

Faith Works
James 2:14-26
February 18, 2014

- I. James 2:14-26
 - A. Two Observations
 1. Most _____ significant paragraph in James
 2. Most _____ paragraph in James
 - B. Basic Structure
 1. See outline
 - C. Obvious Theme
 1. Faith without _____ is _____
 2. Twice adds, "What _____ is it?"
 - D. A Couple of Points
 1. James is NOT saying that we must _____ deeds to faith
 - a. Rather he is saying that genuine biblical faith will invariably _____ to action
 2. Connections to earlier teaching in James
 - a. James is still concerned about treatment of the _____
 - b. True _____ (1:26)
 3. Does James Conflict With Paul?
 - a. Short answer is _____
 - b. Paul and James were dealing with two different situations
 - i. James was dealing with people who _____ salvation by grace alone through faith alone
 - c. Paul was dealing with people who said you had to believe in Christ AND be _____ AND keep the ceremonial _____
 - d. Paul and James also use the term " _____ " differently

II. The Example – Vv. 14-17

A. My Brothers and Sisters

1. _____ shift
2. _____ to have faith

B. Deeds

1. Common Greek word – **ergon**
 - a. In Paul it means works of the _____
 - b. For James it means doing what _____ asks us to do
2. Faith that is _____ faith and where there is no change of heart o

C. Example – Vv. 15-16

1. Mistreatment of the _____
 - a. Wording suggest a _____ of behavior
2. Word picture
3. Absurd _____ when met with a need
4. What good is it?

D. Conclusion – Vs. 17

1. Faith, if it is not accompanied by action, is _____
2. The _____ of the person who claims to have faith are as _____ as his profession of faith
3. The contrast being made

III. True Faith, Dead Faith – Vv. 18-20

A. Diatribe

1. An imaginary _____ intended to advance an argument

2. General understanding
 - a. The _____ is speaking in 18a
 - b. He's saying one _____ has faith, another has deeds
 - c. In other words he's saying they're _____

B. James's Answer – Vv. 18b-20

1. Faith is _____ in how we live our lives
 - a. Faith and deeds are not _____

2. "Show" = make _____ or _____

3. The " _____ " of demons
 - a. Could be _____
 - b. Could be an actual _____

 - c. Demons _____ there is a God

 - d. And they have a _____

4. Addressing the interlocutor – Vs. 20
 - a. "Foolish" = _____

IV. The Example of Abraham – Vv. 21-24

A. Keep This in Mind – Gen. 15:1-6

1. We're going to see that this has been James's _____ all along

B. Abraham's Obedience

1. Abraham was _____ to obey God

2. Abraham's faith – Vs. 22

- a. His faith _____ his action
- 3. Faith made _____?
- a. Complete = telioo
- b. 1 John 4:12 -...if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.”
- c. Clearly, our love does not “_____” God’s love
- d. Rather, God’s love comes to full _____ and reaches its _____ in us when we love each other
- e. So here, James is saying that Abraham’s faith reached its intended goal when he _____ God
- 4. Results – Vs. 23
- a. Abraham’s faith was credited to him as _____ (Gen. 15:6)
- b. He was called God’s _____

C. The Center of Controversy – Vs. 24

- 1. Apparent _____?
- a. Contrast w/ Paul
- 2. Two key differences
- a. What one does and works of the _____
- b. The meaning of _____

V. The Example of Rahab – Vs. 25

A. In the Same Way

- 1. Just as Abraham was considered righteous...

B. Rahab

- 1. Prostitute who protected the spies and helped them escape
- a. BUT the point is _____ she did it
- 2. Rahab’s actions were based on her _____
- 3. Why Rahab
- a. She showed _____ to people in need, just as James has been advocating

b. Even more likely, James wanted to give a _____ example to Abraham

4. God's _____ for each of us is to have a living, breathing faith

VI. Final Summary – Vs. 26

A. Reiterating the Theme

1. Analogy: Faith without _____ is like a body without a _____

2. In the same way, James says that faith without deeds _____ to be faith

3. A living faith is a faith that _____

B. The Faith Chapter – Hebrews 11

1. Heroes of the faith

a. By faith Abel _____ a better offering

b. By faith Noah _____ an ark

c. By faith Abraham _____ his home to go where God told him to go

2. By faith, they all _____ something!

VII. Our Calling: To Live Out the Gospel

A. Cheap Grace

1. When we have a faith that does not respond to God with obedience, we have created what Dietrich Bonhoeffer calls “ _____ ”

2. Cheap grace is grace that costs us _____

B. Costly Grace

C. Our Lives

