

Book of James Study

Men of Grace

November 24, 2009

James 5:13 - 18

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Main Idea:

The place and power of prayer in the church community

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Outline of James 5:13-18

Outline

- Vs. 13** ***Prayer in all situations***
- Vs. 14-16a** ***Prayer for the sick (or spiritually weak)***
- Vs. 16b-18** ***Prayer is powerful and effective***

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James 5:14-16

Key Interpretive Question:

Physical healing vs. Spiritual Healing?

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James 5:14-16

Key Words:

1. "astheneo" (vs 14) - "sick" or "weak"
2. "kamno" (vs 15) - "sick" or "weary (weak)"
3. "soso" (vs 15) - "heal" or "save"
4. "iathete" (vs 16) - "physical healing" or "spiritual healing"

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Word Study of ASTHENEÓ

SICK

1. Mathew 25:39

"When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?"

2. Luke 7:2

"There a centurion's servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die."

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Word Study of ASTHENEIO

SICK – con't

3. *Philippians 2:26-27*

"For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill. Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow."

4. *2 Timothy 4:20*

"Erastus stayed in Corinth, and I left Trophimus sick in Miletus."

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Word Study of ASTHENEIO

WEAK (Generally)

1. *Romans 8:3*

"For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man"

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Word Study of ASTHENEIO

WEAK (Generally) – con't

2 *Corinthians 13:3, 4, 9*

³"Since you are demanding proof that Christ is speaking through me. He is not weak in dealing with you, but is powerful among you. ⁴For to be sure, he was crucified in weakness, yet he lives by God's power. Likewise, we are weak in him, yet by God's power we will live with him to serve you."

⁹"We are glad whenever we are weak but you are strong; and our prayer is for your perfection."

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Word Study of ASTHENEIO

WEAK (Generally) – con't

3. *2 Corinthians 12:10*

"That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

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Word Study of ASTHENEIO

WEAK (Spiritually)

1. *Acts 20:35*

"In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

2. *Romans 6:19*

"I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness."

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Word Study of ASTHENEIO

WEAK (Spiritually) – con't

3. *1 Corinthians 8:9-12*

⁹"Be careful, however, that the exercise of your freedom does not become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if anyone with a weak conscience sees you who have this knowledge eating in an idol's temple, won't he be emboldened to eat what has been sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So this weak brother, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. ¹²When you sin against your brothers in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ."

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Word Study of ASTHENEEO

WEAK (Spiritually) – con't

4. 2 Corinthians 11:21, 29

21 "To my shame I admit that we were too weak for that!"

29 "Who is weak, and I do not feel weak? Who is led into sin, and I do not inwardly burn?"

5. 1 Corinthians 11:30 (?)

"That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep."

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Interpretive Options

1. **Sick:**
but healing limited to apostolic time
2. **Sick:**
Sacrament of Extreme Unction
3. **Sick:**
guaranteed healing
4. **Sick:**
healing if God's will
5. **Sick:**
spiritual assurance of salvation

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Interpretive Options – con't

6. **Spiritual weakness:**
guaranteed deliverance and spiritual healing
7. **Spiritual weakness:**
deliverance and spiritual healing if God's will
8. **Spiritual weakness:**
description of the shepherding process

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James 5:13 - 18

Discussion Questions

1. **Which interpretation of vs. 14-16 is most likely? How then would you apply that interpretation to us today?**
2. **How do you pray? Share how you pray or how you would like to pray.**

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Thank You

JAMES 5:13-18

5:13 ARE ANY OF YOU SUFFERING HARDSHIPS?

YOU SHOULD PRAY.

ARE ANY OF YOU HAPPY?

YOU SHOULD SING PSALMS.

14. ARE ANY OF YOU SICK (WEAK)?

YOU SHOULD CALL FOR THE LEADERS OF THE CHURCH

TO COME AND PRAY OVER YOU,

ANDBINTING YOU WITH OIL

IN THE NAME OF THE LORD.

15. SUCH A PRAYER OFFERED IN FAITH

WILL HEAL (SAVE) THE SICK (WEAK)

AND

THE LORD WILL MAKE YOU WELL (RAISE YOU UP).

AND IF YOU HAVE COMMITTED ANY SINS

YOU WILL BE FORGIVEN

16. CONFESS YOUR SINS TO EACH OTHER

AND

PRAY FOR EACH OTHER

SO THAT YOU MAY BE HEALED (SPIRITUALLY HEALED).

5:16 THE EARNEST PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS PERSON
HAS GREAT POWER
AND PRODUCES WONDERFUL RESULTS.

17. ELIJAH WAS HUMAN

AS WE ARE,

AND YET

WHEN HE PRAYED EARNESTLY

THAT NO RAIN WOULD FALL,
NONE FELL FOR THREE AND A HALF YEARS!

18. THEN,

WHEN HE PRAYED AGAIN,

THE SKY SENT DOWN RAIN

AND

THE EARTH BEGAN TO YIELD ITS CROPS.