

THE LETTER OF



JAMES

FAITH



WORKS

James 5:13-20

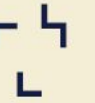
¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person



James 5:13-20

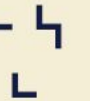
has great power as it is working. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit. ¹⁹ My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, ²⁰ let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.





Revelation 21:4

He will wipe away every tear from [our] eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away



James 5:13-15

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Trouble can give rise to an attitude of surly rebellion against God and the abandonment of spiritual practices. Equally, times of ease and affluence beget complacency, laziness and the assumption that we are able of ourselves to cope with life, and God is forgotten

Alec Motyer



As the elders pray, they are to anoint the sick person in order to symbolize that that person is being set apart for God's special attention and care.

Douglas J. Moo



Love toward sick members should have a special place in the Christian congregation. Christ comes near to us in the sick. The pastor who neglects the visitation of the sick must ask whether or not he can exercise his office on the whole.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer



James 5:15

And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.



“Shortly after we started praying for people in public in our services, a lady in our church named Ruth Gay called me. She told me she had an aneurysm, and that on Wednesday she was going into the hospital for a second angiogram.... On Thursday they were going to operate in order to repair the aneurysm. She asked if we would come to her house on Monday night and pray for her. On Monday night, Leesa, Joyce Smeltzer (the wife of John Smeltzer, one of our pastors),

Jack Deere



and I went to Ruth Gay's house to pray for her.

Ruth was living by herself and had been estranged from the rest of her family. She was lonely, depressed, and frightened over her impending surgery. When the three of us entered her house on Monday night, we could actually feel the gloom surrounding her. We talked with her for a little while, and then we laid our hands on her head and asked the Lord to take her aneurysm away.

Jack Deere



We prayed very calmly, specifically asking God to supernaturally heal her aneurysm. We didn't rebuke any demons, or shout, or work up any religious excitement. We didn't pray for the Lord to guide the doctor's hands. We asked the Lord to use his own hands to touch this blood vessel and take away the aneurysm. None of us heard the Lord speak directly that night, nor did we see any overt supernatural signs or manifestations.

Jack Deere



When we left the house, however, we all had a sense that the Lord had healed Ruth. We didn't say this to her, but nevertheless we thought we sensed his presence there. On Wednesday morning I received a call from Ruth. She had just come out of her second angiogram. Her voice was so weak I could barely hear her. She said, "Jack, I have been healed!"

Jack Deere



“The faith that God requires for healing is not a psychological certainty that he is going to heal us or those we pray for. It is faith in his ability to heal and in his good will to heal. It is confidence that God loves his children and regularly heals them.” Jack Deere

Jack Deere



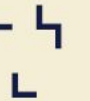
John 9:1-3

As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ² And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him.



John 5:14

Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you.”



1 Corinthians 11:28-30

“Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸ Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹ For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. ³⁰ That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died.”



“The meaning is that if God should heal him in answer to prayer, this indicates that any sins of the sufferer, which might have been responsible for this particular illness, were forgiven. In other words, if sin were responsible for his sickness, the fact that God healed him physically would be evidence that God had forgiven him spiritually.”

Sam Storms



“If Christians spent even half the time taking their concerns about other people directly to them in gentleness and love....rather than complaining about them to others, we would all be far healthier, individually and collectively.”

Craig L. Blomberg

