

## A Living Faith Grows

### October 1, 2023

**James 2:21-26**, “Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar? <sup>22</sup> You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected; <sup>23</sup> and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “And Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,” and he was called the friend of God. <sup>24</sup> You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone. <sup>25</sup> In the same way, was not Rahab the prostitute also justified by works when she received the spies and sent them out by another way? <sup>26</sup> For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.”

**Works:** activity of any kind, deed, action, something you do

**Faith:** firm commitment, genuine devotion, being a Christian, believing the reliability and dependability of the one trusted

**Hebrews 11:17,19** “By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac. <sup>19</sup> Abraham considered that God is able to raise people even from the dead.

**Genesis 15:5-6**, “God took Abram outside and said, “Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” And God said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” <sup>6</sup> Then he believed in the Lord; and the Lord accounted it to Abram as righteousness.”

**Accounted:** to credit, to consider oneself counted

**Genesis 22:1-2; 9-12; 15-17**, “God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>2</sup> He said, “Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering. <sup>9</sup> Then they came to the place of which God had told him; and Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood, and bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup> Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. <sup>11</sup> But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>12</sup> He said, “Do not stretch out your hand against the lad, and do nothing to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.” <sup>15</sup> Then the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, <sup>16</sup> and said, “The Lord declares, “Because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup> indeed I will greatly bless you.”

**Romans 1:5**, *“We have received grace...to bring about the obedience of faith.”*

**Titus 1:16**, *“They profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny God, being detestable and disobedient and worthless for any good deed.”*

**Titus 3:8**, *“Those who have believed God will be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men.”*

**Ephesians 2:8-10**, *“By grace you have been saved through faith, not as a result of works. We are created in Christ Jesus FOR good works.”*

**We are saved BY God’s grace, THROUGH faith, IN baptism, FOR good works.**

**James 2:25-26**, *“In the same way, was not Rahab the prostitute also justified by works when she received the spies and sent them out by another way? <sup>26</sup> For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.”*

**Joshua 2:9-13**, *“Rahab said to the spies, “I know that the Lord has given you the land. <sup>10</sup> For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites, whom you utterly destroyed. <sup>11</sup> When we heard it, our hearts melted and no courage remained in any man; for the Lord your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath. <sup>12</sup> Please swear to me by the Lord, since I have dealt kindly with you, that you also will deal kindly with my father’s household, <sup>13</sup> and spare my parents and siblings, with all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death.”*

**Hebrews 11:31**, *“By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish along with those who were disobedient, after she had welcomed the spies in peace.”*