

**MT Nehemiah 8** <sup>2</sup> And Ezra the priest brought the *Torah* before the congregation (הַקְהָל) — LXX ἐνώπιον τῆς ἐκκλησίας), both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup> And he read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those that could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the scroll of the *Torah* (אֶל־סֵפֶר הַתּוֹרָה). <sup>4</sup> And Ezra the scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood, which they had made for the purpose; . . . <sup>7</sup> . . . and the Levites explained the Law to the people (וַיְהִי וְהַלְוִיִּים מְבַיְנִים אֶת־הַעֵם לַתּוֹרָה), and the people stood in their place. <sup>5</sup> And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people — for he was above all the people — and when he opened it, all the people stood up: <sup>6</sup> And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. <sup>8</sup> So they read in the scroll the *Torah* of God distinctly and gave the sense and caused them to understand the reading.

**MT Genesis 4** <sup>4</sup> . . . And the Lord regarded Abel  
וַיִּשַׁע יְהוָה אֶל־הַבֶּבֶל  
and his offering,  
<sup>5</sup> but Cain and his offering he did not regard  
וְאֶל־קַיִן וְאֶל־מִנְחָתוֹ לֹא שָׁעָה

**LXX Genesis 4** <sup>4</sup> . . . And God looked upon (ἐπεῖδεν) Abel  
and his gifts (ἐπὶ τοῖς δώροις αὐτοῦ),  
but to Cain and his sacrifices (ἐπὶ ταῖς θυσίαις αὐτοῦ)  
he did not pay attention (οὐ προσέσχε).

**Hebrews 11** <sup>4</sup> By faith (Πίστει) Abel offered to God a better sacrifice (πλείονα θυσίαν) than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts (ἐπὶ τοῖς δώροις αὐτοῦ); and he, having died, still speaks.

**MT Genesis 4** <sup>5</sup> . . . And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. <sup>6</sup> So the Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? <sup>7</sup> If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching (צָרְפָּת רֹבֵץ) at the entrance to the tent. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.”

**MT Genesis 4** <sup>8</sup> Now Cain spoke with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him. <sup>9</sup> Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I don’t know. Am I my brother’s keeper?” <sup>10</sup> And He said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood (קוֹל דְּמֵי אָחִיךָ) cries out to me from the ground (מִן־הָאֲדָמָה).”

**1 John 3** <sup>11</sup> For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, <sup>12</sup> not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous.

**Revelation 6** <sup>9</sup> When [the Lamb] opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls (τὰς ψυχὰς — Peshitta **ܠܗܘܘܢ**) of those slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held. <sup>10</sup> And they cried with a loud voice, saying, “How long, O Lord, holy and true, until you judge and avenge our blood (τὸ αἷμα ἡμῶν) on those who dwell on the earth?”

**Origen, *Exhortation to Martyrdom* 50** — Let us recognize that what was said of Abel, who was slain by the homicidal and unjust Cain, pertains to all whose blood is unjustly shed. We may consider as pertinent to each of the martyrs the words, 'Your brother's blood cries out to me from the earth,' because from the ground their blood shouts out to God