



**Don't Be Afraid,  
Only Believe  
--But Believe What?**

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James 2:14-26

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# Introduction





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Jas.1:22, *“But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.”*



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Protestant Reformation--> Grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone-->not by works—But what does that faith look like?

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- Any profession of faith that does not result in a changed life is a false faith—dead faith, James is saying.
- Dead faith is false faith, and it is dangerous because it gives false confidence of eternal life.

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- Even demons have faith, but what is it that they believe?

*You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. James 2:19*



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  - b. They believe Christ is the Son of God (Mk.3:11,12)

*<sup>11</sup> Whenever the unclean spirits saw Him, they would fall down before Him and shout, “You are the Son of God!” <sup>12</sup> And He earnestly warned them not to tell who He was.*

Mark 3:11-12



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  - c. They believe Christ will Judge the world and them (Mk.5:1-13).





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  - b. They believe Christ is the Son of God (Mk.3:11,12)
  - c. They believe Christ will Judge the world and them (Mk.5:1-13).
  - d. They believe there is only one God (Jas.2:19; Deut.6:4).



## II. Demonic Faith (vs.18,19)

- Your creed must influence your conduct. Mere profession proves nothing.
- Even demons have faith, but what is it that they believe?
- The faith of demons is not only an intellectual belief, but an emotional one as well (vs.19)-- "*shudder*". They believe and tremble.



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  1. Ethical—(Matt.6:1-18—giving, prayer, fasting)
  2. Knowledge

*<sup>41</sup> Demons also were coming out of many, shouting, “You are the Son of God!” But rebuking them, He would not allow them to speak, because they knew Him to be the Christ.*

Luke 4:41



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  1. Ethical—(Matt.6:1-18—giving, prayer, fasting)
  2. Knowledge — (Lk.4:41)
  3. Ministry — (Matt.7:22,23)



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*<sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' <sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'*

Matthew 7: 22-23



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  1. Ethical—(Matt.6:1-18—giving, prayer, fasting)
  2. Knowledge — (Lk.4:41)
  3. Ministry — (Matt.7:22,23)
  4. Time of decision

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- Dynamic faith is faith that is real, faith that results in a changed life—fruit.
- It's not about the perfection of your life, but the direction. We're talking about life pattern, not everyday normal struggle with sin.

# Conclusion

