

Introduction

Review (Notes for Message 1 has greater detail in the review section):

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 defines this as a NT dispersion)

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.

1:19-20: The Thematic Statement of the Book:

¹⁹ Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man
 [1] be swift to hear, (1:21-2:26: which includes 2:14-26)
 [2] slow to speak, (3:1-18)
 [3] slow to wrath: (4:1-5:6) ²⁰ For the wrath of man worketh not . . .

2:14: The issue is one has faith, but does not have works. Faith will not deliver him.

Two Possible Meanings for “faith without works” (2:20, 26)

Subtraction Model	Addition Model
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Faith</i></p>  <p style="text-align: center;">— <i>Works</i></p>  <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(supposedly) something less than faith</i></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Faith</i></p>  <p style="text-align: center;">+ <i>(0 × Works)</i></p>  <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>A bike going nowhere</i></p> 

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)

Let every man be **swift to hear,** **slow to speak, slow to wrath.**

Prologue	Theme	Body (1:21-5:6)			Epilogue		
		Swift to Hear	Slow to speak	Slow to Wrath			
1:1-18	1:19-20						5:7-20
		1:21-27	2:1-13	2:14-26	3:1-18	4:1-5:6	

1:21-2:26 has one thrust (swift to hear) under three subheads, those subheads should be unified:

That is, if two of them show an addition model, the other would not show a subtraction model.
 If two of them show an addition model, the third should show an addition model also.

Religious Devotion that Pleases God (1:21-27)

1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

Is this addition? Is it subtraction? (underline correct one)

Not Showing Improper Partiality (2:1-13)

2:1 My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons. (Brethren = believers, cf. 1:18)

Is this addition? Is it subtraction? (underline correct one)

Applying Truths that (one who already is) a Christian Believes (2:14-26)

2:14 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Faith cannot deliver him, can it? (KJV of 2:14a; speaker's translation of 2:14b)

Is this addition? Is it subtraction? (underline correct one)

The deliverance (salvation) is of a one who is already a Christian. Next time, we will discover what it is that faith + application (works) delivers a Christian from.

CONCLUSION