

## JAMES / WORKS

1 Samuel 15:10-23

### James – “A right strawy book”?

- He did not like what James said about *faith and works*. It did not go along with his newfound doctrine, “saved by faith alone.” Martin Luther’s revelation of “saved by faith” is the foundation for his split from his former church, the Roman Catholic Church. He thought that the heavy burdens of *good deeds* that his church was extorting from her members were unnecessary. He had been tormented by a deep sense of guilt about his own behavior and inability to measure up to the good deeds necessary for his church to grant him freedom from purgatory and entrance to heaven. So, his revelation of “faith only” was the answer. According to his revelation, Martin Luther taught that salvation is by faith alone, thus anything else that might be expected from a believer would be heresy, or *works salvation*. Yet, the book of James explains just the opposite concerning salvation. So, of course, rather than doubt the authenticity of his own personal revelation about faith, he doubted the Bible.

### Saved by Faith apart from works

- Romans 3:1-31
- <sup>27</sup> Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith. <sup>28</sup> For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

### Saved by Faith apart from works (cont ...)

- Romans 4:1-5
- What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has found? <sup>2</sup> For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup> For what does the Scripture say? “ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS.” <sup>4</sup> Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due. <sup>5</sup> But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness

### James 1

- James 1:22-25 (2 Timothy 2:15, 2 Timothy 3:14-17)
- <sup>22</sup> But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. <sup>23</sup> For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; <sup>24</sup> for *once* he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. <sup>25</sup> 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 will be blessed in what he does.

### James 2:14

- What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him?
- Matthew 25:14-30 “I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you scattered no seed.”

## James 2:15-17

- ◉ <sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food,<sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and be filled," and yet you do not give them what is necessary for *their* body, what use is that? <sup>17</sup> Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, *being* by itself.
- ◉ 1 Timothy 5:8 But if anyone does not provide for his own and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. (ref. Romans 3:28)

## James 2:18

- ◉ But someone may well say, "You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works."
- ◉ Matthew 7:15-23 <sup>20</sup> So then, you will know them by their fruits. <sup>21</sup> "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' <sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'

## James 2:19

- ◉ <sup>19</sup> You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.
- ◉ Matthew 8:28-34 What business do we have with each other, Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?"

## James 2:20-24

- ◉ <sup>20</sup> But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless? <sup>21</sup> Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar? <sup>22</sup> You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected;<sup>23</sup> and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS," and he was called the friend of God. <sup>24</sup> You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone.

## Genesis 22:1-13

- ◉ Hebrews 11:17-19 <sup>17</sup> By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten *son*; <sup>18</sup> *it was he* to whom it was said, "IN ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS SHALL BE CALLED." <sup>19</sup> He considered that God is able to raise *people* even from the dead, from which he also received him back as a type.
- ◉ James 2:24 You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone.

## James 2:25-26

- ◉ <sup>25</sup> In the same way, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? <sup>26</sup> For just as the body without *the* spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.
- ◉ Joshua 2:1-21

## Work

- John 4:34-38 <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work. <sup>35</sup> Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, and *then* comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest. <sup>36</sup> Already he who reaps is receiving wages and is gathering fruit for life eternal; so that he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup> For in this case the saying is true, 'One sows and another reaps.' <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored and you have entered into their labor."
- Matthew 9:37-38 <sup>37</sup> Then He \*said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. <sup>38</sup> Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."

## Work

- Ephesians 4:11-13 for the work of service ...
- 1 Corinthians 12:1-26 members of one body

## Work

- 1 Corinthians 3:4-15 Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

## Obedience

- 1 Samuel 15:22-23 "Has the LORD as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, *And* to heed than the fat of rams.  
<sup>23</sup> "For rebellion is as the sin of divination, And insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He has also rejected you from *being* king."