

James 2:14—3:18

¹⁴ What is the help, my brothers, if someone might say he is having faith and is not having works? Faith is not able to save him. ¹⁵ If a brother or sister might possess nakedness and is lacking ephemeral food ¹⁶ and someone from among you might say to them, “Depart in peace! Be warm and be fed!” and you might not give to them the needs of the body, then what is the help? ¹⁷ Faith is also like this, if it might not have works, then it is dead according to itself. ¹⁸ But someone will say, “You yourself are having faith and I myself am having works.” You must demonstrate to me your faith without works and I will demonstrate to you, through my works, the faith. ¹⁹ You yourself are trusting that the Creator is one. You are practicing beautifully. Yet the demons are trusting and shuddering. ²⁰ Are you wanting to know, oh empty human, that faith without works is not-working? ²¹ Our father Abraham, was he not made-righteous from works, after carrying-up his son Isaac upon the altar? ²² You are seeing that faith was working-together with his works and, from the works, faith was completed. ²³ And the writing was fulfilled, the one saying, “*And Abraham trusted the Creator and it was counted to him for righteousness,*” and he was called a friend of the Creator. ²⁴ You must see that from works a human is being made-righteous and not from faith only. ²⁵ And likewise, also Rahab the prostitute, was she not made-righteous from works by welcoming the messengers and sending them out by a different way? ²⁶ For just as the body without the Spirit is dead, like this also faith without works is dead.

^{3.1} Not many of you must become teachers, my brothers, perceiving that we will receive greater judgment. ² For we are all tripping in many-things. If someone is not tripping in the word, this mature man is able to bridle even the whole body. ³ And if we are throwing bridles into the mouths of horses for us to persuade them, then we are directing their whole body. ⁴ Look also at boats, being bulky and being driven by hard winds, it is being directed by a small rudder wherever the movement of the one steering is wanting. ⁵ Like this also the tongue is a small part and is claiming great things. Look! An aged fire is kindling an aged forest! ⁶ And the tongue is a fire! The tongue is the cosmos of unrighteousness set in our members, staining the whole body and flaming the wheel of genesis and being inflamed by Gehenna. ⁷ For every nature of the wild-animals and the birds and the reptiles and sea-creatures is being tamed and has been tamed by human nature. ⁸ And no one is able to tame the tongue of humans, a harmful disturbance, full of death-carrying poison. ⁹ With the same tongue we are blessing the Lord and Father and with the same tongue we are cursing humans, those in the likeness of the Creator. ¹⁰ Out of the same mouth is coming a blessing and a curse. It is not necessary, my brothers, for these things to be like this. ¹¹ The fountain, out of the same opening, is not gushing sweetness and bitterness. ¹² A fig tree is not able, my brothers, to make olives, or a grapevine to make figs, or water to make sweet salt.

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? He must demonstrate from beautiful behavior his works with the humility of wisdom. ¹⁴ If you are having bitter jealousy and selfish-conflict in your heart, then you must not boast and lie against the truth. ¹⁵ This is not the wisdom coming-down from-above, but earthly, soulish, demonic. ¹⁶ For where jealousy and selfish-conflict are, there is disturbance and every foul practice. ¹⁷ And the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceful, yielding, easygoing, full of mercy and good fruits, not-judging, not-hypocritical. ¹⁸ And the fruit of righteousness is being scattered in peace by those practicing peace.