What doth it profit, my brethren...

...though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?

If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them,...

"Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled"

...notwithstanding ve give them not those things which are needful to the body;...

what doth it profit?

— James 2:14–16

"True believing is not an act of the understanding only, but a work of the whole heart....

That a justifying faith cannot be without works, is shown from two examples, Abraham and Rahab....

Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned unto him for righteousness. Faith, producing such works, advanced him to peculiar favours.

We see then, ver. 24, how that by works a man is justified,...

not by a bare opinion or profession, or believing without obeying; but by having such faith as produces good works."

-Matthew Henry's Commentary

"Through heathenism, Satan had for ages turned men away from God; but he won his great triumph in perverting the faith of Israel.

By contemplating and worshiping their own conceptions, the heathen had lost a knowledge of God, and had become more and more corrupt....

...So it was with Israel. The principle that man can save himself by his own works lay at the foundation of every heathen religion; it had now become the principle of the Jewish religion.

— Desire of Ages 35.2

Doing good works will not save us.

But we have a part to do

Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

James 4:7

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you...

James 4:8

Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

James 4:10

"God has given man land to be cultivated. But in order that the harvest may be reaped, there must be harmonious action between divine and human agencies.

The plow and other implements of labor must be used at the right time. The seed must be sown in its season....

Man is not to fail of doing his part. If he is careless and negligent, his unfaithfulness testifies against him....

The harvest is proportionate to the energy he has expended...

So it is in spiritual things. We are to be laborers together with God....

Man is to work out his own salvation with fear and trembling,...

...for it is God that worketh in him, both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

There is to be copartnership, a divine relation, between the Son of God and the repentant sinner....

We are made sons and daughters of God. "As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God." Christ provides the mercy and grace so abundantly given to all who believe in him. He fulfils the terms upon which salvation rests....

But we must act our part by accepting the blessing in faith. God works and man Works...

Resistance of temptation must come from man, who must draw his power from God....

Thus he becomes a co-partner with Christ."

-Review and Herald, May 28, 1908, par. 6-7

As in the physical so in the spiritual.

"In tilling the soil, in disciplining and subduing the land, lessons may constantly be learned....

No one would think of settling upon a raw piece of land, expecting it at once to yield a harvest.

Earnestness, diligence, and persevering labor are to be put forth in treating the soil preparatory to sowing the seed.

So it is in the spiritual work in the human heart.

Those who would be benefited by the tilling of the soil must go forth with the word of God in their hearts. They will then find the fallow ground of the heart broken by the softening, subduing influence of the Holy Spirit.

Unless hard work is bestowed on the soil, it will not yield a harvest....

So with the soil of the heart: the Spirit of God must work upon it to refine and discipline it before it can bring forth fruit to the glory of God.

-Christ's Objects Lessons, p 88, para 1

Going to market

Provide the right environment for things to flourish. An example

The neglected palm





This presentation