

# JAMIES



A FAITH THAT WORKS

# **Faith: Dead or Alive** (James 2:14-19)

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What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,” and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? 17 Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself. 18 But someone may well say, “You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works.” 19 You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.

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**Main Idea:** Living Faith is Manifest Through Loving Obedience

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Matthew 25:35 'For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; 36 naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.' 37 "Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You something to drink? 38 'And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? 39 'When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' 40 "The King will answer and say to them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.'"

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1 John 3:16 We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. 17 But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him? 18 Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth”



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2. Warning Against Workless Faith (17)

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“Clearly we have here a passage that lies at the very heart of James’ concern. He is deeply troubled by an attitude towards faith that sees it mainly as a verbal profession - such as the confession that ‘God is one’. This is a faith that is ‘apart from’ works and James views this faith as ‘dead’, ‘barren’; it does not have the power to save or to justify... It is absolutely vital to understand that the main point of this argument, expressed three times, is not that works must be added to faith but that genuine faith includes works. That is its very nature.” - Douglas Moo

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Titus 1:16 “They profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him, being detestable and disobedient and worthless for any good deed.”

Titus 3:8 “This is a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that those who have believed God will be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men.”

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Ephesians 2:8 “For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them. “

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“Paul denies that works can have any value in bringing us into relationship with God; James is insisting that, once that relationship is established, works are essential... Paul denies any efficacy to pre-conversion works, but James is pleading for the absolute necessity of post-conversion works.” - Douglas Moo

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Mark 12:28 One of the scribes came and heard them arguing, and recognizing that He had answered them well, asked Him, “What commandment is the foremost of all?” 29 Jesus answered, “The foremost is, ‘Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is one Lord;

Deuteronomy 6:4 “Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one!

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“People with dead faith substitute words for deeds. They know the correct vocabulary for prayer and testimony, and can even quote the right verses from the Bible; but their walk does not measure up to their talk. They think that their words are as good as works, and they are wrong.” - Warren W. Wiersbe

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# **Living What We Learn**

## **1. Strengthen Your Faith**

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- 2. Exercise Your Faith**

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- 1. Strengthen Your Faith**
- 2. Exercise Your Faith**
- 3. Confess Your Faith**



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