

# THE UNION SEMINARY REVIEW

---

---

VOL. XXVII.

APRIL, 1916.

No. 3

---

---

## \*THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS AND MODERN SOCIAL PROBLEMS.

BY REV. WALTER L. LINGLE, D. D.,

*Professor of Church History in  
Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Virginia.*

The subject assigned to me is "The Teachings of Jesus as They Bear upon the Solution of Modern Social Problems." For the sake of clearness it may be well for me to define or illustrate what is meant by the expression "modern social problems." We mean such problems as those which arise from the constant conflict between capital and labor; the problems which are created by extreme wealth, extreme poverty, and ignorance; the problems of marriage, divorce, the social evil, and child life; the problems which follow in the train of the terrible liquor traffic; and the problems that flow out of race prejudice and culminate in cruel war. These problems are not new, but they are more acute, more menacing, and more insistent in the complex civilization of the twentieth century than ever before in the history of the world.

Many human solutions have been proposed ranging through the whole gamut from extreme Individualism to extreme So-

---

\*This article is the substance of an address delivered in the auditorium in Charlotte, N. C., on January 23, 1916, before the fourth annual convention of the North Carolina Conference for Social Service.

# THE FAITH THAT SAVES.

## THEME AND ANALYSIS OF JAMES.

BY REV. EUGENE C. CALDWELL, D. D.,

*Professor of New Testament Interpretation, Union Theological  
Seminary in Virginia.*

## THEME OF JAMES

*A Faith That Does Not Produce Works Cannot Save The Soul.*—This is the great thought that runs through the whole book. The theme verse is 2:14. Notice the translation of the American Revised Version: “Can that faith (i. e. that kind of faith) save him?”

### *Salutation 1:1*

1. Writer—James, our Lord’s brother.
2. Readers—Jewish Christians outside of Palestine.
3. Greeting—“Wisheth joy.” (See A. R. V. margin.)

## DEVELOPMENT OF THEME

### *I. The Faith that Saves Will Give Victory Over the Trials and Temptations of Life, 1:2-27.*

1. Faith and Trials, 1:2-12.
  - a—Faith enables us to see that the purpose of trial is to develop Christian character, 1:2-4.
  - b—The prayer of faith will give us the wisdom to see the real purpose of trial, 1:5-8.
  - c—Then we can rejoice whether we are poor or rich, 1:9-11.
  - d—Faith sees that the final reward of the steadfast endurance of trial is the Crown, i. e. Eternal Life, 1:12.
2. Faith and Temptation, 1:13-18.
  - a—Faith reveals the origin of all temptations—not God, but man’s own lusts, 1:13-14.
  - b—Faith reveals the final issue of temptation if yielded to—

Spiritual death, 1:15.

c—Proof that God cannot be the originator of temptation, 1:16-18.

(a) He is the originator of all good, 1:16-17.

(b) He is the originator of the new life in the human soul, 1:18.

3. Faith and the Word of God, 1:19-27.

a—Faith receives God's Word into the heart with meekness, and the Word thus "implanted" will save the soul, 1:19-21.

b—Faith puts into daily practice what is learned from the Word, 1:22-27. Key Verse of Chapter 1 is 21b, "Receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls." Faith's hold on the Word is the Victory that overcomes (See Psa. 119:9, 11, John 17:17, Eph. 6:17, Matt. 4:4, 7 and 10).

II. *The Faith That Saves Will Determine Our Conduct Towards Our Fellow-men, Chapter 2.*

1. No Man Can Have Real Faith in Jesus Christ and Have Respect of Persons, 2:1-4.

2. Proof of This, 2:5-26.

a—Respect of persons is inconsistent with God's treatment of men, 2:5. (See Rom. 2:11, 1 Cor. 1:26-29.)

b—It is inconsistent with the character and conduct of the worldly rich, 2:6-7.

c—It is inconsistent with the kingly law of love, 2:8-13.

d—It is inconsistent with the nature of saving faith. Saving faith will always manifest itself in a life of love and active goodness towards all men, especially towards those in need. A faith that does not produce such a life is dead, and cannot save the soul, 2:14-26.

Key Verse of Chapter 2 is 2:1, "Have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ with respect of persons."

III. *The Faith That Saves Will Produce Wisdom in Speech, Chapter 3.*

1. Failure to control the tongue is due to lack of real faith, 3:1-12.

“Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?

Can a fig tree produce olives? Or a vine, figs? Neither can salt water produce sweet,” (3:11-12).

2. Wisdom in speech is the proof of real faith, 3:13-18.
  - a—Earthly wisdom, 3:13-16.

b—Heavenly wisdom, 3:17-18.

Key Verse of Chapter 3 is 3:17, “The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, easily persuaded, full of mercy and good works—”

#### IV. *The Faith That Saves Banishes the Spirit of Worldliness and Produces a Holy Life, 4:1-5:6.*

The curse of the spirit of worldliness.

1. Worldliness stirs up strife, 4:1-2.
2. Prevents answer to prayer, 4:3.
3. Drives away our best friend—God, 4:4.
4. Grieves the indwelling Spirit, who is jealous that God shall have the love of our whole heart, 4:5.
5. Hinders richer supplies of grace, 4:6-10.
6. Makes us censorious towards one another, 4:11-12.
7. Makes us leave God out of our plans, 4:13-17.
8. Leads in those who are rich to the abuse of wealth and oppression of God’s poor, 5:1-6.

Key Verse of 4:1-5:6 is 4:4, “A friend of the world is the enemy of God.” A life without God! What folly!

#### V. *Faith That Saves Produces Patience Until the Coming of the Lord 5:7-12.*

1. Faith knows that when He comes His reward will be with Him, even as the farmer believes that harvest will come, 5:7.
2. Faith believes His coming is near, 5:8-9.
3. Faith finds ground for patience in God’s dealings with prophets in Old Testament times, 5:10-11.

4. Patience, born of faith, is to be manifested in not requiring oaths of our Christian brothers, 5:12.  
Key Verse of 5:7-12 is 5:7, "Be patient until the coming of the Lord."

*VI. Faith That Saves Will Produce Power in Prayer, 5:13-20.*

1. The man of faith will give a large place to prayer in his life, 5:13-15.
  - a—In affliction he will pray, 5:13.
  - b—In joy he will sing (which is a form of prayer) 5:13.
  - c—In sickness, he will have the Church pray for him, 5:14-15.
2. The prayer of faith will have a powerful effect, 5:16-18.
3. The man of faith will make his back-slidden and fallen brother the special object of his prayers and endeavor, 5:19-20.  
Key Verse of 5:13-20 is 5:15, "The prayer of faith."

*HAVE I THE FAITH THAT SAVES?*