



Justified by Faith or By Works?

James 2:14-26

- 1) Is a person "justified" by faith or by works? Both!
 - a) Declared righteous apart from works (Rom 3:28; 4:5-6; Gal 2:16)
 - b) Vindicated; validated; proved genuine by good works (James 2:14-26)
- 2) Test yourself (2 Cor 13:5)
 - a) Do you trust in Christ alone? (Acts 16:31; cf. John 5:24)
 - b) *By grace, through faith, unto works?* (Eph 2:8-10)
 - c) What works? (James 1:3, 12, 1:21, 22-23, 27; 2:1-9, 15; 3:2-12; 4:6, 10, 11; 5:8)
 - d) Helping the needy? (2:15-18; cf. 1:26-27; Matt 25:31ff.; 1 John 3:17)
 - e) Keeping God's command to love? (2:8; cf. John 15:12; 1 John 2:4-11)
 - f) Does your faith exceed demonic faith? (2:19; cf. Mark 1:24, 34; 3:11; 5:7; Acts 19:15).
- 3) If Christianity were a crime, is there evidence to convict you?
 - a) Bearing fruit in keeping with repentance (Matt 3:7-9)
 - b) Shining the light of Christ for all to see (Matt 5:16)
 - c) Abiding in Christ's words (John 8:31-32; 15:4-17)
 - d) Calling Jesus Lord but denying Him w/ actions? (Matt. 7:21-23)
- 4) It costs *nothing* to become a Christian but *everything* to live as one