

**Introduction**

**1:1: The Readers of James (Part 1):**

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

Acts 8:1 And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.

**1:18: The Readers of James (Part 2):**

Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

**James 1:19-20: The Outline of the Book:**

<sup>19</sup> Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man

[1] be swift to hear, (1:21-2:26)

[2] slow to speak, (3:1-18)

[3] slow to wrath: (4:1-5:6)

<sup>20</sup> For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

**In which section is the faith-without-works passage (2:14-26)?**

**The Issue in James 2:14: One who has faith, but does not have works. Faith will not save him.**

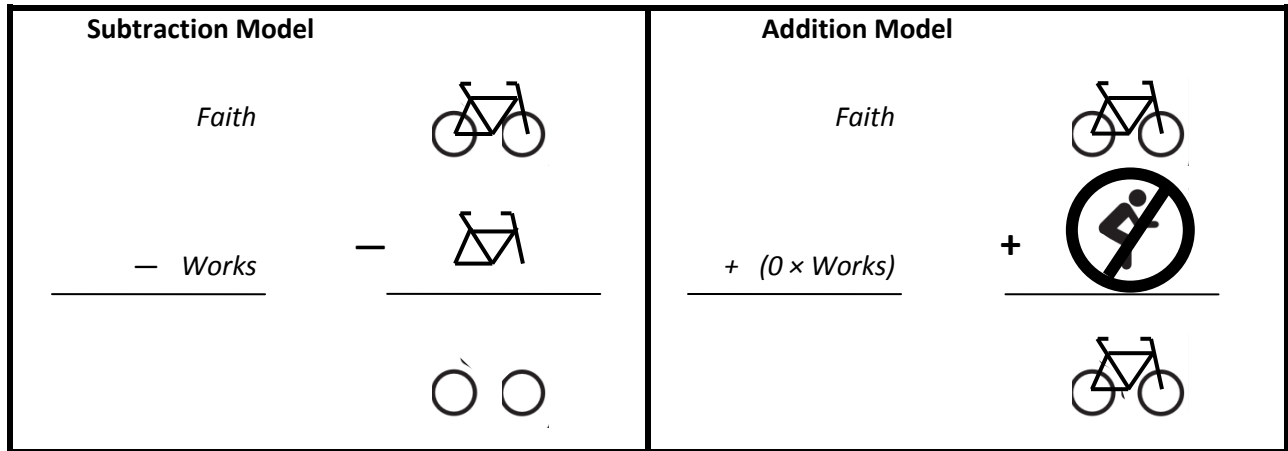
What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works?  
Can faith save him?

The underlined question (in Greek) is written as a leading question. Let me illustrate:

1. You are Coloradans, aren't you? (Leads to an expected "Yes!" answer?)
2. You aren't Russians, are you? (Leads to an expected "No!" answer?)

James 2:14b (as a leading question) would be: *Faith cannot save him, can it?*

**Two Possible Meanings for "faith without works" (2:20, 26)**









1. Most people understand "faith without works" from a subtraction model standpoint  
 They say a bicycle w/o a frame goes nowhere (like faith w/o works)
  
2. "Faith without works" should be understood from an addition model standpoint  
 A bicycle w/o a rider goes nowhere (like faith w/o works)

If a verse says "faith saves," ask "Faith in **what** \_\_\_\_\_ **saves** \_\_\_\_\_ **whom** \_\_\_\_\_ from **what** \_\_\_\_\_?"







In James 2, Believing **God's word** + application of God's word delivers **believers** from **sin** in their lives."

**Proving the Addition Model:**

Subtraction Model		Addition Model	
<i>Faith</i>		<i>Faith</i>	
<i>— Works</i>	<i>—</i> 	<i>+ (0 × Works)</i>	<i>+</i> 
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>(supposedly) something less than faith</i>		<i>A bike going nowhere</i>	

1. Most people understand “faith without works” from a subtraction model standpoint  
They say a bicycle w/o a frame goes nowhere (like faith w/o works)
2. “Faith without works” should be understood from an addition model standpoint  
A bicycle w/o a rider goes nowhere (like faith w/o works)

Let every man be **swift to hear,** **slow to speak, slow to wrath.**

Prologue	Theme	Body (1:21-5:6)			Epilogue	
		Swift to Hear		Slow to speak	Slow to Wrath	
1:1-18	1:19-20					5:7-20
		1:21-2:26		3:1-18	4:1-5:6	
						
		1:21-27	2:1-13			
						
			2:14-26			

1:21-2:26 has one thrust (swift to hear) under three subheads, those subheads should be unified:

That is, if two of them show an addition model, the other would not show a subtraction model.  
If two of them show an addition model, the third should show an addition model also.

**Religious Devotion that Pleases God (1:21-27)**

1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

Is this addition?      Is it subtraction?      (underline correct one)

**Not Showing Improper Partiality (2:1-13)**

2:1 My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons. (Brethren = believers, cf. 1:18)

Is this addition?      Is it subtraction?      (underline correct one)

**Applying Truths that (one who already is) a Christian Believes (2:14-26)**

2:14 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Faith cannot deliver him, can it? (KJV of 2:14a; speaker's translation of 2:14b)

Is this addition?      Is it subtraction?      (underline correct one)

The deliverance (salvation) is of a one who is already a Christian. Next time, we will discover what it is that faith + application (works) delivers a Christian from.

**Summary of James 2:14:**

**(2:14) Believing Christian-way-of-life truth without applying that Christian-way-of-life truth does not save (deliver) eternally-secure believers from the deadly power of sin in their lives**

**(2:15f) By analogy to the inability of unapplied faith (in Christian-way-of-life truth) resembles the inability of merely wishing a needy eternally-secure brother or eternally-secure sister well to deliver the brother or sister from his or her deprivations**

**(2:17) Thus, also Believing Christian-way-of-life truth by itself [without applying that Christian-way-of-life truth] does not save (deliver) eternally-secure believers from the deadly power of sin in their lives**

**CONCLUSION**