

“Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.”

(Hebrews 6:1–2, NKJV)

“...*Not laying again* the foundation of repentance from dead works...”

- Not laying again – “*to lay something down*”

The writer is saying that the elementary principles of the Christian faith should be laid down like a strong, immovable foundation as soon as we come to Christ

- Once this is set in place there should never be a need for it to be laid down again

These six truths should be so rock-solid in our lives that we are immovable and unshakable when it comes to the basic and essential doctrines of Christ

They are the fundamental bedrock of the Christian life

- Repentance from dead works
- Faith toward God
- The doctrine of baptisms
- The laying on of hands
- Resurrection from the dead
- The doctrine of eternal judgment

It bears repeating — every born-again person should be established in these six doctrines

So far, we've looked at:

Repentance from dead works

- You begin your Christian life with repentance, and you'll be repenting the rest of your life
- You must know what the Bible says about repentance

Faith toward God

- This is faith that is rooted in Christ and Christ alone
- This is so foundational that if you don't understand it, you may not even be saved
- It is an absolute cornerstone to your faith

The doctrine of baptisms

- Again, the word “baptisms” is plural
- There is one primary and essential baptism; then there are two other baptisms that are vital to your spiritual growth
- As a Christian, you need to understand all three

Now we're going to move on and study the next foundational doctrine listed in **Hebrews 6:1,2**

The laying on of hands

Impartation through the Hands – Both God and Man

From the very beginning of time God has used the laying on of hands for the supernatural transfer of power, blessing, spiritual gifts, and authority

- Hands have no magical qualities in and of themselves
- But God in His wisdom designed for hands to be the means of transfer for spiritual goods

This divine transaction occurs when a believer lays their hands on another person in faith and the Holy Spirit imparts whatever is needed to the recipient

- This includes healing
- Deliverance to the sick and oppressed
- And so much more

It's well established in scripture that God designed human hands to be His instruments through which blessings would be transferred to another person

But we can also see that this same principle is true concerning God's hands

- In the Old Testament, we read often about...
- *"The hand of the Lord"* coming upon someone

“Then the hand of the LORD came upon Elijah; and he girded up his loins and ran ahead of Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.”

(1 Kings 18:46, NKJV)

- Here we see that Elijah is empowered to outrun the king's chariot
- Here we see a divine impartation or transference from God to man taking place

Here we see that the Hand of the Lord would supernaturally impart something to a person or group of people

*“for the LORD your God dried up the waters of the Jordan before you until you had crossed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red Sea, which He dried up before us until we had crossed over, that all the peoples of the earth may **know the hand of the LORD**, that it is mighty, that you may fear the LORD your God forever.”*” **(Joshua 4:23–24, NKJV)**

*“this Ezra came up from Babylon; and he was a skilled scribe in the Law of Moses, which the LORD God of Israel had given. The king granted him all his request, according to **the hand of the LORD** his God upon him.”* **(Ezra 7:6, NKJV)**

*“and has extended mercy to me before the king and his counselors, and before all the king’s mighty princes. So I was encouraged, as **the hand of the LORD** my God was upon me; and I gathered leading men of Israel to go up with me.”*

(Ezra 7:28, NKJV)

On the flip side, His Hand also sometimes brought judgment to those who opposed His ways and righteous plan

“For indeed the hand of the LORD was against them, to destroy them from the midst of the camp until they were consumed.”

(Deuteronomy 2:15, NKJV)

“Wherever they went out, the hand of the LORD was against them for calamity, as the LORD had said, and as the LORD had sworn to them. And they were greatly distressed.”

(Judges 2:15, NKJV)

“But the hand of the LORD was heavy on the people of Ashdod, and He ravaged them and struck them with tumors, both Ashdod and its territory.” (1 Samuel 5:6, NKJV)

We still use this terminology today when we say, *“I really see God’s hand on the person”*

- What do we mean when we make such statements?
- It normally means we see a demonstration of some part of God’s nature or power on someone
- God has laid His hand on him or her and imparted special gifts or abilities

Where the hand of God rests on a person or particular group of people and something of a divine nature happens

The Bible establishes this doctrine of the laying on hands from the very beginning and throughout the Old Testament

Adam and Eve took both the fruit of the *Tree of Life*, as well as the *Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil* with their hands

- Thus the Last Adam had His hands nailed to a tree

The hand's of Cain wrung the blood of Abel from his body into the ground

- Conversely, the blood flowed from the hands of Jesus onto the same earth
- His blood now cries out better things than that of Abel's

“to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.”

(Hebrews 12:24, NKJV)

We see this doctrine when Isaac wanted to pass his blessing on to Jacob

“Isaac said to Jacob, “Please come near, that I may feel you, my son, whether you are really my son Esau or not.” So Jacob went near to Isaac his father, and he felt him and said, “The voice is Jacob’s voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.” And he did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau’s hands; so he blessed him.

