

REAL FAITH

James 2:14-26

James 2:14-26 *"Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by actions, is dead."* (vs. 17)

I. WHO IS RIGHT - JAMES OR PAUL? _____

Paul (Gal 2:16)

James (Ja. 2:24)

Problem: "Legalism"

"Laxity"

"WORKS" Jewish laws

Christian lifestyle

Focus: "Root of salvation" (internal/unseen)

"Fruit of salvation" (external/seen)

Purpose: How to know I'm a Christian

How to show I'm a Christian

"For it is BY GRACE you have been saved THROUGH FAITH ... FOR a life of GOOD WORKS which

God has already prepared for us to do." Eph. 2:8-10 (GN)

II. WHAT IS REAL FAITH?

A. REAL FAITH IS NOT JUST SOMETHING YOU _____

"What good is it, my brothers, if a man CLAIMS to have faith, but has no deeds? Can such "faith" save him? (vs. 14)

Matt. 7:20-23

B. REAL FAITH IS NOT JUST SOMETHING YOU _____

"Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. 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?" (vs. 15-16)

"If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?" 1 John 3:17 Also 3:14-16, 4:7-20

(vs. 17)

C. REAL FAITH IS NOT JUST SOMETHING YOU _____

"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." (vs. 18)

2 Cor. 5:17

D. REAL FAITH IS NOT JUST SOMETHING YOU _____

"You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that --and shudder!"

(vs. 19)

E. REAL FAITH IS SOMETHING YOU _____

Illustrations: Two very different people

* Abraham (vs. 20-24)

* Rahab (vs. 25)

2 Cor. 13:5 *"Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves."*