

We Perish for Lack of Knowledge:
Return to Elementary School, Part 8
Laying on of Hands
September 30, 2018

I **SLIDE** The Truth

A) **Hebrews 6:1-3 (NIV)**

- 1) Repentance from acts that lead to death
- 2) Faith in God
- 3) Baptisms

B) Our present situation

- 1) When we embrace a belief that tickles our ears, that fits our lifestyles, that satisfies our flesh, we turn from repentance
- 2) We deny our need for repentance while condemning those who disagree with us
- 3) We place more faith in our idea of justice than faith in God
- 4) We ignore baptism of repentance because we do not need it
- 5) We ignore baptism of the Holy Spirit because we do not need Him
- 6) We believe in the laying on of hands only in the context of beating others into submission

C) FDA and Planned Parenthood

- 1) Planned Parenthood for 2016-2017
 - a) Performed 321,384 abortions (880/day)
 - b) Received \$543.7 million in government health services
- 2) On July 25, the FDA entered into a \$15,000 contract with Advanced Bioscience Resources
- 3) Advanced Bioscience Resources was to acquire "fresh" fetal tissue to "create chimeric animals that have a human system."
- 4) The Congressional Research Service confirmed that the "fetal tissue used in research is obtained from elective abortions."
- 5) So, we are giving Planned Parenthood \$500 million to perform "elective abortions" to sell fetal tissue to the FDA

- 6) The program has been canceled, but it happened
- D) We must remain in His presence so that we do not toss aside these elementary teachings.

II **SLIDE** Laying on of hands

A) Laying on of hands was used as a means of imparting or identifying with someone else

B) Blessing

- 1) **Genesis 48:14 (NIV)** ... Israel reached out his right hand and put it on Ephraim's head, though he was the younger, and crossing his arms, he put his left hand on Manasseh's head, even though Manasseh was the firstborn.
- 2) **Matthew 19:13 (NIV)** ¹³Then little children were brought to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked those who brought them.

C) **SLIDE** Set into place

- 1) **Acts 6:3-6 (NIV)** ³Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them ⁴and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." ⁵This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. ⁶They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.
- 2) **1 Timothy 5:22 (NIV)** [Paul said to Timothy] ²²Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, and do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure.
 - a) Know the person on whom we are laying hands
 - b) Know the person who is laying hands on you

D) **SLIDE** Healing the sick

- 1) **Matthew 9:18 (NIV)** ¹⁸While he was saying this, a ruler came and knelt before him and said, "My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live."
- 2) **Matthew 20:30-34 (NIV)** ³⁰Two blind men were sitting by the roadside, and when they heard that Jesus was going by, they shouted, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!" ³¹The crowd rebuked them and told them to be quiet, but they shouted all the louder, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!" ³²Jesus stopped and called them. **"What do you want me to do for you?"** he asked. ³³"Lord," they answered, "we want our sight." ³⁴Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him.

E) **SLIDE** Impartation

- 1) **Acts 8:17 (NIV)** ¹⁷Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.
- 2) **2 Timothy 1:6 (NIV)** ⁶For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.
- 3) **1 Timothy 4:14 (NIV)** [Paul told Timothy,] Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

III **SLIDE** Why is the laying on of hands so important?

A) I believe it is still fundamental to our faith

- 1) First, Jesus did it
- 2) Second, Paul says it is
- 3) Third, the apostles practiced it
- 4) Where would we be without blessings or setting people into place or healings or impartation?
- 5) What would be the condition of the church if we had nothing to give to one another?

- 6) Yet, I believe there is a simpler, more profound reason that the laying on of hands is so important

B) **SLIDE** That reason:

- 1) It brings us together
- 2) During Jesus' time, the Pharisees had nothing to do with "sinners"
- 3) They did not eat with them; they did not sit with them; they did not associate with them
- 4) They were the spiritual leaders, but they would not get close enough to "sinners" to touch them
- 5) This does not make for a very warm or friendly atmosphere
- 6) It makes it very difficult to share the Good News

C) There is a legend told of an ancient kingdom whose sovereign had just died, and whose ambassadors were sent to choose a successor from twin infants. They found the little fellows fast asleep, and looking at them carefully, agreed that it was difficult to decide, until they happened to notice one curious small difference between them. As they lay, one infant had his tiny fists closed tight; the other slept with his little hands wide open. Instantly they made their selection of the latter. The legend very properly concludes with the record that, as he grew up in his station, he came to be known as the King with the Open Hand. We could say the same thing of our God. His hand is always open to give. Bible Illustrations

D) Imagine the church without this

- 1) We come to worship, but we keep our distance
- 2) We speak to each other, but we do not get involved
- 3) We want to serve God, but we don't want to let down our guard
- 4) We sit next to each other, but we don't touch
- 5) We find children cute, but we don't want them close to us
- 6) We have concerns, but we don't want anyone else to know
- 7) We come for prayer but want to keep our distance

8) **SLIDE** Laying on of hands requires:

- a) Humility
- b) Faith that Jesus will use us
- c) Relationship with leads to trust
- d) Vulnerability

E) **SLIDE** Jesus is our example

- 1) **Mark 10:16 (NIV)** And [Jesus] took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.
- 2) **Mark 1:40-42 (NIV)** ⁴⁰A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean." ⁴¹Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" ⁴²Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured.

F) **SLIDE** Jesus did not have to touch any of them

- 1) His Word was all they needed
- 2) Jesus could have spoken a word and they would have been healed or blessed
- 3) He chose to reach out and touch the untouchable
- 4) Each person had to get up, take a step of faith, and get close to Jesus
- 5) The laying on of hands is a form of love and acceptance and willingness to give
- 6) **SLIDE** When Jesus rose to be with the Father, we became His hands and feet
 - a) Much of the convent of the Community of the Sacred Name was destroyed in the Canterbury earthquakes.
 - b) Some of the sisters returned to the convent recently. All around, the convent grounds are empty building sites where the destroyed buildings have been removed.
 - c) A desert; where once there was a thriving city. An oasis of prayer in desert.
 - d) In their garden, this statue of Jesus. His hands are gone because of the quakes.

G) **SLIDE** Therefore, we lay hands on people

- 1) It is why we ask you to come to the front
- 2) For blessings
- 3) For healing
- 4) For prophetic insight
- 5) For setting into place
- 6) For impartation