

Real Faith James 2:14-26

📖 Ephesians 2:8–9 (ESV) “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

📖 James 2:24 (ESV) “...a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.”

The Basis of their Faith Statements

- ❖ Paul refers to faith **at** salvation, and James refers to faith **after** salvation.
- ❖ Paul emphasizes the **root** of salvation, and James emphasizes the **fruit** after salvation.
- ❖ Paul focuses on our **vertical** relationship, and James focuses on our **horizontal** ones.
- ❖ “Paul sees the **fire in the fireplace**, while James eyes the **smoke coming out of the chimney**. The world should be able to tell that a faith burns in our hearts by the evidence of what is coming out of our lives.”
~Chuck Swindoll

1. FAITH IS NOT THE WORDS WE SAY.

📖 James 2:14 (ESV) “What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?”

📖 Matthew 7:21 (ESV) “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.”

2. FAITH IS NOT AN EMOTION WE FEEL.

📖 James 2:15–17 (ESV) “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?¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”


3. FAITH IS NOT A FACT WE BELIEVE.

📖 James 2:18–19 (ESV) “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.¹⁹ You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!”

4. Faith IS SOMETHING WE DO. John Wayne Clip

📖 James 2:20-26 (ESV) “Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?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 his works completed faith;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.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.”

📖 Hebrews 11:1 & 6 (ESV) “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen...⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.”

Digging Deeper: Faith, like calories, cannot be seen, but you can always see the results. What do others see in your life? Genuine faith is  involved...is yours? Genuine faith is displayed...is yours? Adrian Rogers said, “**Faith is not primarily believing God in spite of the evidence; it is obeying God in spite of the consequences, not having to know why.**” Are you still treading water? Are you still trusting God? Do you REALLY believe what you say you believe?