

James 2:14-26

Sept. 29, 2020
Week 5

False Faith

In this passage, James discusses the relationship between faith and works. This is an important discussion, for if we are wrong in this matter, we jeopardize our eternal salvation. What kind of faith really saves a person? Is it necessary to perform good works in order to be saved? How can a person tell whether or not he is exercising true saving faith? James answers these questions by explaining to us that there are three kinds of faith, only one of which is true saving faith.

I. _____ Faith (2:14-17)

- Whenever there is _____, you will find _____.
Matt. 7:21
- People with _____ faith _____ words for deeds.
- The person with dead faith has only and _____ experience.

No one can come to Christ by faith and remain the same anymore than he can come into contact with a 220 volt wire and remain the same. (John 5:12)

II. _____ Faith (2:18-19)

- James wanted to _____ his _____ readers, so he used demons as his illustration.
- It shocks people that demons have _____!
- What do they _____?
 - God
 - Deity of Christ (Mk 3:11-12)
 - Hell (Lk 8:31)
 - Jesus as Judge (Mk 5:1-13)
- It is not a _____ experience to _____ and _____.
- True, saving faith requires something more: _____.

III. _____ Faith (2:20-26)

- Dynamic Faith has
 - _____
 - faith that results in a _____
- James described this true saving faith:
 - based on the _____
 - leads to _____
- James illustrated this doctrine in the lives of two well known Bible persons:
 - _____
 - _____

Heart Exam!

1. Was there a time when I honestly realized I was a sinner and admitted this to myself and God?
2. Was there a time when my heart stirred me to flee from the wrath to come?
3. Do I truly understand the Gospel, that Christ died for my sins and arose again? Do I understand and confess that I cannot save myself?
4. Did I sincerely repent of my sins and turn from them?
5. Have I trusted Christ and Christ alone for my salvation? Do I enjoy living in relationship with Him through the Word and in the Spirit?
6. Has there been a change in my life? Do I maintain good works, or are my words occasional and weak? Do I seek to grow in the things of the Lord? Can others tell that I have been with Jesus?
7. Do I have a desire to share Christ with others? Or am I ashamed of Him?
8. Do I enjoy the fellowship of God's people? Is worship a delight to me?
9. Am I ready for the Lord's return? Or will I be ashamed when He comes for me?

Not every Christian has the same personal experience, and there are degrees of sanctification. But for the most part, this spiritual inventory can assist a person in determining their true standing before God. (Psm 139:23-24)