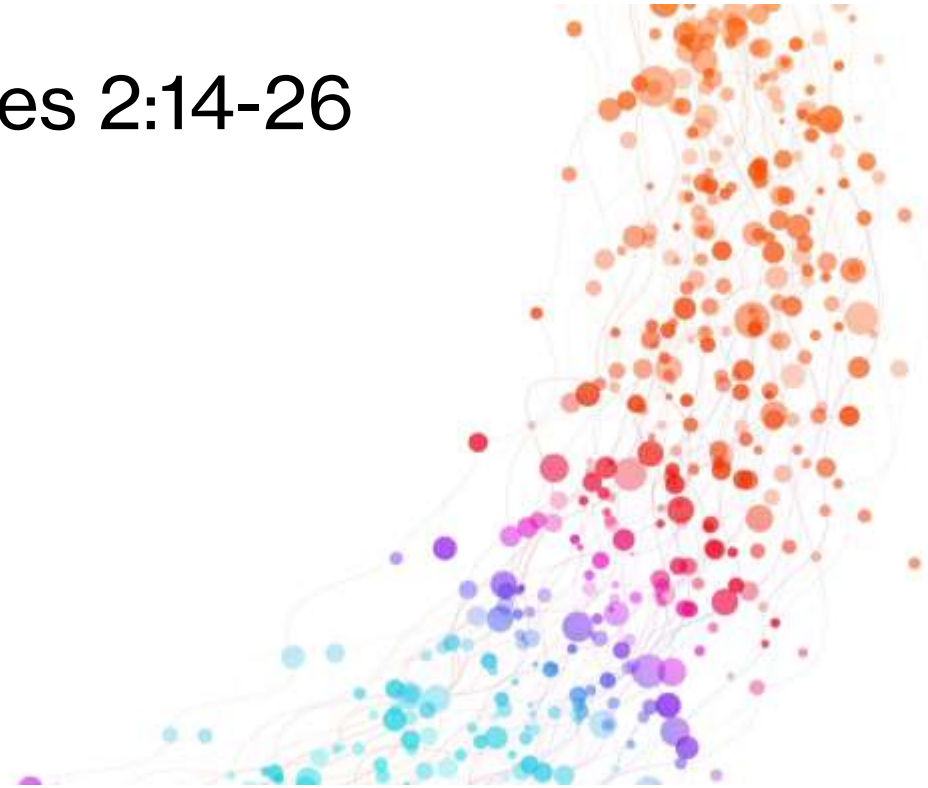


# Faith and Works

James 2:14-26



# What is 'Faith'?

**G4102**

πίστις

pistis

*pis'-tis*

From **G3982**; *persuasion*, that is, *credence*; moral *conviction* (of *religious* truth, or the truthfulness of God or a religious teacher), especially *reliance* upon Christ for salvation; abstractly *constancy* in such profession; by extension the system of religious (Gospel) *truth* itself: - assurance, belief, believe, faith, fidelity.

**Total KJV occurrences: 244**

## THAYER'S LEXICON

1) conviction of the truth of anything, belief; in the NT of a conviction or belief respecting man's relationship to God and divine things, generally with the included idea of trust and holy fervour born of faith and joined with it

## V.D.N.T.W.

**pistis** (**G4102**), primarily, "firm persuasion," a conviction based upon hearing (akin to **peitho**, "to persuade"), is used in the NT always of "faith in God or Christ, or things spiritual."

# Illustrations of Faith: Abraham

## HEBREWS 11

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten *son*, of whom it was said, "IN ISAAC YOUR SEED SHALL BE CALLED," concluding that God *was* able to raise *him* up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.

(Hebrews 11:17-19 NKJV)

But do you want a man, that *faith* was not Abraham's works when he offered the altar? Do you want working together works faith was made. Scripture was fulfilled which says, "ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS ACCOUNTED TO HIM FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS." And he was called the friend of God. You see then that a man is justified by works, and *not by faith only*.

(James 2:20-24 NKJV)

This is the only passage in the New Testament where "faith without your works", "faith without works" or "faith only" occur. *In each case, it is denounced!*

# Illustrations of Faith: Rahab

## HEBREWS 11

By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace.

(Hebrews 11:31 NKJV)

## JAMES 2

Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent *them* out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

(James 2:25-26 NKJV)



# How Does Faith Work?

- How does faith profit?
  - By moving us to act contrary to natural impulses to serve God and others.  
Romans 4:13-20
  - By moving us to deny natural impulses to serve God and others.  
Titus 2:11-13
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# The Flesh Versus the Spirit

**“Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, (20) idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, (21) envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.”**

**Galatians 5:19-21 NKJV**

“I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. (17) For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. (18) But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.”

**Galatians 5:16-18 NKJV**

**“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, (23) gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”**

**Galatians 5:22-23 NKJV**



# Spirit vs. Flesh

- The law of the flesh – Romans 7:14-24
  - I thank God! – Romans 7:25
  - No condemnation to those in Christ – Romans 8:1
  - Who walk by the Spirit
  - Cannot walk by flesh and please God – Romans 8:6-9
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