded sacrifice! Oh the Faith! Oh the Righteousness! BUT

B. The voice of the blood of Jesus' sacrifice speaks of better things.

1. Abel's bloody sacrifice spoke of the NEED of Sacrifice - Jesus' bloody sacrifice of says, "I am the substance" (Heb. 9:22-26).
2. The blood of Abel's sacrifice spoke of the FAITH in a coming Sacrifice - The blood of Jesus says, "I am the sacrifice" - "Behold the lamb of God".
 - a. Abel's sacrifice had no merit in and of itself - It was the blood of a mere lamb!
 - b. The Blood of Christ is in itself meritorious - it is the blood of the Son of God (Heb. 10:7-10)!
3. The blood of Abel's sacrifice spoke in FIGURE - The blood of Jesus speaks "I AM"!

II. THE VOICE OF BLOOD OF JESUS SPEAKES BETTER THAN THE VOICE OF THE BLOOD OF ABEL.

A. Abel's own blood speaks! Not just the blood of his sacrifice! His own blood!

1. He voice spoke great things!
2. The blood of Abel spoke to Heaven (Gen 4:8-10) - "Crieth unto ME"
 - a. It cried vengeance! It cried murder! It cried lawbreaker!
 - b. It demanded JUSTICE at the bar of God! It was a righteous and lawful cry!

3. The blood of Abel speaks to man (Heb. 11:4) - "he being dead yet speaketh"
 - a. Abel's blood ratified his testimony - I am willing to die for my faith!
 - b. What a PROOF of his FAITH (Faith without works is dead)!
4. The blood of Abel spoke to the conscience of Cain (Gen. 4:8-14).
 - a. Abel's blood rang in the ears of Cain - Murderer! You deserve to be slain!

B. The blood of Jesus speaketh better things than the blood of Able.

1. Though Abel's blood spoke great things - the blood of Jesus speaks BETTER THINGS!
2. The blood of Jesus speaks in heaven (Heb. 9:12, 24-26).
 - a. Abel's blood cried lawbreaker! It cried for justice and vengeance! The voice of his blood reached heaven!
 - b. The blood of Jesus cries TO GOD in heaven for MERCY & acceptance (Eph. 1:6-7)!
3. The blood of Jesus speaks to man (Jn. 10:11)
 - a. Abel's blood ratified his testimony - Christ's blood ratifies his testimony!
 - b. Christ PROVED who He was by his sacrifice!
4. The blood of Jesus speaks to the conscience (Heb. 10:19-22).
 - a. Christ's blood speaks to the believer - YOU are forgiven!

CON:

A. Have you "come" to the BLOOD of JESUS?

1. Are text - Its blessings and privileges - are directed to the "comers" (Heb. 12:22, 24).
2. If Jesus BLOOD is to avail for you, you must come to Christ!

B. What VOICE cries to heaven about you?

1. Is it the voice of judgment? Vengeance? Wrath? Terror?
2. Is it the voice of mercy?

C. What does Jesus blood say to you?

1. Does it say - Forgiven?
2. Does it say - I love you?

D. What will you say to Christ?

1. Thank you - Testimony? Baptism? Church membership? Faithfulness?
2. "For the love of Christ constraineth us" - (II Cor. 5:14) - Does it constrain you?