

FAITH WITHOUT WORKS

The Word of God is very clear that faith without works is dead.

James 2:14

“What use is it, my brethren, if a man says he has faith, but he has no works? Can that faith save him?”

This means that you can say that you trust God (have faith) but the proof of whether you trust Him is that you will do what He says - regardless of the circumstances. In other words, faith only goes so far and is only complete when you act out your faith.

James 2:22

“You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected;”

This is further confirmed by a scripture found in chapter one of the book of James, which talks about us proving ourselves doers.

James 1:22-24

“But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.

For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror;

for {once} he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was.”

It says if you don't follow through with the doing, then you are deceived. The deception is about whether you really have faith - do you really trust God - which is a questioning of your salvation. That's why it states in James 2 that we are not justified by faith alone (meaning faith not leading to works).

James 2:24

“You see that a man is justified by works, and not by faith alone.”

Our obedience to what He wants, being led by the Spirit (Romans 8:14), will lead us to walk out the good works He has called us to (Ephesians 2:10). So, we have to trust He knows the way He ordained us to walk and lift up our hands, letting Him take us places we may not want to go (John 21:18). Without this type of faith, our works are of the flesh, not the works He wants, and our salvation may be questionable.

James 2:26

“For just as the body without {the} spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.”