

Jas 2:1 *My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory.*

Gal 2:11-12 But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. (12) For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing the circumcision party.

Rom 12:16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.

Jas 2:2-4 For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, (3) and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," (4) have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

1Co 1:26 For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

Notice – poor men wear shabby clothing. For rich men to do the same that they might appear poor is deceitful.

The Rich and Noble of the NT

Paul member of Sanhedrin, Roman citizen Acts 20:34; 22:3, 28

Joseph of Arimethea buried Jesus in a new tomb Lk 23:50, 53 Isa 53:9

Nicodemus – helped bury Jesus Jn 3:1; 19:39
75 lbs of spices

Sergius Paulus – procounsul Acts 13:7, 12
Two inscriptions have been found with the date a.d. 51 and 52 with the names of proconsuls of Cyprus and one is in the Cesnola Collection, an inscription found at Soli with the name of Paulus as Proconsul

Dionysius the Areopagite - one of the 12 judges of the Court making Athens famous Acts 17:34

1Ti 6:17-19 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. (18) They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, (19) thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

Act 10:34-35 So Peter opened his mouth and said:
"Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, (35) but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

Jas 2:5-6 Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? (6) But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? 7 Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

1Co 6:5-7 I say this to your shame. Can it be that there is no one among you wise enough to settle a dispute between the brothers, (6) but brother goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers? (7) To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded?

Jas 2:8 If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well.

Lev 19:18 You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

Mt 22.39 the second greatest commandment.

Jas 2:9 But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. 10 For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. 11 For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

The Law of Moses. James wrote when the Jews were still keeping the Law of Moses. Acts 21.20-26.

Jas 2:12 So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty.

Not the law of Moses

The perfect law Jas 1:25 But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the *law* of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man shall be blessed in what he does.

Gal 5:2-4 Behold I, Paul, say to you that if you receive circumcision, Christ will be of no benefit to you. (3) And I testify again to every man who receives circumcision, that he is under obligation to keep the whole Law. (4) You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.\

Jas 2:13 For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Eph 4:32 And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

An Examination of Faith and Works

Eph 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; (9) not as a result of works, that no one should boast.

Rom 6:14 For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law, but under grace.

1Jn 2:4 The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him;

Jas 2:14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?

The question is does faith only save?

The first example is given.

Jas 2:15-17 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, what good is that? (17) So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

The conclusion is that faith without works is dead.

The second example is given.

Jas 2:18-20 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 that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! (20) Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless?

Again, the conclusion is that faith without works is dead.

The third example is given.

Jas 2:21-23 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.

Again, the conclusion is that faith without works is dead.

Rom 4:3 For what does the Scripture say? "AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS."

Abraham was saved by faith which was demonstrated by his works. Without his work, he had no faith.

Gen 22:12 He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."

Jas 2:24 *You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.*

James answers in summation
by faith Abraham acted Heb 11:17

Heb 11:17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son,

Abraham was not saved by the LOM

Rom 3:28 For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

Jas 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?

Heb 11:31 By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

Act 10:34-35 So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, (35) but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

Once again, James summarizes and concludes that
faith without works is dead

*Jas 2:26 For as the body apart from the spirit is
dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.*

Gal 3:26 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God,
through faith. (27) For as many of you as were
baptized into Christ have put on Christ.