



[James 2:18](#)

(18) But someone is going to say, "You have faith, and I have works." *My answer is:* You prove your faith to me through your works, and I will prove my faith to you through my works.

[James 2:26](#)

(26) For as the body without *the* spirit is dead, in the same way also, faith without works is dead.

A Faithful Version

Testimony of beliefs without the works to prove them is invalid.

If we are put on trial for our beliefs, the Court will say, "We want to see your [faith](#) in action." If the Bible requires something, it is God-ordered. If it is God-ordered, it should be a conviction. If it is a conviction and God-ordered, not to do it would be a [sin](#), disobedience to [God](#). Before we state that what we believe is a conviction, we must be prepared to say that its opposite is a sin.

[Deuteronomy 6:6-9](#) is a clear command from God to give our children a Christian education. Are we prepared to say that not to do so is sin? After all, God orders it. How are we doing it? What have we provided for our children's Christian education? How much time are we spending doing it? If we have children, we can be sure these questions will be asked.

If we say we are against unrighteous themes in movies and TV ([adultery](#), fornication, [murder](#), pornography and obscenity made to seem attractive, justified, right and good), or that we believe good and righteous themes should not be debased, then we can be sure the next question will be, "Do you own a TV set?" Yes, we answer. "How much did it cost?" Several hundred dollars. "Where do you keep the TV?" In the living room. "Why there, where it is available to the whole family? How much time do you watch it each

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day? Have you ever heard obscenity on your TV? Have you ever seen sin exalted? Why do you invite into your home these things you claim are contrary to your beliefs?" A sharp attorney will ask such pointed questions, and our lifestyle could condemn us unless it matches our beliefs.

The Court will concentrate on ***looking for whether we live our beliefs***. We must live up to what we say we believe. The Court will not demand that we be perfect, but that we consistently show by our lifestyle that we are living by what we believe.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[Are Your Beliefs Preferences or Convictions?](#)

Related Topics:

[Profligate Lifestyles](#)

[Works as Evidence of Faith](#)

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