

Ariele D'Amil

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Missing Discussion Question

Dr. Steve Notley

Week #11 Discussion Question 1

In James 2:18-24 the author refers to Abraham and quotes Genesis 15:6 ("And Abraham believed God and it was reckoned to him for righteousness"). He seems to use the same verse as Paul has done in Romans 4:1-5 but to express a very different opinion. Compare these verses through this **LINK**. What is similar about how the authors use the OT verse? What is different? Do they agree or disagree in their use of the verse? In your opinion how do these differences affect how are to understand what they have to say to us?

James is saying that faith without works is nothing because when you have faith you have to prove that you have faith. He uses the example of Abraham who is willing to sacrifice his son Issac to prove to God that he is willing to do anything that he asks him to do. As for Paul he says that you shouldn't have to prove yourself through your works and that your faith should be strong enough. He uses the same example as James but he flips it and says that Abraham was faithful to God and that is why he blessed him and not because of the things that he did to prove himself to God.