

**JAMES 2:**<sup>12</sup> Speak and act as those who are to be judged by the law of freedom. <sup>13</sup> For judgment is without mercy to the one who has not shown mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

#### FAITH AND WORKS

<sup>14</sup> What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but does not have works? Can such faith save him?

<sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is without clothes and lacks daily food <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, stay warm, and be well fed,” but you don’t give them what the body needs, what good is it? <sup>17</sup> In the same way faith, if it does not have works, is dead by itself.

<sup>18</sup> But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without works, and I will show you faith by my works. <sup>19</sup> You believe that God is one. Good! Even the demons believe—and they shudder.

<sup>20</sup> Senseless person! Are you willing to learn that faith without works is useless? <sup>21</sup> **Wasn’t Abraham our father justified by works** in offering Isaac his son on the altar? <sup>22</sup> You see that faith was active together with his works, and by works, faith was made complete, <sup>23</sup> and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, **Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,** and he was called God’s friend. <sup>24</sup> You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. <sup>25</sup> In the same way, wasn’t Rahab the prostitute also justified by works in receiving the messengers and sending them out by a different route? <sup>26</sup> For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.

**ROMANS 4:** What then will we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has found? <sup>2</sup> If Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about—but not before God. <sup>3</sup> For what does the Scripture say? **Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him for righteousness.** <sup>4</sup> Now to the one who works, pay is not credited as a gift, but as something owed. <sup>5</sup> But to the one who does not work, but believes on him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited for righteousness.