

“Saved by Works?”

James 2:14-26

Introduction

- I. There are some people who believe that man is saved by grace alone (Eph. 2:8-9).
- II. There are some people who believe that man is saved by faith alone (Heb. 11:6; Rom. 5:1).
- III. The Bible teaches that along with grace and faith, there are works of obedience that must be followed for a man to be saved (James 2:14-26).

Discussion

- I. James had already declared the importance of works of obedience earlier in his epistle (James 1:21-25).
 - A. This is in harmony with God's expectations in every dispensation of time (faith+works; Heb. 11:4ff.).
 - B. God will not save the disobedient and impenitent (Rom. 6:1-2, 12-16, 23).
- II. James asked a question that many are unwilling to want to answer (James 2:14).
 - A. There are other places that describe the folly of trying to be saved without works (Heb. 5:9; Luke 6:46).
 - B. A dead faith will never be a saving faith (James 2:15-26).
- III. Have we obeyed the works required to be saved?
 - A. Have I “heard” the Word of God (Rom. 10:17)?
 - B. Do I have faith that Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)?
 - C. Have I repented of my past sins (Acts 17:30-31)?
 - D. Have I confessed my faith that Jesus is the Christ (Rom. 10:9-10)?
 - E. Have I been baptized for the remission of my sins (Acts 2:38)?
 - F. Am I living a faithful life in Christ (Rev. 2:10)?
- IV. What works do I need to do to be saved if I have not remained a faithful child of God?
 - A. Repent (Acts 8:12-13, 18-23).
 - B. Confess/Acknowledge that you have sinned (1 John 1:6-2:2).
 - C. Pray to the Father (Acts 8:22).

Conclusion

- I. Works of obedience have always been required by God for salvation.
- II. Today, we must rely on the grace of God, we must have faith in Christ, and we must work the works of obedience in order to be saved.