

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:

¹⁹ 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)

²⁰ 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?

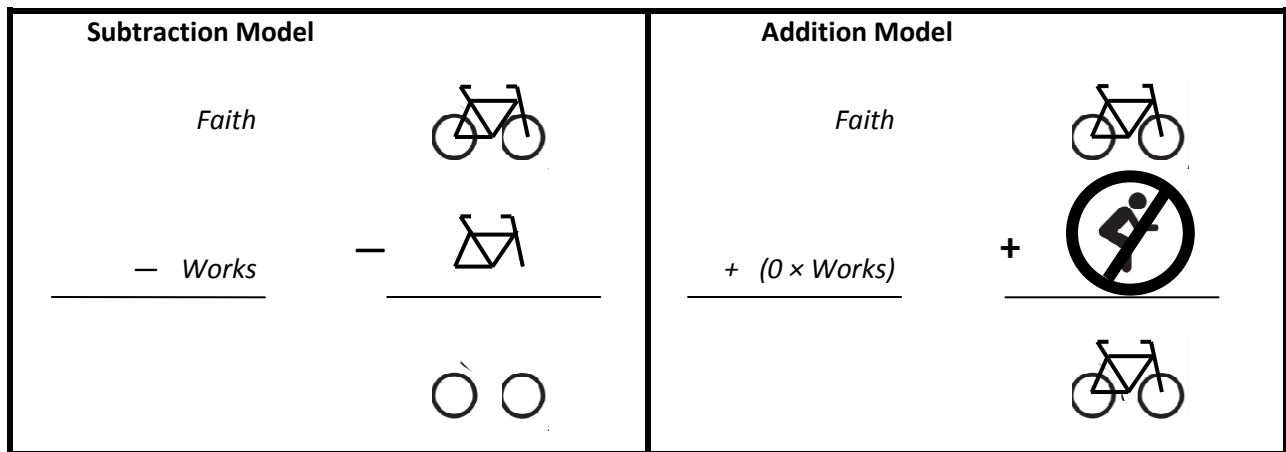
Can faith save him?

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 Rossians, 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."

CONCLUSION