

James 2:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?

Analysis

Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? You see that faith worked together (synērgei, συνεργεῖ) with works, and by works faith was perfected (eteleiōthē, ἐτελειώθη). Faith and works cooperate; obedience matures faith. The process transforms belief into tested trust.

Reformed sanctification teaches that obedience grows faith; trials refine trust. James reveals dynamic synergy between believing and doing.

Historical Context

Diaspora believers needed assurance that their suffering-induced obedience was not wasted; it completed their faith like Abraham's. Paul's exhortations to work out salvation (Philippians 2:12-13) complement this perspective.",

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How have past obediences strengthened your faith?
2. What current step of obedience might God use to mature you?
3. How can you encourage others to see works as faith-building?

Interlinear Text

βλέπεις ὅτι ἡ πίστις συνήργει τοῖς ἔργων αὐτοῦ καὶ
Seest thou how faith wrought works with his and
G991 G3754 G3588 G4102 G4903 G3588 G2041 G846 G2532

ἐκ τῶν ἔργων ἡ πίστις ἐτελειώθη
by works faith made perfect
G1537 G3588 G2041 G3588 G4102 G5048

Additional Cross-References

1 Thessalonians 1:3 (Faith): Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;

Galatians 5:6 (Faith): For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

1 John 2:5 (Parallel theme): But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.