

“Walking in Wisdom” Lesson 8

Main Text: James 5:13-20

Lesson Outline:

1. **vv. 13-14: Meeting the needs of the church**
 - See 1st Thessalonians 5:16-18, John 14:12-14
2. **vv. 16-18: Fervent prayer of the righteous avails much**
 - Fervent means with consistency and sincerity.
 - The righteous are those who have trusted in Christ
 - The word avails is translated from the Greek word *ischuo*, which means “is powerful” or “is effective”
 - Elijah is an example of how an imperfect person could be effective through prayer.
 - **Elijah wasn’t powerful on his own strength.**
3. **vv. 19-20: Fighting for the backslidden believer**
 - Wanders (Greek word *planao*) implies drifting, straying, or being led astray – usually slowly and subtly
 - **Aligning with the context of James, the phrase *saves a soul from death* could to a physical death that sin often leads to, or a dead, ineffective faith.**

BRIEF REVIEW

- **Chapter 1:** Seek God for Wisdom; Be doers of the Word.
- **Chapter 2** – Do not show partiality; Faith without works is dead (not profitable).
- **Chapter 3** – Use words to build up, not destroy. Wisdom that comes from above is different than earthly wisdom (3:17)
- **Chapter 4** – Friendship with the world is enmity with God (4:4). The remedy for the conflict caused by worldly desires is to humble ourselves (4:10)
- **Chapter 5** – Do not misuse wealth. Have the right eternal priorities. Use your words for good – pray for each other, confess sin, and restore those who have wandered from the truth.

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