

James 2:14-26:

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? [15] If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, [16] and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? [17] So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

[18] But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. [19] You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! [20] Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless? [21] Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? [22] You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; [23] and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”—and he was called a friend of God. [24] You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. [25] And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? [26] For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.

Roadmap

1. Define our Terms: Faith & Works
2. Four Arguments that Faith Without Works is Dead
3. Why it Matters

Define our Terms

What does he mean by faith?

John 14:11:

“Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works [miracles] themselves.”

What does James mean by works?

Argument #1: Argument by Analogy (vss. 15-16)

Argument #2: Argument by Rebuttal (vss. 18-19)



Faith Without Works Is...
November 15th, 2020
Scripture: James 2:14-26

Argument #3: Argument by Example, Abraham (vss. 21-24)

Romans 4:1-2:

“What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh?
[2] For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.”

Romans 3:28:

“For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.”

Ephesians 2:8-9:

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, [9] not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

Ephesians 2:10:

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

Argument #4: Argument by Example, Rahab (vs. 25)

Why it Matters

