



2010 ROCK School of Foundations

1st Quarter

Laying on of Hands

Therefore leaving the **elementary** teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith towards God, of instruction about washings (Baptisms-KJV) and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. And this we will do, if God permits.

Hebrews 6:1-3

- Elementary means: Basic, fundamental, or origin. These are foundational teachings in the church.
- The topic of the laying on of hands is one of 6 elementary teachings for the new believer. These basic teachings were to be a foundation that the rest of our walk with Christ was to be built upon.

1. 1 Corinth.3:10 Speaks of being a wise master builder

2. 1 Corinth. 3:11 Says that there is no other foundation than Jesus Christ

- Unfortunately as the verses above point out we have not learned what God has wanted us to glean from these basic topics. In the church of Jesus Christ today, there is not a unity about these basic topics, even as we heard last week with Stan's teaching on Baptism. This is later pointed out in Hebrews where it tells us that by now we should be teachers but we need to be taught the basic principles again. Hebrews 5:12
- All of these 6 basic teachings are to be performed and believed on in Faith. They like all scripture were heart issues because we believe with the heart. Romans 10: 8-10.
- The topic of Laying on of Hands is no different.
- Hands are a Point of contact. Just think of all the things you use your hands for.

List 5 Things you use your hands for.

1)

- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)

- **Old Testament Teaching on “Laying on of Hands”**

- 1. The impartation of blessing**

- (a)** Jacob placed his hands on Joseph’s sons and blessed them. Genesis 48:13-20. It is important here to realize that Jacob was not imparting an Inheritance but a **Blessing**. A **Blessing** is something that a person receives while they are alive in the here and now and included more than just property, money or possession. Where as an **Inheritance** is something that you normally do not receive until someone dies.

- (b)** Joshua received wisdom because of the impartation given him by the laying on of Moses hands. Deuteronomy 34:9

- 2. Setting leaders in place and commissioning them.**

- a.** Moses laid hands on Joshua and imparted authority. Numbers 27:18-20. We do not have to think that this is totally a spiritual act, even though I believe there is spiritual authority released. But giving someone authority can also mean and usually does mean increased responsibility.

- b.** Moses also laid hands on Joshua and commissioned him before the whole assembly. This is **HUGE**. It is so important for the common people to see Leaders commissioned by the already in charge and present respected tried and trusted leaders. This allows for unity and a peace that the current leaders trust who they are commissioning and that they have heard from God. Numbers 27:22-23

- 3. In the Levitical sacrifice, the laying on of hands symbolized substitution and transfer of punishment.**

- a. When the Israelite community sinned; during the sacrifice, all of the Elders would place their hands on an unblemished bull's head and then slaughter it. In this way, the substitute was said to "bear the sins" of the people, and their sins were said to be "laid upon it" and thus removed.
- b. Aaron the high priest would lay both of his hands on the head of an unblemished (no defects) Goat and confess the iniquities (bent toward evil) of the sons of Israel and all their transgressions (rebellion) in regard to all their sins (lawlessness). Then they would release the Goat into the wilderness, symbolizing a rejecting of sin. This is where the term "**Scapegoat**" comes from. Leviticus 16:10, 21-22, and 26.

- **New Testament Teaching on "Laying on of Hands"**

- 1. **To impart a blessing.**

- a. Jesus imparted a blessing to the children brought to Him through the laying on of His hands. Matthew 19:13-15.
 - b. This is once again foundational to this teaching. Jesus was full of the Holy Spirit. We also are full of the Holy Spirit. When we lay hands on someone we impart that which we have. In Acts 3:4-8 we see Peter talking with the crippled man and said, "Silver and Gold I have none, but that **WHICH I HAVE I GIVE TO YOU**". He had in side of him JESUS through the Holy Spirit and imparted what he had through the laying on of his hands.

- 2. **The ministry of healing.**

- a. And these signs will accompany those who believe, they will lay hands on the sick and they will get well. Mark 16:17-18
 - b. He could not do any miracles there, except lay His hands on a few sick people and heal them. Mark 6:5
 - c. Every single person Jesus prayed for was either delivered or healed. Every one.

- d. And by the hands of the Apostles were many signs and wonders performed among the people. Acts 5:12
- e. Call for the elders of the church and the prayer of faith will heal them. It does not say here that they laid hands on them but if we look at all the other scriptures talking about gifts and healings being given through the laying on of hands James 5:14-15
- f. **Mark 16 says that these signs will follow them who believe. We to can lay our hands on the sick and see them recover.**

3. To receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

- a. Through the laying on of hands through the Apostles in Samaria. Acts 8:18
- b. Through Ananias, who laid his hands on Paul and prayed. Acts 9:17.
- c. The disciples at Ephesus. When Paul placed his hands on them they received the Holy Spirit. Acts 19:6

4. To impart Spiritual Gifts

- a. We see that Timothy received gifts through the laying on of hands. 1 Timothy 4:14
- b. For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of hands. 2 Timothy 1:6

5. To commission ministries

- a. In Acts 13:1-4 we see the Elders and disciples commission Paul and Barnabas to the mission field after they had prayed and laid their hands on them. This is truly significant because the people saw them commissioned and given authority to do the work of the ministry.

6. To appoint Elders and Deacons in the church.

- a. There are really no specific scriptures to support this but if we follow the same line of thinking as impartation of gifts and callings through the laying on of hands then we might assume that this was a practice in the early church.

7. To appoint men for specific acts of service in the body.

- a. The Apostle prayed and laid their hands on the men that were chosen in Acts 6:3-6 to perform tasks that the Apostles were doing, so that the Apostles could give their time to the Word and prayer. We see Steven as one of these men who was full of the Holy Spirit and became one of the first martyrs because of his boldness. Acts 6
- b. Through the laying on of leaders' hands, grace and anointing for the task is imparted. Furthermore, the men are publicly acknowledged to be empowered to do the things they have been asked to do.

Finally, there is no magic in the laying on of hands. But this is a true Biblical doctrine for imparting many of God's Gifts and Blessings. Like all biblical doctrines, we are to walk by Faith and not by sight. Every believer has the ability to lay hands on a person and impart what is necessary for the moment, whether healing, gifts, love, peace, joy, or prophetic utterances. ect. But we all have this ability. If you have not been participating in this gift then by **FAITH TODAY begin by finding someone to pray and impart that which God has given you, for them.**

Love you in Christ,

Paul