

Sunday, July 27, 2025

1 Timothy 4:13, “Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.”

Title: True Faith: James...5

Text: James 2:14 - 26

Purpose: I want to INFORM my congregation that NOT all faith is TRUE FAITH toward the Lord God Almighty and the Incarnate Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Introduction:

In the devotional last week, we reflected on James 2:1 – 13 considering three main Holy Spirit inspired statements: ~ 1, Faith Does not Show Partiality; ~ 2. Faith Keeps the ROYAL law; ~ 3. Faith Demonstrates MERCY

This week our devotional is from James 2:14 – 26, in which true faith is distinguished from false faith.

~ Ephesians 2:8 – 9, “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.”

~ 2 Corinthians 5:7, “for we walk by faith, not by sight.”

~ Hebrews 11:6, “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.”

~ “faith is confidence that God’s Word is true and conviction that acting on that Word will bring His blessing.”

1. Dead Faith:

~ vs. 14 – 17, (17) “So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”

Many of the prophets of old would say ‘the burden of the Lord’ came upon them.

Ephesians 2:10 reveals that “we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works”.

~ vs. 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?”

Our words need to become action (works).

~ Galatians 6:10, “So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.”

If I have the means, faith, compassion and the Holy Spirit will move me to action!

~ 1 John 3:17 – 18, “But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him? (18) Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.”

~ “Any declaration of faith that does not result in a changed life and good works is a false declaration. That kind of faith is dead faith.”

2. Demonic Faith:

~ vs. 18 – 19, “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 God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!”

~ 1 Timothy 4:1 – 2, “Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, (2) through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared,” Also John 8:44

~ Demons believe:

in the existence of God; in the deity of Jesus Christ (Mat. 8:29); in his authority and the place of judgment (Luke 8:31); in His right to judge (Mark 5:7 and Matthew 8:29); in the authority of God’s word (Mark 3:15)

~ Saving faith:

saved for good works (Ephesians 2:10); receive joy (1 Peter 1:8 – 9); receive peace with God (Romans 5:1); receive love not fear (1 John 4:18)

~ Hymn insert

3. Divine Faith:

~ Romans 12:3, “For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.”

~ 2 Thessalonians 3:1 – 2, “Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, (2) and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith.”

~ Dead faith involves the intellect;

~ Demonic faith involves emotion;

~ Divine faith involves intellect, emotion, and WILL.

~ That is chapter 1: ATTITUDE, UNDERSTAND, SURRENDER, WISDOM

~ “Faith is not believing in spite of evidence, faith is believing in spite of consequences.”

~ vs. 21, “Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar?”

Hebrews 11:8, 17 – 18

~ vs. 2:25, “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?”

Joshua 2:1; 6:17; Matthew 1:5

Conclusion:

Joshua 24:15, “And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”