

JAMES 14

Be Not Many Masters

1. 2:23-24 - The Scripture was Fulfilled

- a. James quotes Gen 15:6, so does Paul - Romans 4:2-3
- b. God has obligations to perform according to covenants and promises - Rom 4:4
- c. Abraham had an obligation to perform according to God's instructions - Rom 4:21
- d. Paul's reference is for those that God tells not to work - Rom 4:9-10
- e. The "friends of God" enter the kingdom, they are Israel - John 15:13-15 (Isa 41:8ff)
- f. Friends of God are not friends of the world - James 4:4

2. 2:25-26 - Rahab Justified by Works

- a. Abraham = receiving the promises
- b. Rahab = delivered from perishing (Heb 11:31)
- c. Rahab knew the promises were to Israel and believed in God - Josh 2:1, 9-11
- d. If Rahab had not hid, nor kept secret, or laid the thread... she was dead Josh 2:18-19
- e. If faith requires works and works is missing, then that faith is dead
- f. (Your body is dead already, don't put faith in the works of your flesh - Gal 2:20)

3. 3:1 - Masters in Israel

- a. James is teaching them the judgment, mercy, and faith needed in Mat 23:23
- b. Biblical def. of a master - Master = rabbi; (master's degree) - John 1:38, 20:16
- c. What was a master to do? Become a servant - John 13:13-16, John 15:20
- d. Servant is not above his master - Luke 6:40, Mat 10:24-25
- e. Be ye not called Rabbi, master - Mat 23:3-10
- f. No one is called "Reverend" but God - Psalm 111:9

4. 3:1 - Greater Condemnation

- a. The usual teaching/translation is that *teachers* face stricter judgment
- b. The greater condemnation - Mat 23:11-14, Luke 20:45-47
- c. The greatest among you will become ministers (servants) - Mat 20:26-28
- d. They are condemned by their words - Matt 7:1-2, Mat 12:7, 32-37
- e. The condemnation was because of their wicked hearts - John 3:18-19
- f. Condemn not and you will not be condemned - Luke 6:37