

AUTHENTIC FAITH

Romans 4:3 & James 2:14-26

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

Paul will emphasize _____ that makes us _____

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them. Ephesians 2:8-10

James will emphasize the application of _____ for _____ (He's speaking to believers)

(v.14)

Practically speaking: God moves through _____

not just _____

Faith that never _____ is _____ here

James' Three Non-Heaven and Hell Examples:

1. The Perishing Parishioner (vv.15-16)

(v.17)

John Calvin: "It is faith alone [sola fide] that justifies, but faith that justifies is never alone."

2. The Patriarch (vv. 21-24)

Justified- dikaios; to show, exhibit, evince, one to be righteous (Thayers)

"Yet, wisdom is proved (dikaioo) right by all its results."

Luke 7:35 (GWT)

But wisdom is shown (dikaioo) to be right by the lives of those who follow it." Luke 7:35 (NLT)

Saying: Works are the _____ of our faith

Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will You give me, since I am childless, ... Then behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, ...one who will come forth from your own body, he shall be your heir." "Then he believed in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness. Genesis 15:2-6

At least 40 years after Abraham is declared "righteous"

"Lay down the knife; don't hurt the lad in any way," the Angel said, "for I know that God is first in your life—you have not withheld even your beloved son from me." Genesis 22:12 (TLB)

Being right with God came _____

Later, we see the _____ of faith

3. The Prostitute (v.25)

The "Is My Faith Authentic?" Test:

(Jesus) "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it. Matthew 7:13-14 (NIV)

Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test? 2 Corinthians 13:5 (NIV)

And I trust that you will discover that we have not failed the test. 2 Corinthians 13:6 (NIV)