

Great Faith – Good Deeds

(James 2:14-26 nlt)

¹⁴What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? ¹⁵Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, ¹⁶and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do?

¹⁷So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

¹⁸Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds."

¹⁹You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God.^[f] Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. ²⁰How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless?

²¹Don't you remember that our ancestor Abraham was shown to be right with God by his actions when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? ²²You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete. ²³And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith."^[g] He was even called the friend of God.^[h] ²⁴So you see, we are shown to be right with God by what we do, not by faith alone.

²⁵Rahab the prostitute is another example. She was shown to be right with God by her actions when she hid those messengers and sent them safely away by a different road. ²⁶Just as the body is dead without breath,^[i] so also faith is dead without good works.

- Faith without good deeds is dead
- Your action must match what you believe.

(Hebrews 11:1nkjv)

Now faith is the ^[a]substance of things hoped for, the ^[b]evidence of things not seen.

- If faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. And if that substance becomes the reality of what I was hoping for. Then that is the evidence that faith was at work
- The bible says faith come by hearing, hearing by the word of God

(Romans 10:17)

- So when you hear the word of God faith comes, but faith by itself is useless. Its dead
- You need faith and your actions to work together to make your faith complete like Abraham
- In other words, you need to be a doer of the word and not a hearer only

(James 1:19-25 nlt)

¹⁹ Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. ²⁰ Human anger^[g] does not produce the righteousness^[h] God desires. ²¹ So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.

²² But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. ²³ For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. ²⁴ You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. ²⁵ But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.

- God uses his word to prepare and equip us to do every good work

(2 Timothy 3:16-17 nlt)

¹⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. ¹⁷ God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

- Salvation is a free gift. We are saved through faith and not by works
- But our good deeds show our faith. We are his workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works

(Ephesians 2:8-10 nkjv)

⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

- if I'm being led by the Spirit and my steps are being ordered by the Lord. then I should be walking in the good works that he prepared beforehand
- God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him

(Philippians 2:12-15 nlt)

¹²Dear friends, you always followed my instructions when I was with you. And now that I am away, it is even more important. Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. ¹³For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

¹⁴Do everything without complaining and arguing, ¹⁵so that no one can criticize you. Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people.

- Remember you're a city on a hill that cannot be hidden.
- God wants your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify him

(Matthew 5:14-16 nlt)

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

- Faith without works is useless, you must be a doer of the word and not a hearer only
- If you a doer of the word, then you’re walking in the good works that he prepared beforehand because you are his workmanship created in Christ Jesus
- If your deeds are clearly seen that they have been done in God. Then you’re letting your light shine

(John 3:16-21 nkjv)

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

¹⁸ “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹ But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”