

LIFE TOGETHER
At
CHRIST THE ROCK FELLOWSHIP

LESSON 5

LAYING ON OF HANDS

Purpose: To establish the fact that one of the teachings of Jesus was the "laying on of hands." To realize that as a Church built on Jesus Christ, we must practice this doctrine and make it part of our Christian life.

Key verse: *Hebrews 6:1,2 " 1 Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, 2 of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.."*

Introduction: The Bible has a lot to say about the doctrine of laying on of hands. It was established as a fundamental doctrine of the church in *Hebrews 6*. At Christ the Rock, it is an essential part of our services. Therefore, it may be surprising that some Christians see no significance at all in this scriptural ordinance. Hardly anyone questions the teaching on faith or water baptism, or even eternal judgment. However, when it comes to laying on of hands, it is rarely taught, let alone practiced by many believers today.

I. The Holy Spirit dwells in our flesh (Rom 8:11, 2 Cor 4:7) and other physical substances.

A. Oil James 5:14

14 *Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.*

B. Clothing Matt 14:35-36

35 *And when the men of that place recognized Him, they sent out into all that surrounding region, brought to Him all who were sick,*
36 *And begged Him that they might only touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched it were made perfectly well.*

C. Hands I Tim 4:14

14 *Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.*

II. Laying on of Hands has several functions.

A. Impartation

1. Old Testament Examples.

- a. To impart sin to a sacrificial offering. *Lev. 5:5-6; Lev. 16:7-10; Lev. 16:21-22*

- b. Performed by the priests. *Lev. 1:4; Lev. 3:2, 8, 13*
- c. Performed by Aaron and his sons. *Ex. 29:10, 15, 19; Lev. 8:14*
- d. By Levitical Priests. *Num. 8:12*
- e. By Elders of the Congregation. *Lev. 4:15*
- f. High priest on the Day of Atonement.
- g. To impart wisdom and honor. *Deut. 34:9*
- h. Anointing - Hebrew "**Mashach**" (Maw shak') Means to smear with the hands - to rub with oil. *I Sam. 16:13; I Kings 19:16*

2. New Testament Examples.

- a. Healing. *Luke 4:40; Luke 13:13; Acts 28:8*
- b. Signs and Wonders. *Acts 14:3; Acts 19:11*
- c. Baptism in the Holy Spirit. *Acts 8:17-19.* "**Through**" in Greek means channel of a process or action.
- d. Spiritual gifts. *I Tim. 4:14; II Tim. 1:6; Romans 1:11*

B. Ministration of Blessing. *Genesis 48:13-20*

- 1. Lifting up hands to bless. *Lev. 9:22; Luke 24:50-51*

C. Commission of Ministry.

1. Old Testament Examples.

- a. Aaron and sons. *Exodus 29:1-35*
- b. Levites. *Numbers 8:5-22*
- c. Joshua. *Deut. 34:9*

2. New Testament Examples.

- a. Sending forth ministry. *Acts 13:1-3*
- b. Choosing or commissioning Elders and Deacons. Elders - *Acts 14:23*
Deacons - *Acts 6:1-7*
- c. Ordination. *I Tim. 4:14*

III. Jesus Did It.

- A. Healing - *Mark 6:2-5; Mark 7:32-35; Mark 8:22-25; Matt. 19:13-15*

IV. Jesus' Disciples Did It. *John 3:35; Matt. 10:1; Acts 15:12*

V. We must do it.

- A. Jesus ordained it. *Matt. 28:18 Mark 16:15-20*
- B. Any believer can lay hands.
 - 1. Doctrine of Christ found in *Mark 16:18*
 - 2. Understood by the disciples. *James 5:14-16*
- C. Obedience principle. *John 5:19; 14:12*
- D. Ministry of laying on of hands is a gift. *Acts 8:14-20*
- E. Purpose - Glorify God.
 - 1. Jesus used it as a sign. *Luke 7:22*
 - 2. To the Royal official in *John 4:48*
- F. Counterfeit and the warning. *Matt. 7:21-23*