

# JAMES

## FAITH THAT WORKS

Faith and Actions (James 2:14-26) | March 6, 2022

### FAITH WITHOUT DEEDS DOES NO GOOD FOR ANYBODY

James 2:14-17 *What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? <sup>15</sup> Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. <sup>16</sup> If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? <sup>17</sup> In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*

James 1:18 *He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.*

John 3:3 *I tell you the solemn truth, unless a person is born from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God. (New English Translation)*

John 3:16-17 *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.*

- James says, "A faith that does no good must be considered dead."

### FAITH WITHOUT DEEDS ISN'T REAL FOR ANYBODY

James 2:18-26 <sup>18</sup> *But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. <sup>19</sup> You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that - and shudder. <sup>20</sup> You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? <sup>21</sup> Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? <sup>22</sup> You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. <sup>23</sup> And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend. <sup>24</sup> You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone. <sup>25</sup> In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? <sup>26</sup> As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.*

Romans 3:21-28 <sup>21</sup> *But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. <sup>22</sup> This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. <sup>25</sup> God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood - to be received by faith... <sup>28</sup> For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.*

Ephesians 2:8-9 <sup>8</sup> *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - <sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

- Firstly, real faith is not intellectual only – it is \_\_\_\_\_ as well.
- Secondly, real faith is not theoretical – it is \_\_\_\_\_ at its core.
- Thirdly, real faith is not vanity – it yields great \_\_\_\_\_.

*O it is a living, busy active mighty thing, this faith. It is impossible for it not to be doing good things incessantly. It does not ask whether good works are to be done, but before the question is asked, it has already done this, and is constantly doing them. Whoever does not do such works, however, is an unbeliever. He gropes and looks around for faith and good works but knows neither what faith is nor what good works are. Martin Luther*

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