

ANOINTED HANDS - DOING THE WORKS OF GOD

INTRODUCTION

Every believer needs to believe and see themselves as someone that God wants to use. We need to recognize that our hands are to be an extension of His hands on the earth. The famous second century physician and philosopher 'Claudius Galenus' (Galen), called the hands of man as the "Instrument of Instruments." Throughout Scripture the hands are symbolic of one's actions (Job 9:30, Ps. 9:16, Isa. 1:15, 1 Tim. 2:8); The washing of one's hands was a symbol of innocence and of sanctification (Ps. 24:3-4, 26:6, 73:13, Isa. 51:16, Mat. 27:24, 1 Cor. 6:11); The right-hand had several meanings - to pledge fidelity and submission to your victors (2 Ki. 10:15, Ezra 10:19, Jer. 50:15, Ez. 17:18); was used in taking an oath (Gen. 14:22); symbolic of power & strength (Ps. 60:5, Is. 28:2); To kiss the hand was a sign of homage (1 Ki. 19:18, Job 31:27); Pouring water on one's hands was an act of service (2 Ki. 3:11); The hand of God is symbolic of His power, favor or punishment (Ezra 7:6, 28, Isa. 1:25, Lk. 1:66, Ex. 9:33, Judg. 2:15, Acts 13:11) and being positioned at the right hand was regarded as the chief place of honor and power (Ps. 45:9, 80:17, 110:1, Mat. 26:64).

I. WE WERE CREATED FOR GOOD WORKS

- A. ***"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:10***
- B. ***"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." Mathew 5:16***
- C. ***"Blessed be the Lord my Rock, Who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle." Psalms 144:1***
- D. ***"The Lord will perfect that which concerns me; Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever; Do not forsake the works of Your hands." Psalms 138:8***
- E. Proverbs gives us wisdom on the importance of using our hands in faithful service, hard work (See Pr. 6:10, 21:25, 24:33, 30:28).

II. KNOW YOUR SPIRITUAL DNA

- A. Each of us have a right to operate in the GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT (1 Cor. 12:7-11).
- B. Each of us have grace to operate in the GIFTS OF SERVICE given to us. So many people disqualify themselves because they don't have some great oracle gift or miraculous anointing to do miracles. But God sees and judges things differently.

“Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.”

Romans 12:6-8

- C. The Gifts of God mentioned in the bible are actually called "Charisma Gifts." "Charisma" means; a (divine) gratuity, i.e. deliverance (from danger or passion); (specially), a (spiritual) endowment, i.e. (subjectively) religious qualification, or (objectively) miraculous faculty, (free) gift.
- D. Use what we have – step out in faith.

“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifest grace of God.” 1 Peter 4:10 (See 1 Pet. 4:7-11)

III. "LAY HANDS" ON PEOPLE - WAYS WE CAN BE THE HANDS OF GOD

- A. Heal the sick

“ They will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” Mark 16:18

- B. Comfort, Encourage the broken & weak (the poor-the widow-the orphan-the forsaken)

“Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees.” Hebrews 12:12

“At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did. But it happened in those days that she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. And since Lydda was near Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, imploring him not to delay in coming to them. Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought him to the upper room. And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them.” Acts 9:36-39

- C. Bless people's lives

“Then little children were brought to Him that He might put His hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.” And He laid His hands on them and departed from there.” Mathew 19:13-15

- D. To Affirm, Commission someone into God's service

“Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away.” Acts 13:3

E. To Impart a Spiritual Gift

“Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.” 2 Timothy 1:6

F. To Receive the Holy Spirit

“And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.” Acts 19:6

G. To Fellowship and Accept one another

“...and when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.” Galatians 2:9

H. To Labor faithfully with your own hands

“And we labor, working with our own hands. Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure.” 1 Corinthians 4:12

I. To display the works of a Godly Woman (See Proverbs 31:13, 16, 19, 20, 31)

J. To bless The Lord in Praise & Prayer

“Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, And bless the Lord.” Psalms 134:2

“Let my prayer be set before You as incense, The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.” Psalms 141:2

“I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.” 1 Timothy 2:8