



Walking By Faith

Two major misunderstandings of faith

1. Blind leap in the dark

Q: “Why do you believe Bible?”

A: “That’s where faith comes in.”

2. Denominational opinions

“Faith alone”

“At the point of faith”

Salvation by
‘dead faith’

Faith is . . .

1. Conviction.

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God – Ro.10:17

2. Trust.

But since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “*I believed and therefore I spoke...*” – 2 Co.4:13

3. Obedience.

For we walk by faith, not by sight – 2 Co.5:7

“Get it in writing”

Clerk: “You owe \$...”

- “I paid that bill.”

Clerk: “No you did not”

- “I have my receipt”

Ex.4:1, **Moses fears unbelief**

Ex.4:2-9, **signs produce faith**

Jn.5:44-47 (36)

- 1. If believe Moses, believe Jesus**
- 2. Jesus did not repeat Moses’ signs**
- 3. NT also is confirmed (Hb.2:3-4)**

I. Faith Works, Ja.2:14-17

Faith alone is like . . .

- Feeding & clothing the poor with pretty words
- Can that faith save him (14)?
 - James 2:17 – **dead**
 - James 2:20 – **dead** (or: idle)
 - James 2:26 – **dead**

Parallel passages agree

- Jn.6:27, **labor** for food that endures... (28-29).
- Jn.8:30-31 ...44, believe, yet children of **devil** (cf. Ja.2:19).
- Jn.12:42-43, faith **alone** helped rulers...
- Ac.2:37, “what shall we **do?**” (36-38).

Know
assuredly
(36)

Cut to
the heart
(37)

Rep. & Bap.
after faith
(38)

Parallel passages agree

- Jn.6:27, labor for food that endures... (28-29).
- Jn.8:30-31 ...44, believe, yet children of devil (cf. Ja.2:19).
- Jn.12:42-43, faith alone helped rulers...
- Ac.2:37, “what shall we do?” (36-38).
- Hb.5:8-9, promise of salvation: **obey**.

“By faith”
 (“Through faith”)
 NOT faith alone

- Ro.1:17, live “by faith”
- Hb.11:4, “by faith” Abel offered...

I. Faith Works, Ja.2:14-17

**II. Faith Works Anything
God says, Ja.2:21**

Ja.2:21 = Gn.22

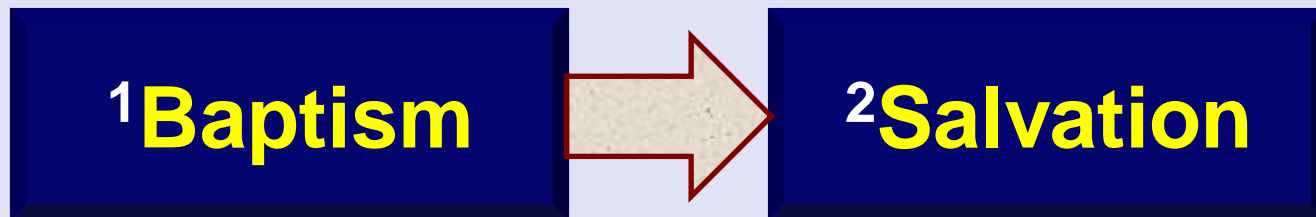
Faith always does
anything God says

- Nu.21, **look** at brazen serpent.
- 2 K.5, **dip** in Jordan **seven** times.
- Jn.9, **water** for blindness.
- Mk.16:16, belief **and** baptism save.

Ja.2:21 = Gn.22

Unbelievers balk at what God says

- “I was baptized, so if it is essential, I won’t miss heaven.”
- (312) 865-5199 – sequence matters
- The biblical order



I. Faith Works, Ja.2:14-17

II. Faith Works Anything God Says, Ja.2:21

**III. Faith Works Everything
God says, Ja.2:22-23**

Abraham, Ja.2:22-23

- The commencement, Gn.12:1-7 – Go
- The climax, Gn.22:1-14 – Go slay son

Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? – Ja.2:22

1. Faith existed prior to the works
2. Faith was completed by works
3. Faith would be useless without works
4. Faith summarizes all his works (v.23)

Abraham, Ja.2:22-23

Unbeliever's response:

“Works justified Abraham before men”

1. What men?

2. Consequences of claim:

Faith that
justifies before
men must **WORK**

Faith that
justifies before
God is **DEAD**

You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only – v.24 (25)

I. Faith Works, Ja.2:14-17

II. Faith Works Anything God Says, Ja.2:21

III. Faith Works Everything God Says, Ja.2:22-23

**IV. Faith Works Exactly
As God says, Ja.2:25**

Rahab, a Gentile, demonstrates more faith than many religious people

Joshua 2

1. 18, scarlet cord (green? . . . towel?)
2. 18, window (door?)
3. 18, bring family into her house (parents'?)
4. 19, remain inside (except for recreation?)
5. 20, do not reveal plans (unless asked?)

**Failure in one part would
doom her in everything**

Leviticus 10

Unbelief says: “fire is fire” [16:12]

1. **Baptism, Ac.8; Ro.6**

Sprinkling: another action.

‘Because of salvation’: another purpose.

2. **Sing, make melody in heart, Ep.5:19**

Playing mechanical music is not exact.

3. **Lord’s Supper, first day of week,**

Ac.20

Another day / other elements
cannot be by faith

Moses and the rock, Numbers 20

1. Speak to rock
2. Moses hit rock

“But it got results!”

Do ends justify the means?

- It is not enough to produce results
- God wants obedience
- Moses did not enter promised land

**Populate
earth**

**Church
growth**

**Spread
gospel**