



Practical Faith

A Study in the Book of James





James - Recap

- * James (half brother of Jesus)
- * Practical Teaching & Application of Faith
- * Written to the 12 Tribes in the Dispersion
- * Great Persecution and Suffering
- * Influenced by Proverbs & Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.





James Re:Cap Cont.

* Key Points:

Perfection/Wholeness

Wisdom

Poverty / Brokenness

Wealth / Arrogance

Love for God & Neighbor

The Tongue

Judging Others

Serving

Grumbling

Joy

Restoring





What Encouragement / Admonition from the book of James has made a strong impact on you?

*

*

*

*

*





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 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.





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 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.





Faith & Works

“So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”

James 2:17

Faith & Power

“So also faith by itself, if it does not have prayer, is powerless”





Luke 11:24-26

24 “When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ **25** And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. **26** Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first.”

What Lessons Do We Learn from This Passage?





Lessons from Luke 11:24-26

- * Renovation vs. Transformation
- * Neutrality won't work with God
- * Be Filled with Holiness





Lessons from Luke 11:24-26:

1) Renovation vs. Transformation

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be **transformed** by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” Romans 12:2

Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a **new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

2 Corinthians 5:17





Lessons from Luke 11:24-26:

2) Neutrality won't work with God

“And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, **choose this day** whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.” Joshua 24:15

14 “And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write,

‘These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: 15 “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. **I could wish you were cold or hot.** 16 So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.”

Revelation 3:14-16





Lessons from Luke 11:24-26:

3) Be Filled with Holiness

Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
For they shall **be filled**. Matthew 5:6

“**Abide in me, and I in you**. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. **5** I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.” John 15: 4-5





Be Filled:

14 For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **15** from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, **16** that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, **17** that **Christ may dwell in your hearts** through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, **18** may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height— **19** to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may **be filled** with all the fullness of God.

Eph 3:14-19





If James does set a high practical standard, “show me your faith by your works”, would we ever be able to live up to that standard if we had not been transformed, refusing to live in neutral, and filled with the Holy Spirit, and abiding with Christ?





According to James...

What time is it?





James - Old Camel Knees

The story comes from 2nd-century historian Hegesippus, whose accounts were preserved by Eusebius.





James 5:13a

“Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray...”

* Lord, teach us to pray

“Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, *that* one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.” Luke 11:1

Why would Jesus' Disciple want to learn to pray?





Highest and Best Use!

But when you **pray**, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Matthew 6:6

Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.

Jeremiah 33:3

Let us then with confidence **draw near to the throne of grace**, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:16

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that **whatever you ask the Father in my name**, he may give it to you.

John 15:16

When the righteous **cry for help**, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

Psalms 34:17





“And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.”
1 John 5:14 ESV

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.
Romans 8:26 ESV

Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.
Jeremiah 33:3 ESV

Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”
Matthew 26:41 ESV

“And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.”
Luke 11:9 ESV





What is the Biggest Challenges with Prayer?





What is the Biggest Challenges with Prayer?

- * Get eyes off self
- * Are Christians intended to suffer?
- * In tribulations where do turn?
- * Are we supposed to pray for no suffering?
- * How might we pray 'through' suffering?





*** Consider Psalms - 150 Songs of Prayer & Praise**

*** God was the First, “First Responder”!**





James 5:13b

“... Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.”

16 Now it happened, as we went to **prayer**, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. 17 This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, “These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation.” 18 And this she did for many days.

But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And he came out that very hour. 19 But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged *them* into the marketplace to the authorities.

20 And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, “These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; 21 and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe.” 22 Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded *them* to be **beaten with rods**. 23 And when they had laid **many stripes** on them, they **threw them into prison**, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. 24 Having received such a charge, he put them into the **inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks**.

25 **But** at midnight Paul and Silas were **praying** and **singing hymns** to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. 26 Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were loosed.

Acts 16:16-26





"I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being."
Psalm 104:33

"Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting."
Psalm 147:1

"The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; **he will rejoice over you** with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; **he will exult over you with loud singing.**"
Zeph. 3:17

"Oh come, **let us sing to the LORD**; let us **make a joyful noise** to the rock of our salvation!"
Psalm 95:1

"For it was fitting for Him, for whom *are* all things and by whom *are* all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. **11** For both **He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one**, for which reason **He is not ashamed to call them brethren, 12** saying:

"I will declare Your name to My brethren;
In the midst of the assembly **I will sing praise to You.**"

Hebrews 2:10-12





Praise is:


- * Celebrating God
- * Focusing on God's Character
- * Trusting God is working all things to the good
- * Setting our minds on things above
- * A reflection of our heart for God

“Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in
His mighty firmament!” Psalm 150:1





Praise:

Transliteration	Pronunciation
<i>hālal</i>	haw-lal' 
Part of Speech	Root Word (Etymology)
verb	A primitive root
Dictionary Aids	
TWOT Reference: 499,500	
KJV Translation Count — Total: 165x	
The KJV translates Strong's H1984 in the following manner: praise (117x), glory (14x), boast (10x), mad (8x), shine (3x), foolish (3x), fools (2x), commended (2x), rage (2x), celebrate (1x), give (1x), marriage (1x), renowned (1x).	

