

“The Relationship Of Faith And Works”

Lesson Text: **James 2:14-26.**

I. Without Works, Faith Is Not Made Perfect.

- Without Works, Faith Is Unprofitable.
 - **Vs. 14.** Being as of no value, worthless as clouds with no water and trees without any fruit.
 - It is in the same class as: Circumcision (**Galatians 5:6**), Meats (**Hebrews 13:9**), & Benevolence Without Love (**1 Cor. 13:3**).
- Without Works, Faith Can Become Lip-Service. **Vs. 14.**
 - Words Are Insufficient- **Luke 6:46; Matthew 23:1-3; 7:21.**
- Without Works, Faith Cannot Save Us. **Vs. 14.**
 - The Question: “*Can faith save him?*” Implies a negative answer.
 - While it is true that faith saves us, but faith Alone doesn’t.
- Without Works, Faith Is Dead. **Vs. 17.**
 - As a dead body (**vs. 26**) is inactive, separated, and has no power **Vs. 20.**
 - **Romans 1:17; Galatians 5:6.**
- Without Works, Faith Is Not Demonstrated. **Vs. 18.**
 - The Father Demonstrated His Love For Us- **Romans 5:8; John 3:16.**
 - God Expects Us To Demonstrate Our Faith & Love In Obedience- **John 14:15.**
- Without Works, Our Faith Is No Better Than The Demon’s Faith. **Vs. 19.**
 - On More Than One Occassion The Demons Acknowledged Jesus- **Mark 5:7; Luke 4:34.**
- Without Works, Our Faith Is Not Made Perfect Or Complete. **Vs. 22.**
 - to bring an activity to a successful finish—‘to complete, to finish, to end, to accomplish.’

Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). In Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 657).

II. Three Illustrations Showing The Proper Relationship.

- The Christian In **Vs. 15-16.**
- Abraham In **Vs. 21-23.**
- Rahab In **Vs. 25.**

III. Three Viewpoints Of The James 2:17.

- Martin Luther’s Viewpoint— When The Bible Contradicts What You Believe, Change It!
- The Denominational Viewpoint— “This Passage Applies To The Christian Only.”
- The Biblical Viewpoint— True Faith Is More Than Words, It Is Acting On Our Faith!