

A STUDY OF THE EPISTLE OF JAMES

Genuine Faith

III THE TRIUMPH OF GENUINE FAITH - James 5:7-20

LESSON 11 - Faith Prays for the Afflicted - James 5:13-18

KEY VERSE

And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven (James 5:15).

PONDER²

READ James 5:13-18.

WRITE the *word, phrase, or verse* that spoke to you the most. Explain. _____

PRAYER FOR THE AFFLICTED

READ James 5:13.

1. What is the believer encouraged to do when he is suffering³ (v. 13a)? _____

LOOK DEEPER

READ II Timothy 1:1-12; 2:1-4.

Young Timothy was beginning to suffer afflictions for the Gospel. What did Paul do for his young son in the faith (II Timothy 1:1-4)?

¹ Genuine: authentic, real.

² PONDER: think about and consider carefully God's spiritual truths as revealed in the Word of God.

³ suffering - Greek *kakopatheo* afflicted: to undergo hardship, be afflicted; endure affliction; suffer troubles, endure evils.

What else did the Apostle remember about Timothy and remind him to do (vv. 5-7)? _____

Through Paul's diligent prayer for Timothy, how was Paul led to exhort him (vv. 8-12)? _____

How did the Apostle continue to exhort Timothy to persevere in affliction (II Timothy 2:1-4)? _____

PERSONAL

How has God used you, through prayer, to encourage and exhort another believer? _____

2. What are the cheerful to do (James 5:13b)? _____

NOTE

The Word of God is filled with songs: songs of joy, songs of thanksgiving, songs of lamentation and songs of affliction; however all believers' songs should glorify God.

LOOK DEEPER

READ Acts 16:14-31.

What happened as Paul and Silas were praying with believers at Lydia's house (vv. 14-18)? _____

Why were Paul and Silas beaten and put in prison (vv. 19-24)? _____

What happened at midnight (vv. 25-31)? _____

PERSONAL

How have you amazingly become cheerful through singing and praying during a time of affliction?
How did it affect anyone who may have been listening?

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

READ James 5:14-15.

1. What are we to do when we are sick (v. 14)? _____

_____ 4

In whose name are we to pray? _____

2. What can the prayer of faith do (v. 15)? _____

LOOK DEEPER

READ Matthew 9:1-8.

When a paralytic man was brought to Jesus what did He see and what did He do because of it (v. 2)?

Why did He say to the paralytic *your sins are forgiven* rather than *arise and walk* (vv. 3-6)? _____

What was the reaction of the multitude (vv. 7, 8)? _____

What did the Lord empower His disciples to do as He sent them out to preach the Gospel?

Matthew 10:1 _____

Mark 6:7-13 _____

⁴ anointing...with oil: a symbol of the Holy Spirit. An Old Testament custom used in coronations to set those apart as kings; adopted by the Christian church for consecration; being set apart for ministry.

PERSONAL

What is the first thing you do when you are sick? What will you do from now on? _____

PRAYER FOR ONE ANOTHER

READ James 5:16.

1. Why are believers to *confess* their trespasses⁵ to one another (v. 16a)? _____

Why are they to *pray* for one another? _____

2. Whose *effective, fervent prayer...avails*⁶ much (v. 16b)? _____

PERSONAL

Think of your prayer life. How has God answered a fervent prayer of yours? _____

THE POWER OF PRAYER

READ James 5:17-18.

1. What kind of man was Elijah (v. 17a)? _____

2. How did he pray? What happened (vv. 17b, 18)? _____

⁵ trespasses - Greek *paraptoma* faults: offenses, sins.

⁶ *avails* - Greek *ischyo* to have or exercise force: might, prevail, be of strength, much work.

NOTE

Elijah was a man who prayed earnestly. By the Word of the Lord, God answered his prayer and he received direction even for his nation (I Kings Chapters 17 and 18).

PERSONAL

How does God speak directly to you? How has He given you direction through prayer? _____

WRITE out the KEY VERSE _____

*The effective, fervent prayer
of a righteous man avails much.*

James 5:16b

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