

## JAMES - FAITH THAT WORKS

### “EFFECTIVE FERVENT PRAYER”

James 5:16-18

Lesson #18

May 26, 2021

Is faith or fervency more important in prayer?

#### REVIEW:

#### A. Confession. . . . . James 5:16

- 1) **Confess** - *ekzomologeō* = to declare, to say out loud, to exclaim, to divulge, or to blurt.
- 2) **Trespases** - *paraptoma* = a side-slip (lapse or deviation), an unintentional error or wilful transgression: — fall, fault, offence, sin, trespass.
- 3) This is not *hamartia* from the previous verse, which is a sin, an offence, or a sinful act.
  - a) Could be either an act or continual act of sin, or wrong thinking.
  - b) Can also refer to something done accidentally.
- 4) It is not the **CONFESSING** that brings a change here, but the **INVOLVEMENT OF SOMEONE TRUSTWORTHY** that helps.
- 5) These actions and thoughts survive best **UNDER THE COVER OF DARKNESS**
- 6) Exposing them to others helps bring what was **IN DARKNESS** to **LIGHT**
- 7) This brings us **FREEDOM** not **FORGIVENESS**

#### B. Effective and Fervent Prayer. . . . . James 5:16

- 1) Fervent - *energeō* = to be active, efficient: — do, (be) effectual (fervent), be mighty in, shew forth self, work (effectually in).
- 2) 21 uses in the New Testament  
Matthew 14:2, Romans 7:5, 1 Corinthians 12:6, 11, Galatians 2:8, Galatians 3:5, Galatians 5:6, Ephesians 1:11, 20, Ephesians 2:2 & 3:20, Philippians 2:13, Colossians 1:29, 1 Thessalonians 2:13, 2 Thessalonians 2:7, and then 1 Corinthians 16:7-9
- 3) Righteous - *dikaios* = innocent, holy, righteous
  - a) Used 81 times like in Matthew 9:13 “But go and learn what this means: I desire mercy and not sacrifice.’ For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.”
  - b) Galatians 3:11 But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for “the just shall live by faith.”
- 4) The person praying needs to be in right standing in order to be able to qualify.
- 5) Avails - (*ισχύω*) *ischyō* = Be strong, able, forceful, to prevail
- 6) If it is God’s will for it to happen why pray?
- 7) Why pray fervently? Elijah prayed 7 times!
- 8) When a tiny cloud appeared, he stopped.

#### C. Elijah. . . . . James 5:17-18

APPLICATION: Is faith or fervency more important in prayer?

James does not mention faith here, but he did before (**James 1:5-8**)