Review "Dead Faith"

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It's a Faith devoid of fruit

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It's a Faith devoid of fruit It falls short of God's Purpose Can it save? No!

The Questions:

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"But someone will say"

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"But someone will say" Who is this someone?

The Questions:

How much of Vs. 18 is spoken by the 'someone', and how much by James?

The Questions:

To whom are the "thy" and "my" referring?

One answer:

MacArthur claims the whole verse is the boasting of a proud Jew, whereas James is humble, "walking the walk"

Better answer:

The 1st Phrase is the assertion of a hypothetical opponent, while the 2nd Phrase is James' response

Better answer:

The objector is stating that both faith and works are legitimate expressions of the Christian religion

Better answer:

So, like spiritual gifts, no one has the total package—You have your works, and I have my faith

Better answer:

James will have nothing of it and presents his objector with a problem

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James asks, "How will you deiknuo (exhibit) this faith of yours?"

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Faith is "metaphysical", unseen

Better answer:

James asserts that the only way to exhibit your unseen faith is by works which can be seen!

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Good works are the exhibition of faith—Cp. "Show me the money"

Extreme Example:

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He begins with the fundamental doctrinal assertion of Jewish/Christian theology— "monotheism"

Extreme Example:

He could have cited other attributes of God such as Creator, Sovereign, Holy, etc.

Extreme Example:

Point: No one denies such an assertion isn't true, or that it's not essential, or that it's not a valuable thing to confess

Extreme Example:

Our faith in such distinguishes us from others who refuse to acknowledge such truths!

Extreme Example:

But is it enough?

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Does this confession suffice, true as it might be, if it's "alone"?

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See Matt. 8:28-32 & Sovereignty!

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Note the effect: They "shudder"

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Many men don't believe it, but they do!

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Note the effect: They "shudder"

Many men don't believe it, but demons do!

Of those men who believe, how few they are who shudder"

Extreme Example:

Demonic spirits seem to show great spiritual interest—Involved with doctrine, church attendance, church life, etc.

Extreme Example:

But they cannot, being evil, produce good fruit

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Why not? It's not their nature!

Conclusion:

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Are you ready now, O vain man, to acknowledge that a faith without works is dead and will not save?