

## SALVATION - RIGHTLY DIVIDED & COMPARED WITH JAMES 2

I. God's Commandment to **STUDY** and **RIGHTLY DIVIDE** the Bible: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." - 2 Tim. 2:15

A. New Testament divisions are to be understood by the three groups of people mentioned in 1 Cor. 10:32 (Jews, Gentiles, Church)

B. **First ask yourself:** 1) Who is speaking? 2) To whom is the author speaking 3) What dispensational period is the author **speaking in** or **referring to**?

**LESSON:** Every verse in the Bible may provide a *practical* application (some Bible teachers use the term "**devotional, inspirational, or spiritual** application"), but **NOT** every verse in the Bible applies **DOCTRINALLY** to the Church Age!

II. Identify five different kinds/objects of faith in the Bible. ("faith" is used 247 times in KJB)

1. Faith that God is able to **physically heal** people. - Matt. 8:5-10, 9:27-29
2. Faith in all the **general promises** of God. Examples of promises: 2 Cor. 1:20; Phil. 4:13, 19
3. Faith as the sum total of **all revealed good (true) doctrine**. - 1 Tim. 4:1, 6; Jude 3
4. Faith (OT → Law): believing God *with* a steady course of **active obedience**. - Heb. 11:7-9, 31
5. Faith (NT → Grace): trusting D/B/R of Jesus Christ, **without** works. - Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 4:5, 5:1

III. **Contrast** "faith" in James 2:14, 17, 20, 26 with "faith" in Rom. 3:28; Gal. 2:16, 3:26

A. Note that James 1:1 is written "to the twelve tribes scattered abroad," (**not** to Christians, **not** to Christian Jews, and **not** to Jewish Christians!).

B. The **kind of faith** being referred to in James 2 **IS NOT** faith in the D/B/R of Jesus Christ, **BUT RATHER** the **OT kind of faith** (which is an **active, obedient faith**) and applicable: 1) **Jews** under the law and 2) **prophetically to Jews** in the Tribulation.

C. How do we know this? Because there are only **Old Testament** illustrations are given in James chapter 2 (**Abraham** and **Rahab**).

D. **False** explanations always make a **direct relationship** between **faith** and **works**, but this does **not** hold up to the scriptures. - Rom. 11:6; Titus 3:5 (and II.5. above)

1. **False explanation #1** - Paul is talking about men being justified **before God** and James is talking about men being justified **before men**.

2. **False explanation #2** - The only way a person can **prove** he/she is saved is by performing good works. (Both are at the core of "Lordship Salvation")

E. **In the Tribulation**, being in right relationship with God is based on: 1) **not** worshipping the beast (Antichrist), 2) **not** taking the mark of the beast (Rev. 14:9-11), 3) keeping (obeying) God's commands, 4) having faith in Jesus (Rev. 12:17, 14:12; Deut. 4:30-31;), and 5) enduring to the end. (Heb. 3:6, 14; Matt. 24:13-14, Cf. v. 21).