


Faith And Works

(conclusion of last week's lesson before beginning next lesson)

James 2:14-26




Final Statement:

James 2:17, *"Even so faith, if it have not works, is dead in itself."*

James 2:20, *"But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith apart from works is barren?"*


James 2:26, *"For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, even so faith apart from works is dead."*



Salvation By Grace Through Faith ... Ephesians 2:8-9 and James 2:24 Reconciled

➤ What did the Ephesians do that Paul calls, *"saved by grace through faith ..."*?

1. Heard - Ephesians 1:13; Romans 10:17
2. Believed - Ephesians 1:13; Acts 19:5,18
3. Repented - Acts 19:19; 20:21
4. Confessed - Acts 19:18; Romans 10:9-10
5. Baptized - Acts 19:5; 2:38



Taming The Tongue

James 1:19,26; 3:1-12

More Than Profession

- ▶ James 1:22, "*Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding your own selves ...*"
- ▶ James 2:14ff – Saving faith is a working faith.
- ▶ James 3 – Is your tongue being controlled by faith? cf. 2 Corinthians 10:5

More Than Profession

- ▶ Matthew 12:34-37, "... for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. The good man out of his good treasure bringeth forth good things: and the evil man out of his evil treasure bringeth forth evil things."

More Than Profession

- ▶ Matthew 12:34-37, "*And I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.*"

"Ye Know This..."

- ▶ "*The tongue of the righteous is as choice silver*" (Proverbs 10:20).
- ▶ "*Set a watch, O Jehovah, before my mouth; Keep the door of my lips*" (Psalms 141:3).
- ▶ "*Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles*" (Proverbs 21:23).
- ▶ "*A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in network of silver*" (Proverbs 25:11).

"Ye Know This ..."

- ▶ "*In the multitude of words there wanteth not transgression; but he that refraineth his lips doeth wisely*" (Proverbs 10:19).
- ▶ "*He that guardeth his mouth keepeth his life; but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction*" (Proverbs 13:3).
- ▶ "*Seest thou a man that is hasty in his words? There is more hope of a fool than of him*" (Proverbs 29:20).

“Ye Know This ...”

- ▶ *“A soft answer turneth away wrath; but a grievous word stireth up anger”* (Proverbs 15:1).
- ▶ *“Death and life are in the power of the tongue”* (Proverbs 18:21).

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“Be not many of you teachers ...” James 3:1

- ▶ Tragedy associated with the wrong kind of teachers.
 - Vain hope. Jeremiah 23:16–23
 - Turn people from God. Jeremiah 23:26–27; 6:16; 5:30–31; cf. Isaiah 30:10
- ▶ Preaching the message of God turns people TO God. Matthew 12:41; Jonah 3:1–2

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“Greater judgment” James 3:1

- ▶ Important message. 1 Corinthians 1:21; cf. 1 Corinthians 2:3
- ▶ Preach the word. 2 Timothy 4:2ff; 1 Peter 4:11
- ▶ What if I fail?
 - Acts 20:20,27 Responsible for others.
 - Galatians 1:6ff Anathema of God.
 - Galatians 2:5 Truth does not continue.
 - 2 John 9ff Fellowship with God severed.

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Eternal consequences for leading men in the wrong direction.

- ▶ **1 Timothy 1:3ff** – strife and questions follow such teaching.
- ▶ Paul warned the Ephesian elders, ***“And from among your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.”*** (Acts 20:30)
- ▶ Those who taught the Gentiles to be circumcised were ***“subverting your souls.”*** (cf. Acts 15:24)

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Eternal consequences for leading men in the wrong direction.

- ▶ Hymenaeus and Philetus erred, ***“saying that the resurrection is past already, and overthrow the faith of some.”*** (2 Timothy 2:14–18)
- ▶ Peter said of false teachers, ***“And many shall follow their lascivious doings; by reason of whom the way of the truth shall be evil spoken of.”*** (2 Peter 2:2)
- ▶ Paul wrote, ***“This I say, that no one may delude you with persuasiveness of speech.”*** (Colossians 2:4)

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Eternal consequences for leading men in the wrong direction.

- ▶ Little comfort in saying, ***“But I didn’t know ...”***

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Effect NOT Determined By Motive Of Teacher

- ▶ Philippians 1:15-18
Motive Wrong- Teaching right.
- ▶ Galatians 1:13-14; Acts 23:1;
26:9; 1 Timothy 1:13
Motive right- Teaching wrong.

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