

One Coin, Two Sides

Description

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James 2:5-26

There are several things that can't be separated. When you look at them from different perspectives they look different. If you observe a coin, you will notice that it has two sides, but each side is different. It is one coin but two complete different sides. The coin only has value if it has the two correct sides on the same coin.

The same thing applies to faith and action (works). One without the other is worthless. The Bible clearly says: "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith" (Eph. 2:8) and "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works . . ." (v. 10). Faith without actions is just a mental acknowledgment: "You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder" (James 2:19). On the other hand, actions without faith are just legalism.

My prayer is that at the end of the day we would hear the words of the apostle Paul: "We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thess. 1:3).

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