

“A Firmly Founded Faith”

James 2:14-26

James gives some characteristics of a faith that is found in Christ. Consider four characteristics of a firmly founded faith.

- I. A firmly founded faith is ACTIVE NOT PASSIVE (vv. 14-16)
 - We express our faith or lack of it by what we do! (cf. Heb. 11)
- II. A firmly founded faith is ALIVE NOT DEAD (vv. 17-18)
(five basic results of an alive faith:)
 - A. A faith that is alive results in ASSURANCE OF OUR SALVATION
(cf. II Timothy 1:12; I John 5:13)
 - B. A faith that is alive results in CONFIDENCE IN THE BIBLE
(Mt. 24:35; John 8:31b)
 - C. A faith that is alive results in ANSWERS TO OUR PRAYERS
(Mt. 21:22; Mk. 11:24)
 - D. A faith that is alive results in VICTORY OVER THE WORLD (I Jn. 5:45)
 - E. A faith that is alive results in SERENITY IN OUR LIVES
(Rom. 1:17b; II Cor. 5:7; Gal. 2:20)
- III. A firmly founded faith is VOLITIONAL NOT EMOTIONAL (v. 19)
 - A. A willing faith is an OBJECTIVE faith (v. 19a)
 - B. A willing faith is MORE THAN INTELLECTUAL ASSENT (v.19b)
- IV. A firmly founded faith is FRUITFUL NOT BARREN (vv. 20-26)
 - A. ABRAHAM’S faith was fruitful (vv. 21-24)
 - B. RAHAB’S faith was fruitful (vv. 25-26)

Eliza E. Hewitt in 1891 wrote the words to a poem about her firmly founded faith:

“My faith has found a resting place not in device or creed:
I trust the everlasting one—His wounds for me shall plead.
I need no other argument, I need no other plea.
It is enough that Jesus died and that He died for me.”