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- Unspoken assumption: “**Faith**” *should* produce “**works**”
- The “**works**” lead to desired “**profit**”, *i.e. gain, fruit, etc.*
- “**Fruit**” is the desired **outcome**, & w/o **works** there’s **none**

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Next Question: “Can faith save him”?

- It’s the “faith” just described – a faith without works
- The sense demanded is this: “Can **this** or **such** faith save”?
- It’s rhetorical, but the obvious answer is “no”!

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Examples of non-saving faith:

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- *John 8:30-33, 44*
- *John 15:2, 5-6*
- *James 2:19*



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The Key to Understanding this Passage:

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“b” makes James contradict Paul—Unthinkable!

“c” is the position we hold, dovetailing with scripture!

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Other helpful thoughts:

***Eph. 2:8-10 – Not saved ‘by’ but “unto” good works***



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***Not “works w/o faith”, “faith w/o works”, but a  
“working faith”—see Gal. 5:6***

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***Don’t confuse cart and horse, root and fruit, cause  
and effect!***

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***“Though we are justified by faith alone, we are not justified by that faith which can be alone!”***

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### **An Example of Dead Faith in Action!**

In ***Vs. 15-16***, we have an **extreme** example of dead faith!

A **desire** for **food & clothing** is **expressed**, but no **action**!

There's no **‘profit’**, & it violates the ***“Law of Liberty”***



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Ridiculous? Many today show no fruitfulness whatsoever but nevertheless insist that they’re “alive” in their “heart”!

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Woman standing by casket of dead husband, insisting he’s “alive”

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Your fruit isn’t the good desire – **that’s** the “fruit of the Spirit”

**Your** fruit is the desire “fleshed out” by a good work!