

Understanding the Book of James

James 2:14-26 (p.1289)

Intro

We are saved by _____ alone; we are saved simply by _____ in Jesus Christ and what He has done, not by what we have done.

You don't get to heaven by being _____ --you can't _____ your salvation; you get to heaven by trusting _____ in Jesus and what He has done.

...we have been justified [declared righteous before God] by faith... (Rom. 5:1)

...we hold that one is justified [declared righteous before God] by faith apart from works of the law. (Rom. 3:28)

we know that a person is not justified [declared righteous before God] by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ (Gal. 2:16)

For by grace you have been saved through faith...not a result of works... (Eph, 2:8,9)

Salvation and forgiveness are free _____ that we receive from God when we trust in Jesus Christ; faith _____ is the instrument of our salvation.

I. While salvation is entirely by _____ alone...

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, 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? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. v.14-17

There is a kind of faith that isn't _____ faith; faith that doesn't lead to _____ is not saving faith.

"Faith" that doesn't _____ you and make you a better person—"faith" that doesn't actually obey God-- is _____ and dead; it's not living faith.

James is not _____ faith—he says that suffering tests our faith, and that we should pray in faith—but he wants us to put our faith into _____.

...the testing of your faith...1:3

...let him ask in faith...1:6

...the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick...5:15

II. Faith that is without works is _____.

Apparently, some people thought of faith and works as _____ gifts, but good works are the _____ of true faith.

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. v.18

Saving faith is more than just believing that God _____; living faith is trusting Him in a way that leads to _____ Him.

You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! v.19

Serving God is evidence that your faith is _____; the lack of obedience to God is evidence that your faith is _____.

Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; 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. You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. 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? For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead. v.20-26

...[Abraham] believed the Lord, and he [the Lord] counted it to him as righteousness. (Gen. 15:6)

...what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." (Rom. 4:2,3)

"Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." (Gen. 22:12)

Saving faith is living and _____; dead faith doesn't obey God's Word, so _____ that your faith is alive by serving the Lord.

...be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. (1:22)

Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. (5:1)

put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness...Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. (1:21,27)

_____ your sins to the Lord, repent, trust in Jesus Christ alone, and put your faith into practice; _____ yourself to serving God and helping those in need.

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