Then he said, “Are you really my son Esau?” He said, “I am.” He said, “Bring it near to me, and I will eat of my son’s game, so that my soul may bless you.” So he brought it near to him, and he ate; and he brought him wine, and he drank. Then his father Isaac said to him, “Come near now and kiss me, my son.” And he came near and kissed him; and he smelled the smell of his clothing, and blessed him and said: “Surely, the smell of my son Is like the smell of a field Which the LORD has blessed. Therefore may God give you Of the dew of heaven, Of the fatness of the earth, And plenty of grain and wine. Let peoples serve you, And nations bow down to you. Be master over your brethren, And let your mother’s sons bow down to you. Cursed be everyone who curses you, And blessed be those who bless you!” (Genesis 27:21–29, NKJV)

- The blessing would literally pass through Isaac’s hands upon Jacob
- He understood that his hands were the vehicle of blessing
- An inheritance of favor and increase that Jacob would walk in from that day forward

We see Jacob (*Israel*) transfer the same blessing to his family

- He asked Joseph to bring his grandsons Manassah and Ephraim to his bedside – **Genesis 48:13-20**
- Israel didn’t just speak words of blessing over his grandsons
- He understood that for the blessing to be imparted he needed to lay his hands upon them
- The blessing would be passed through his hands

We see this in the ordination of Aaron and his sons

– Exodus 28, 29

- The priestly garments were placed upon Aaron and his sons
- Moses anointed them with oil and placed his hands upon them
- Not only was the call of God acknowledged it was awakened
- In an instant, the power of God was activated in their lives
- Enabling them to fulfill their priestly office
- Moses understood that his hands were the conduit through which the anointing would pass from one leader to another

We also see this doctrine demonstrated with Moses and Joshua

“And the LORD said to Moses: “Take Joshua the son of Nun with you, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him;”

(Numbers 27:18, NKJV)

- God is saying that Moses would have to get his hands on Joshua if the anointing was going to be passed on to him
- His hands were the channel through which this transfer will take place

“Now Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him; so the children of Israel heeded him, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses.”

(Deuteronomy 34:9, NKJV)

“More than 2,000 years after Cain and Abel, the Lord masterfully wove the inescapable truth about His power flowing through hands into the fabric of the priestly system. Throughout Scripture, the number 60 points to the reality of God’s eternal covenant both embracing and surrounding those receiving it. Thus, the priestly blessing consists of exactly 60 letters. Furthermore, the priests had to employ both hands to impart this blessing. They used two hands because each hand contains 30 bones for a total of 60. Their hands served as conduits through which God manifested the power of His eternal covenant.”

– Keith Trump, Living Truth Church (Carmel Indiana)

The Laying On of Hands in Jesus’ Ministry

“When the sun was setting, all those who had any that were sick with various diseases brought them to Him; and He laid His hands on every one of them and healed them.”

(Luke 4:40, NKJV)

- This was a big event
- The entire village converged on the place where Jesus was
- It was a large crowd
- The Bible says He laid His hands on every single one who needed a healing touch

“Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them.” (Mark 6:5, NKJV)

- Even though Jesus used different means to heal such as the spoken word – **Matthew 8:5-13, 15:21-28**
- Jesus knew that a transfer of power would take place *primarily* through the laying on of hands

Jesus came to His hometown with the same healing power He had demonstrated everywhere He went

- However, they were full of doubt and unbelief
- They had known Jesus His whole life
- Their familiarity with Him made it difficult for them to receive what He had to offer
- All He could do was heal a few *sick* people
- Sick – *extremely ill, even comatose*

He couldn't find conscious people to heal so he went to those who were unconscious

- They couldn't doubt
- How did He heal them? – *He laid His hands on them*

This happened again and again in Jesus' Ministry

In **Matthew 8:3**, *Jesus laid His hands on a man and healed him*

In **Matthew 8:15**, *Jesus laid His hands on Peter's mother-in-law and healed her*

In *Matthew 20:34*, Jesus laid His hands on blind people — and as healing power passed through His hands into them, they were healed

In *Mark 1:41*, as Jesus laid His hands on a leper, power passed through His hands, and the leper was cleansed

In *Mark 8:22*, Jesus again laid His hands on a blind man. Healing power passed through His hands, and the blind man was healed

In *Matthew 17:7*, Jesus laid His hands on the apostles and divinely imparted encouragement to them.

This was also the pattern in the Book of Acts

“Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them.” (Acts 6:3–6, NKJV)

- Notice the apostles didn’t just pray and acknowledge their positions as deacons
- They knew that needed to lay their hands upon them

“Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, “Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away.”

(Acts 13:1–3, NKJV)

- The prophets and teachers knew that it was essential to get their hands on the two men of God
- Through the laying on of hands, there would be a transference of power
- The calling, anointing, gifting, and authority, and spiritual power was imparted

In the same way, God’s spiritual blessings can be transferred through the hands of believers to others today

“Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.” **(Acts 8:14–17, NKJV)**

- Notice they prayed for them to receive the Holy spirit
- They didn’t receive Him until they laid their hands on them

“And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized.”
(Acts 9:17–18, NKJV)

- Through the laying on of hands, Paul receives his sight back and is filled with the Holy Spirit

The Legendary Apostle Paul follows the same pattern in his ministry

“When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.” (Acts 19:5–6, NKJV)

“Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.”

(1 Timothy 4:14, NKJV)

- The gift that was passed on to you through *hands*
- Paul understood that through his *hands*, spiritual gifts had been passed into Timothy’s life

“For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established—” (Romans 1:11, NKJV)

- Paul understood that he physically needed to be with them so he could lay his hands upon them
- Confident that through his hands they would receive divine impartation

Your Hands are God’s Instruments

“And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 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 16:17–18, NKJV)

- Every single believer is ordained to lay their hands on the sick
- And they will recover
- Through your hands, God will impart His blessing, power, healing, and deliverance

Get your hands out of your pockets and start laying them on people!

- You will be amazed at the opportunities that come your way to transfer His blessings to others

Imparting the baptism of the Holy Spirit, healing the sick, deliverance for the oppressed, and an increase of financial blessing, anointings to carry out a specific task, or any other spiritual blessings God is eager to pass on to those who believe