

**FOR THE BROTHERS:
A STUDY IN THE EPISTLES OF JAMES, JOHN, JUDE
AMEN BIBLE STUDY 2016-2017**

**James: Possessing Real Faith
James 2:14-26
October 20, 2016**

I. Faith without works is useless.

A. It does not save.

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?

cf. John 2:23-25

B. It does not help others.

¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶ 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?

cf. Luke 10:25-37; Acts 2:44, 45; 4:32-35; II Corinthians 8:8-15; Galatians 6:9-10

C. It is dead.

¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ¹⁸ 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.

cf. Matthew 25:31-46; Galatians 2:17-21; Romans 3:31; Romans 6:14

II. Faith without works is devilish.

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

cf. Acts 8:13

III. Faith without works is unbiblical.

²⁰ Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?

A. Consider Abraham

²¹ Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? ²² You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; ²³ 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. ²⁴ You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

cf. Genesis 22:9, 12; 15:6

B. Consider Rahab

²⁵ 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? ²⁶ For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.

cf. Joshua 2