

## The Prayer Of Faith

Part 2  
James 5:13-18

## The Effectiveness Of Prayer

Does prayer demand a miraculous response?

- Paul left Trophimus at Miletus sick. 2 Timothy 4:20
- Timothy had a chronic stomach problem. 1 Timothy 5:23
- Epaphroditus almost died. Philippians 2:25-26

## The Effectiveness Of Prayer

*"The **prayer of faith** shall save him that is **sick** ..."*  
James 5:15

*"The supplication of a righteous man availeth much in its working."* James 5:16

➤ Spiritual guidance is implied.

NOTE: The distinction between the sickness and confession of sins. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

➤ Strength for the weary is the objective.  
Verse 19

## The Effectiveness Of Prayer

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➤ Natural healing is done by those who are physicians.

Matthew 9:12

➤ The work of elders is in ruling the church & watching for souls (Acts 20:28; Hebrews 13:17); not in becoming guardians of men's physical health.

➤ **Elders are not miracle workers or medical doctors!**

## The Effectiveness Of Prayer

- Elijah's effective prayer. James 5:16-18; 1 Kings 18:41-45
- Hezekiah's prayer for deliverance. 2 Kings 19:15-19; cf. 35; cf. David, 1 Chronicles 29:11-12
- Nehemiah's prayer. Nehemiah 1:11; 2:4,6
- Ask for wisdom ... James 1:5
- Ask (keep on asking) ... cf. Luke 11:5-13

## The Effectiveness Of Prayer

• **Is God different today?** Is He no longer interested in His children? cf. James 1:17

• Not miraculous. cf. Hebrews 2:1-4

• Provisionally. cf. Joseph. Gen. 45

• **Why do we not believe God acts on behalf of His people today?**

• Is He indifferent to His people? NO. 1 Peter 3:12

• Is He unable to act on our behalf? NO. Ephesians 3:20

• Has He abandoned His children? NO. Hebrews 13:5-6

## The Effectiveness Of Prayer

- ***Psalms 34:18 "Jehovah is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart, and saveth such as are of a contrite spirit."***
  - His eyes are upon the righteous. **Verse 15;**  
cf. John 9:31; cf. Proverbs 28:9
  - There is no want to those who fear Him. **Verse 9;**  
cf. Acts 10:34-35
  - Blessed is the man who trusts in Him. **Verses 8, 22**
  - "... depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it." **Verse 14**

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## The Effectiveness Of Prayer

- **Be thankful for "unanswered" prayer.**
  - Paul prayed three times for the "thorn in the flesh" to be removed. Instead he received grace to help. 2 Corinthians 12: 7-9
  - Elijah prayed to die. 1 Kings 19:4
    - Elijah taken up in a chariot of fire. 2 Kings 2:11
    - Elijah "was a man with a nature like us." James 5:17

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## The Effectiveness Of Prayer ... GOD IS ABLE!

### God answers prayer!

- To receive, we need to pray in harmony with His divine will, and be submissive to God in every way we know. **1 John 5:14-15**
- Let us trust in His Omniscient Providence. He knows what is best.
- But we must continually "seek the Lord," and strive to walk in His way.

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## The Effectiveness Of Prayer... GOD IS ABLE!

- **1 Peter 5:6-7 "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time; casting all your anxiety upon him, because he careth for you."**
- **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 "Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus to you-ward."**

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## God Answers Prayer

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve –  
I was made weak, that I might learn to obey.  
I asked for health, that I might do greater things –  
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.  
I asked for riches, that I might be happy –  
I was given poverty, that I might be wise.  
I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life –  
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.  
I got nothing that I asked for, but everything I had hoped for.  
Despite myself, my prayers were answered.  
I am among all men most richly blessed.

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## The Power Of Prayer- GOD IS ABLE!

- **James 5:13-16 "Is any among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is any 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 shall save him that is sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, it shall be forgiven him. Confess therefore your sins one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. **The supplication of a righteous man availeth much in its working.**"**

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