

Be Bold
Faith and Works
James 2:14-26

- I. Faith is more than an intellectual belief. Read James 2:14-17
 - a. Salvation is by Grace Alone (Eph 2;8-9; John 19:30)
 - b. Real faith starts with salvation and leads to good works (2 Cor 5:17, 2 Cor. 5: 7, Heb. 11: 6, Rom. 14: 23).
 - c. Works are the result of a genuine faith that began with Salvation. James 2:14-17
 - i. James isn't telling us that works saves.
 - d. James is demonstrating the Christian life as more than just a Bible Study. (Ref. James 1:18,22)
 1. The primary purpose of the bible isn't to give you intellectual knowledge. The purpose is to transform your life.
 2. James is not teaching that faith alone is not enough for salvation. He is saying faith that saves will never be alone.
 - e. A believer should be concerned if they claim to know Jesus and show no evidence. (2 Cor. 13: 5a)

- II. Faith is more than an emotional belief vs.18-19
 - a. James speaks about demons because he wants to shock his complacent readers.
 - b. Demons have an intellectual and emotional expression toward God but not faith. James 2:19
 - c. Any declaration of faith that does not result in a changed life and good works is a false declaration.

- III. Faith involves surrendering your will.
 - a. Are you willing?
 - i. God saves you for a purpose.
 - ii. You are God's Poem (Eph 2:10)
 - b. The example Two faithfully willing followers
 - i. James gives two examples on faith and works: Abraham and Rahab.
 1. James chooses two people who are polar opposites but have faith in common.
 - ii. Abraham was willing Shares of Abrahams Faith by simple trust.
 1. James 1:23 "counted" or "reckoned" is a legal/financial term; means "to put to one's account." Abraham's spiritual bankbook was empty. He was bankrupt!
 2. Abrahams faith was "Fulfilled" (James 1:23) REF Genesis 15:6
 - a. Abraham demonstrates his salvation (James 1:21-22) Ref Rom 3:28
 - iii. Rahab demonstrated her faith in works (vs. 25-26)
 1. Internal devotion to God—faith—produces external devotion to God—works—bc a good tree bears good fruit.