

I. THE QUESTION ABOUT CONFLICT BETWEEN PAUL'S AND JAMES' TEACHING ABOUT FAITH AND WORKS.

1. PAUL'S TEACHING

A. WE ARE NOT SAVED BY WORKS, BUT BY FAITH, EPH. 2:8,9.
 B. BUT, AFTER WE ARE SAVED, WORKS WILL BE EVIDENCED IN LIFE.

(1). EPH. 2:10, "FOR WE ARE HIS WORKMANSHIP, CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS UNTO GOOD WORKS, WHICH GOD HATH BEFORE ORDAINED THAT WE SHOULD WALK IN THEM."

(2). TITUS 2:14; 3:8, "WHO GAVE HIMSELF FOR US THAT HE MIGHT REDEEM US FROM ALL INIQUITY, AND PURIFY UNTO HIMSELF A PECULIAR PEOPLE, ZEALOUS OF GOOD WORKS. THIS IS A FAITHFUL SAYING, AND THESE THINGS I WILL THAT THOU AFFIRM CONSTANTLY, THAT THEY WHICH HAVE BELIEVED IN GOD MIGHT BE CAREFUL TO MAINTAIN GOOD WORKS"

2. JAMES' TEACHING

A. HE ATTACKS HYPOCRITICAL RELIGION OF THOSE WHO "SAY AND DO NOT". JESUS SAID "BY THEIR FRUITS YE SHALL KNOW THEM"; JAMES SAID IN SUBSTANCE, "BY THEIR WORKS YE SHALL KNOW THEM"

B. FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD. 2:20,26 (See Mt. 7:21-23)

C. BY "FAITH" PAUL MEANS "WHOLEHEARTED TRUST IN GOD";

BY "FAITH" JAMES MEANS "INTELLECTUAL ASSENT."

EVEN THE DEVILS HAVE THIS KIND OF FAITH, 2:19.

D. THE RIGHT KIND OF WORKS IS EVIDENCE OF THE RIGHT KIND OF FAITH, 2:18

(1). ABRAHAM, 2:23

(2). RAHAB, 2:25

E. "BE YE DOERS OF THE WORD, AND NOT HEARERS ONLY." 1:22

II. BOTH PAUL AND JAMES AGREE THAT THE RIGHT KIND OF FAITH IS A FAITH WHICH WORKS.

1. HOW ATTITUDE AFFECTS ACTION

A. IN PHYSICAL LIFE

B. IN SPIRITUAL LIFE. — WORKS INDICATE THE ATTITUDE OF THE HEART TOWARD THE GRACE OF GOD.

2. WHAT IS A RELIGIOUS FAITH WHICH WORKS?

A. FIRST OF ALL, IT IS A GENUINE SAVING FAITH WHICH IS REALLY EFFECTIVE IN THE SALVATION OF THE SOUL.

B. SECOND, IT WORKS IN LOVE — See I Cor. 13, "... It profits me nothing." CCF. Jas. 2:14, "It profits me nothing"

C. THIRD, IT WORKS IN OBEDIENCE

(1). NOTICE THE RELATION BETWEEN FAITH AND OBEDIENCE

(2).

D. FOURTH, IT WORKS IN SERVICE

(1). A GERMAN SCHOLAR ONCE SAID, "HE WHO WOULD BELONG TO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN AS A RECIPIENT MUST BELONG TO IT AS AN AGENT."

(2). LOVE DELIGHTS TO SERVE ONE WHOM HE TRUSTS WHOLEHEARTEDLY

E. — (see)

See Expositors Bible, "James" pp. 135-148.
See Notes on Sermon "Who Wants a Dead Faith?"

E. FIFTH, IT WORKS IN THE EMERGENCIES OF LIFE.

(1) MARK TWAIN ONCE WROTE A STORY BEARING THE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE, "THE TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE." BEFORE HE HAD FINISHED HE HAD WORKED HIS CHARACTERS INTO SUCH A PREDICAMENT THAT WHATEVER ANY ONE OF THEM DID, THEY WOULD ALL BE DESTROYED. AS HE THOUGHT ABOUT THE SITUATION TWAIN CONCLUDED BY WRITING: "I HAVE THESE CHARACTERS IN SUCH A FIX I CANNOT GET THEM OUT. ANYONE WHO THINKS HE CAN IS WELCOME TO TRY!"

(2) LONELINESS IS ANOTHER OF LIFE'S EMERGENCIES WHERE FAITH REALLY WORKS. ELDERLY PEOPLE; BY 1960 ONE-THIRD OF OUR NATION WILL BE OVER FORTY-FIVE YEARS OF AGE, AND ONE-TENTH OVER SIXTY-FIVE. ECCLESIASTES SAID, "WOE TO HIM WHO IS ALONE WHEN HE FALLS AND HAS NOT ANOTHER TO LIFT HIM UP." JONATHAN LONG AGO DESCRIBED IT TO DAVID: "THOU WILT BE MISSED FOR THY SEAT WILL BE EMPTY."

(3) SUFFERING IS ANOTHER EMERGENCY WHERE FAITH WORKS.

- (A) A CHILD WITH CEREBRAL PALSY, WILL NEVER SIT UP, USE HIS HANDS, OR WALK.
- (B) HOUSE BURNED, WIFE AND CHILDREN BURNED TO DEATH.
- (C) POEM BY ANNE BRONTE:

I HAD HOPED THAT WITH THE BRAVE AND STRONG,
MY PORTIONED TASK MIGHT LIE;
TO TOIL AMID THE BUSY THrong,
WITH PURPOSE PURE AND HIGH;
BUT GOD HAS FIXED ANOTHER PART,
AND HE HAS FIXED IT WELL,
I SAID SO WITH MY BREAKING HEART,
WHEN FIRST THIS TROUBLE FELL.
THESE WEARY HOURS WILL NOT BE LOST,
THESE DAYS OF MISERY,
THESE NIGHTS OF DARKNESS, ANGUISH-TOSSED,
CAN I BUT TURN TO THEE:
WITH SECRET LABOR TO SUSTAIN
IN PATIENCE EVERY BLOW
TOGETHER FORTITUDE FROM PAIN,
AND HOLINESS FROM WOE.

F. SIXTH, A REAL FAITH WORKS IN DEATH.

(1) John Donne: "All mankind is of one Author,
and is of one volume; And when man dies,
a chapter is not torn out of the book,
but translated into a better language."

(2) SOMETHING HAS SPOKEN TO ME IN THE NIGHT AND TOLD ME
I SHALL DIE, I KNOW NOT WHERE, SAYING: 'TO LOSE THE EARTH
YOU KNOW FOR GREATER KNOWLEDGE; TO LOSE THE LIFE YOU HAVE
FOR GREATER LIFE; TO LEAVE THE FRIENDS YOU LOVE FOR GREATER
LOVING; TO FIND A LAND MORE KIND THAN HOME,
MORE LARGE THAN EARTH.'" THOMAS WOLFE

Gabaway B.C. Mar. 8, '81

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