

"Friend Of God." James 2:21-23; 4:4.

Sore oak Sunday morning Aug 4, 1957

1-James 2:21-23;

21-Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the alter? 22-Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect. 23-And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the friend of God.

2-James 4:4;

4-Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

1-Teaching of these verses:

1-Unworldliness is here shown to be an infallible proof that we stand amongst the justified.

2-As used in these verses unworldliness is proof that we have real and saving faith in Jesus Christ.

2-Has this phrase, "The Friend Of God," ever gripped you?

1-God evidently needed a friend and he found in Abraham just that friendship that his heart craved.

3-What are the essentials to true friendship with God?

1-How would you answer this question?

2-We might answer the question;

By noting what are the requirements for earthly friendship.

4-Abraham's faith and friendship with God:

1-In the case of Abraham his faith was perfected by obedience to God.

2-Works, or obedience is the fruit of one's faith.

3-Abraham was so greatly distinguished for the fruitfulness of his faith that he became known as "The Friend of God."

"Friend Of God," James 2:21-23; 4:4.

5-Regarding earthly friendship:

1-There must be confidence.

- 1-There can be no real friendship where confidence or trust is lacking. The more we know of our friend, the more we trust them.
- 2-Faith is the beginning of friendship with God.

2-There must be love:

- 1-Confidence alone will not make an ideal friendship. Love is essential.
- 2-Love is essential to friendship, true freindship with God.

3-There must be frankness:

- 1-Friends have frank, familiar relationship one with another.
- 2-A little girl's definition of a Freind:
 - 1-One who knows all about you, and yet loves you in spite of that knowledge.
 - 3-A friendship that cannot bear the truth is of no value. Friendship with God welcomes the truth.

4-There must be consideration.

- 1-Friends delight to meet each other's wishes.
- 2-They consider each other in every sense.
- 3-We, if friends of God, will give him every consideration.

5-There must be sacrifice:

- 1-We must go to the point of real sacrifice in so doing.
 - 1-Abraham's supreme sacrifice: his willingness to sacrifice Isaac.
- 2-And, of course, real friends love to give presents to each other.

6-There must be loyalty:

- 1-True friends will stand up for each other especially when abest the one from the other

7-Perpetuity:

- 1-A true friendship is not for a time but will stand the passage of the years.