

James 2:14-26

Proving a Principle

ESV	Notes
¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers,	Plural Question
if someone says he has faith but does not have works?	Singular Hypothetical Illustration
Can that faith save him?	Question
¹⁵ 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,	Singular Negative Hypothetical Illustration
what good is that?	Question
¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.	Principle
¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.”	Singular Hypothetical Illustration;
Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works	Singular Argument Impossible to display faith
¹⁹ You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!	Singular Argument Possible to have non-relational faith (detached belief, without trust)
²⁰ Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?	Singular Question
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 faith was completed by his works; 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.	Singular “ You see ” Example Positive (Father of People)
²⁴ You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.	Plural Principle
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?	Example Positive (Prostitute)
²⁶ For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.	Principle Proven