

The background of the image is a detailed illustration of a stone castle. The wall in the foreground is dark grey with a crenelated top. To the right, a lighter stone tower is visible. In the courtyard below, there is a table with various food items, including bread and fruit. There are also several tents or awnings made of fabric, some with wooden frames. The scene is set in a bright, sunny environment.

THE EPISTLE OF **J**ames

Faith Bursting Forth in Works
(James 2:14-26)







How Can I Keep From Singing? (Hymn)

- (Refrain)
No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Love is lord of heav'n and earth,
how can I keep from singing?







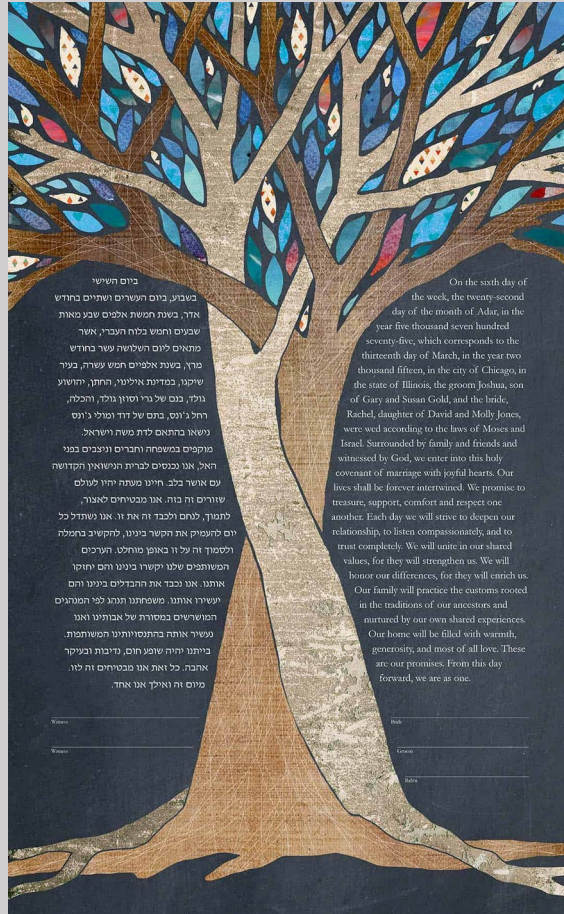
I. Talk is Cheap (James 2:14-17)

- A. Empty talk does not produce actions (2:14a)
- B. Empty talk does not result in salvation (2:14b)
- C. The need to help the needy (2:15-16)
- D. Lack of good works reveals lack of true faith (2:17)

II. Cause/Effect: True Faith Results in Good Works (James 2:18-19)

- A. The Objection: Faith and works are two different things (18a)
 - 1. First claim: You do not need faith to do good works
 - 2. Second claim: You do not need good works to verify faith
- B. The Christian Response:
 - 1. Logical analysis alone is insufficient
 - 2. True faith always results in desire to do good works (18b)
- C. An Illustration by contrast: the demons (2:19)
 - 1. Understanding alone is insufficient
 - 2. Saving faith requires belief, acceptance, and submission
 - 3. Demons lack good works because they lack true belief

Faith and Works are Intertwined



III. True Faith and Good Works are Inextricably Intertwined (James 2:20-26)

A. Abraham (2:21-24)

1. High social status/high spiritual condition
2. Faith and actions work together (2:22a)
3. “Complete” faith is tested and mature

B. Rahab (2:25)

1. Low social status/high spiritual condition
2. Could not help but take action despite danger:
(A universal moral code exists)
3. True morality is above self-interest
(Self-interested, Uninterested, Disinterested)

C. Conclusion: Faith without deeds is dead (empty/non-existent) (2:26)

Conclusions

1. True faith in Jesus always produces a desire to serve God and others
2. Good works reflect and deepen one's faith
3. Both faith and good works require humility and submission to God

Let Us Pray

