

James 2:1-26

Faith without Works is Dead

December 2010

James 2:1 My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality.

Love which proceeds from a true faith, cannot exist with the respecting of people: which he proves plainly by using the example of those who, while having reproach or disdain for the poor, honor the rich. For if we knew what Christ's glory is, and esteemed it as we should, there would not be the respecting of people that there is.

James 2:5 Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?

He shows that those who prefer the rich over the poor are wicked and disobedient judges, since God on the other hand prefers the poor (whom he has enriched with true riches) over the rich, the true needy and wretched.

James 2:8 If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well; 9 but if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

Love which God prescribes cannot agree with the respecting of people, seeing that we must walk in the king's highway. The law is said to be royal and like the king's highway, in that it is simple and without changes, and that the law calls everyone our neighbor without respect, whom we may help by any kind of duty.

James 2:14 What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can (*saying he has*) faith save him?

The Message

Dear friends, do you think you'll get anywhere in this if you learn all the right words but never do anything? Does merely talking about faith indicate that a person really has it?

Faith — HEARS, Rom 10:17; - BELIEVES, Rom 4:1-5; - Takes ACTION, Heb 11:8-10

James 2:22 Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?

The Message

Isn't it obvious that faith and works are yoked partners, that faith expresses itself in works? That the works are "works of faith"?

Faith produces Results (Works) or it's just talking faith with no walking.