Outline of Biblical Usage [?]

- I. to shine
 1. (Qal) to shine (fig. of God's favour)
 2. (Hiphil) to flash forth light
- II. to praise, boast, be boastful
 1. (Qal)
 - A. to be boastful
 - B. boastful ones, boasters (participle)
 2. (Piel)
 - A. to praise
 - B. to boast, make a boast





James 5:14-15

“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. 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.”





* Sickness entered in when sin entered

“Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. **16** And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; **17** but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

Gen 2:15-17

* Some disease is related to our sins

“Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, “See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you.”

John 5:14

“For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body.”

1 Cor. 11:29





James 5:14-15

“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**. 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**.”





What this **does not mean...**

- * Every prayer is answered in the affirmative
- * If you only have enough faith your prayer is guaranteed.
- * God only wants you to pray one time
- * We always have to use anointing oil
- * We should reject medicine and only pray
- * Only the elders of the Church can pray for the sick






What vs. 14-15 does teach us...

- * There are no “lone-wolf” Christians
- * There is an expected “orderly leadership” in the church
- * There is a responsibility (but not requirement) upon the sick person to ask for prayer, James reminds us, “you have not, because you ask not.” James 4:2
- * Anointing with oil has spiritual significance
- * The prayer of faith will save the sick
- * If sins were committed they will be forgiven





1) Anointing

Transliteration	Pronunciation
<i>chriō</i> (Key)	khree'-o 
Part of Speech	Root Word (Etymology)
verb	Probably akin to <i>χράομαι</i> (G5530) through the idea of contact

Outline of Biblical Usage [?]

- I. to anoint
 1. consecrating Jesus to the Messianic office, and furnishing him with the necessary powers for its administration
 2. enduing Christians with the gifts of the Holy Spirit





Scriptural Usage:

 **Luk 4:18**

The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed [G5548](#) me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

 **Act 4:27**

For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, [G5548](#) both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together,

 **Act 10:38**

How God anointed [G5548](#) Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

 **2Co 1:21**

Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed [G5548](#) us, *is* God;

 **Heb 1:9**

Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, *even* thy God, hath anointed [G5548](#) thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.





2) Anointing

ἀλείφω

Transliteration

aleiphō (Key)

Pronunciation

al-i'-fo

Part of Speech

verb

Root Word (Etymology)

From ἄλφα (G1) (as particle of union) and the base of λιπαρός (G3045)

Outline of Biblical Usage [?]

/. to anoint

[Click for Synonyms](#)

Strong's Definitions [?]

[\(Strong's Definitions Legend\)](#)

ἀλείφω *aleiphō*, al-i'-fo; from G1 (as particle of union) and the base of G3045; to oil (with perfume):—anoint.






Scriptural Usage:


- 📄 **Mat 6:17** But thou, when thou fastest, anoint G218 thine head, and wash thy face;
- 📄 **Mar 6:13** And they cast out many devils, and anointed G218 with oil many that were sick, and healed *them*.
- 📄 **Mar 16:1** And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the *mother* of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint G218 him.
- 📄 **Luk 7:38** And stood at his feet behind *him* weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe *them* with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed G218 *them* with the ointment.
- 📄 **Luk 7:46** My head with oil thou didst G218 not anoint: G218 but this woman hath anointed G218 my feet with ointment.






Scriptural Usage cont. :

 **Jhn 11:2** (It was *that* Mary which anointed G218 the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.)

 **Jhn 12:3** Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed G218 the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment.

 **Jas 5:14** Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing G218 him with oil in the name of the Lord:





James 5:16

“Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.”

Therefore:

- * Suffering vs.13**
- * Sick vs. 14**
- * Save/Salvation vs 14-15**
- * Raise/arouse from sleep/stir up vs. 15**
- * Committed sin/Forgiveness vs. 15**

- * “confess sins to one another”**
- * “pray for one another”**
- * “healing”**
- * “prayer of righteous is powerful”**





James 5:17-18

“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.”





James 5:19-20

“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.”





Is it possible for a true Christian to stray from the truth?

Is it possible for a Christian to fall back into sins of the past?

Is there a point where God's grace/mercy run dry?





“Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”

Galatians 6:1-2

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

Hebrews 10:24-25

“And have mercy on those who doubt; 23 save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.” Jude 1:22-23





What might the restoration described in Gal. 6, Hebrews 10, and Jude look like in practical terms?

Considering Key words like:

- * Transgression
- * Spirit of Gentleness
- * Bear one another's burdens
- * Stir one another up
- * Encouraging one another
- * Mercy
- * Snatching
- * Hating





“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. **23** For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. **24** For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. **25** But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.”

James 1:22-25

“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. **8** Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. **9** Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. **10** Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.”

James 4:7-10





Suffering Christians vs. 13

Sick/Weak vs. 14

Sinners vs. 15-16

Straying Christians vs. 19

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Psalm 51:12

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. **9** Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. **10** And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. **11** To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 5:8-11





Practical Faith

A Study in the Book of James

