

Having A Faith That Saves
James 2:14-26
May 21, 2023

James 2:14-26 vs. Galatians 2:15-16

If you ever find the Bible contradicting itself, the contradiction is not with the Bible but with your understanding of it.

1. Authors use “works” differently.
2. Authors have different purposes in the passages.
Paul is writing about how to be saved. James is writing about what true faith looks like.

The Test of Live or Dead Faith

1. Belief in God is Good, but It is Not Enough :: V. 19

The demons believe, but instead of peace they tremble.

Why are the demons not saved? (Other than Jesus not dying for them) Because of the fruit of their belief. They believe but they have rejected it.

2. Obedience to God is the Fruit of Faith :: Vv. 15-16, 21-25

V. 18 - I will show you my faith by my works.

Vv. 20-25 - Abraham & Rehab as examples

2 Corinthians 9:13 - *By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ*

(Continued on back)

Mark 1:15 - Repent and believe

2 Corinthians 5:15 - *and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.*

Romans 10:9 - Believe and confess that Jesus is Lord

- Lord - Master, Ruler, Owner

3. Benefits of a Living Faith: Righteousness and Acceptance :: V. 23, 25

V. 23 - Abraham wasn't righteous, but the belief that was rooted so deeply in him that it led to his submission, God gave him righteousness.

2 Corinthians 5:21 - *For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

"We are saved by faith alone, but the faith that saves is never alone." - Martin Luther