

**June 25, 2006**

**Pastor David Mitchell**



## **Prayer That Heals**

*James 5:13-20*

---

Three ways to pray from James:

- Pray if you are suffering. James 5:13
  - When I am obstructed against my will, but want to remain faithful to the Lord. II Timothy 2:8-10
  - When I am struggling to obey the Lord. II Timothy 2:3-7
  - When I serve the Lord in hard circumstances. II Timothy 4:4, 5
- Pray with words of praise. James 5:13
  - When you are cheerful= Acts 27:22-26
- Be prayed over by the Elders. James 5:14-18
  - When you are sick= vs. 14  
(See Digging Deeper)
  - Seek to be restored= vs. 15, 19, 20  
(See Digging Deeper)
  - Pray with faith to be healed= Elijah proves prayer works. Vs, 15-18

## Digging Deeper in James 5:13-20

Ever wonder why Christians get sick. Here are some reasons from the Bible to help you better understand it. Look up the passages and write down what the text says about that sickness and how you it impacts your view of disease.

- Because of God's permission and divine plan to use it. Exodus 4:11; John 9:1-3
- Because Satan causes it, under God's sovereign control. Luke 13:11-17; Job 1:21; II Corinthians 12:7-10
- Because of personal neglect or lifestyle. Daniel 8:27; Philippians 2:30
- Because we have a fragile body. II Kings 13:14; II Corinthians 4:16-5:4
- Because of sin. Numbers 12; Deuteronomy 28:20-22; II Kings 5:27; I Corinthians 11:30; I John 1:8

James offers us the power of a healing prayer. But, what exactly did he mean by that? The following will help you grasp a better understanding of how this passage can heal all who pray in faith to our Lord.

### **There are prayers you can offer for yourself when suffering.**

But, what does it mean to "**suffer**?" The way the word "suffering" is used in various passages reveals what is meant by suffering. Read the following passages to see if they describe your situation and need for prayer. I will include the passages to show you the actual word of "suffering" that James used. The underlined word is the same word James used for "suffering."

#### **Suffering when bound, held back, restricted against my will in doing the will of God.**

II Timothy 2:8-13

***Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, for which I suffer hardship even to imprisonment as a criminal; but the word of God is not imprisoned. For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory.***

#### **Suffering to be disciplined and obedient in doing the right thing for our Lord.**

II Timothy 2:3-7

***Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs—he wants to please his commanding officer. Similarly, if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules. The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops. Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.***

#### **Suffering when serving and witnessing for Jesus Christ.**

II Timothy 4:4, 5

***They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.***

When have you suffered in these ways? That is why James calls for you to pray.

**There are prayers that you can ask the Elders to offer for you as described below:**

**Pray when you are “sick.” James 5:14**

The word sick can mean “weak.” It can refer to many kinds of weaknesses in need of prayer. Note how it is used in the following passages and identify your area of weakness in need of prayer. Each word underlined is the same word “sick” used in James 5:14.

**Weak faith in tests for your life, like Abraham.**

Romans 4:19

***Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah’s womb.***

**Weak physically from stress and circumstances—weary, worn, tired.**

II Corinthians 11:26-29

***I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my own countrymen, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false brothers. I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches. Who is weak, and I do not feel weak? Who is led into sin, and I do not inwardly burn?***

**Weak financially.**

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***

**Weak in overcoming sin.**

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.***

Matthew 26:41

***Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.***

**Weak physically because of some disease.**

I Corinthians 11:30

***For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep.***

Luke 6:40

***While the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to Him; and laying His hands on each one of them, He was healing them.***

## **Pray to be restored. James 4:14**

**Restored** can have various meanings.

Identify below your weakness that needs this specific restoration. Each word underlined is this same word for “**restore**” used in James 5:14

### **Salvation of going to heaven, the last and ultimate restoration job.**

II Timothy 4:18

***The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom; to Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.***

### **Salvation from sins by Jesus Christ.**

Acts 2:47

***And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.***

Luke 19:10

***For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.***

Acts 16:31

***They said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, You and your household.***

### **Have Jesus intercede for you with a spiritual issue before God.**

Hebrews 7:25

***Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.***

### **Saved by Jesus from the wrath of God.**

Romans 5:9

***Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.***

### **Physical healing.**

Mark 5:34

***And He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace and be healed of your affliction.***

### **Saved from turbulent circumstances.**

Matthew 8:23-25

***Then He got into the boat and his disciples followed Him. Without warning, a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. The disciples went and woke Him, saying, “Lord, save us! We’re going to drown!” He replied, “You of little faith, why are you so afraid?” Then He got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. The men were amazed and asked, “What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!***

### **Saved when your heart is troubled in a trial.**

John 12: 27-29

***Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name!***



*Serving Orange County...Reaching The World!*  
1010 N. Tustin Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705  
(714) 973-4800 • www.calvarylife.org