

Temptation 2: Professing Faith Without Works or Deeds

James 02: 14–26

1 *Two questions*

- a. Can a man have faith and not do good works?
- b. Can faith without good works save a man?

14 What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him?

2 *The destitute Christian believer*

- a. He claims faith, yet refuses to help the needy
- b. Conclusion:
His faith without works is dead

15 Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food.

16 If one of you says to him, “Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it?

17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

3 *The two men of arrogance*

- a. One claims faith; another claims works
- b. Conclusion:
One’s faith is shown by works

18 But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.” Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do.

4 *The orthodox religionist*

- a. He believes in one God, but the demons also believe and shudder
- b. Conclusion:
Faith without works is an empty faith

19 You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that — and shudder.

20 You foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless?

5 *The man who proved his faith by works: Abraham*

- a. He offered up Isaac

21 Was not our ancestor Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar?

<p>b. His faith and works were interactive</p> <p>c. His faith fulfilled Scripture</p> <p>d. Conclusion: His faith and works justified him</p> <p>6 <i>The woman who proved her faith by works: Rahab</i></p> <p>a. She proved her faith by receiving the messengers</p> <p>b. Conclusion: A body without the Spirit is dead; so faith without works is dead</p>	<p>22 You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did.</p> <p>23 And the scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,” and he was called God’s friend.</p> <p>24 You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone.</p> <p>25 In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction?</p> <p>26 As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.</p>
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