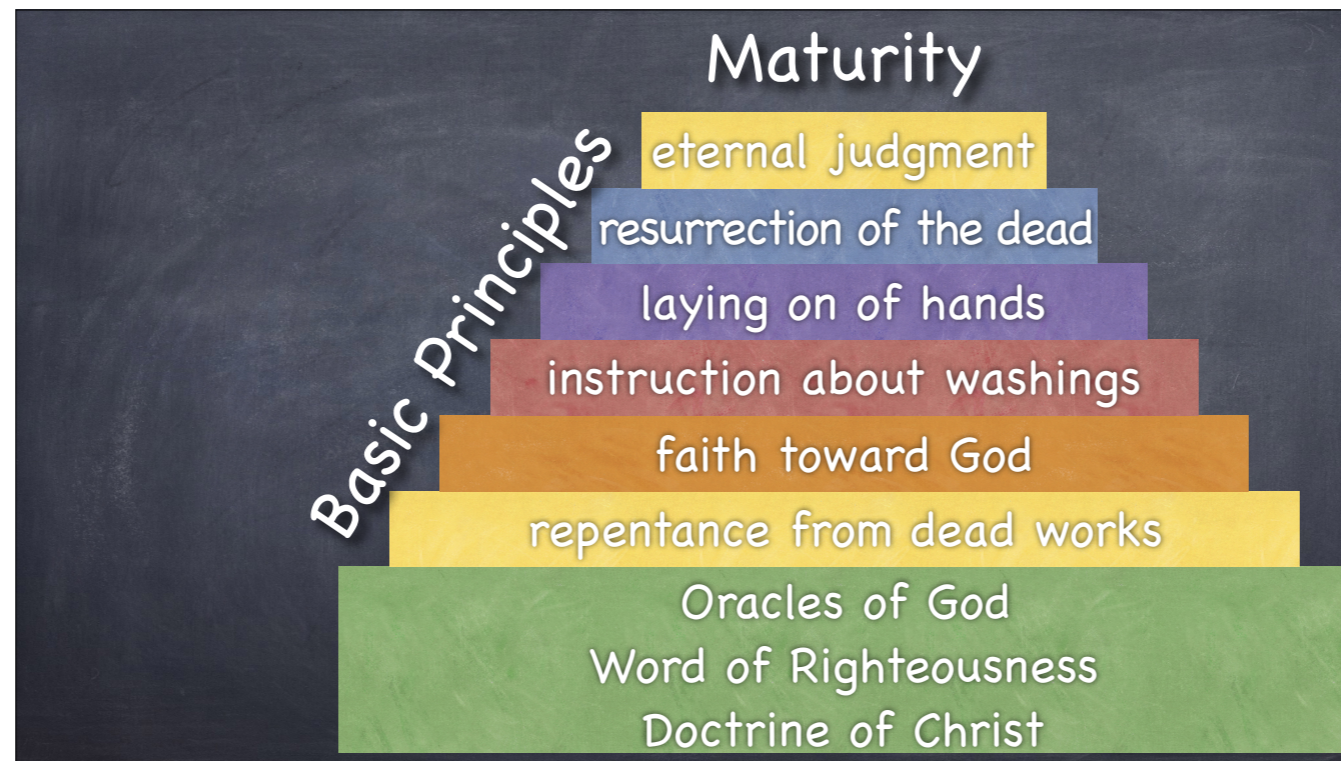




- Laying on of Hands
- Appreciate your patience...



- Laying on of hands
 - Basic, fundamental, principle
 - Needed for maturity
- Must not dismiss
 - on par with faith and baptism
 - some dismiss (minimize) as cultural or societal custom



- laying on of hands
 - All the others we're pretty comfortable with
 - This only comes up in very specific situations, seldom, and we rush over it quickly
- I've been dreading this lesson...
 - What am I supposed to say???
- Remember context of book: written to former Jews
 - Look at how OT uses laying on of hands

Laying on of Hands

in the Old Testament

- Why Does it Matter?
 - It's really not a scary concept.



- Blessing (children)



- Commission (Joshua to lead Israel)



- Dedication (of Levites to serve in Tabernacle)



- Sin offering: scapegoat bears sin of Israel (all!)



- Did anything actually, physically pass through the hands?
- No.

Laying on of Hands

in the New Testament

- What do we see in the New Testament?
- Jesus laying on hands
- Christians laying on hands
 - Apostles
 - Others
 - Timothy
 - Ananias
 - Elders
 - Prophets and Teachers

Laying on of Hands

Jesus

- Jesus



- Healing
- Luke 4:40 (ESV) 40 Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them.



- Blessing
 - Matthew 19:13-15 (ESV) 13 Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, 14 but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." 15 And he laid his hands on them and went away.

Laying on of Hands

Saints

- Christians

Saints

Gifts of the Spirit

Acts 19:1-7, NT p. 238

Acts 8:4-24, NT p. 216-217

- Gifts of the Spirit
 - Miraculous
 - Apostles only

Saints

Healing

- Healing

Saints

Healing

Mark 16:17-18, NT p. 94

And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name ... they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

- Purpose: Signs
 - Mark 16:17-18 (ESV) 17 And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; 18 they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

Saints

Healing

Acts 9:12, 17-19, NT p. 218-219

And laying his hands on him ... "so that you may
regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit".

- Ananias on Paul: regain sight
 - Acts 9:12 (ESV) 12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight."

Saints

Healing

Acts 9:12, 17-19, NT p. 218-219

And laying his hands on him ... "so that you may
regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit".

- Acts 9:17-19 (ESV) 17 So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; 19 and taking food, he was strengthened.

Saints

Healing

Acts 9:12, 17-19, NT p. 218-219

And laying his hands on him ... "so that you may
regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit".

- healing = regain sight
- AND...

Saints

Healing

Acts 9:12, 17-19, NT p. 218-219

has sent me

And laying his hands on him ... "so that you may
regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit".

- filled with the Holy Spirit.
 - Jesus hadn't said this to Ananias (12) ... so why did Ananias say it Saul?
 - (Lenski's Commentary on the New Testament) And he is to be filled with the Holy Spirit, **this supreme gift is to be bestowed upon him by means of the baptism that followed immediately.** There is no indication in any of the three records or in other references to Saul's conversion that he received charismatic gifts; we have no right to assume that he did. **The spiritual power of the Spirit filled Saul, and at this moment that means more than any charismatic gifts.**

Saints

Healing

Acts 9:12, 17-19, NT p. 218-219

has sent me

And laying his hands on him ... "so that you may
regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit".

- Why was it important for Saul that Ananias (as commanded by Jesus) lay hands on Saul?
 - Acts 9:5-6 (ESV) 5 And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 6 But rise and enter the city, and **you will be told what you are to do.**"

Saints

Healing

Acts 9:12, 17-19, NT p. 218-219

has sent me

And laying his hands on him ... "so that you may
regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit".

- Acts 22:16 (ESV) 16 And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.'
- Acts 2:38 (ESV) And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Saints

Healing

Acts 9:12, 17-19, NT p. 218-219

has sent me

And laying his hands on him ... "so that you may
regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit".

- Acts 5:32 (ESV) 32 And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

Saints

Healing

Acts 9:12, 17-19, NT p. 218-219

And laying his hands on him ... "so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit".

- When would Paul receive Holy Spirit like other Apostles?
 - Last week:
 - Only Apostles had ability to lay on hands to give the gifts of the Spirit.
 - Paul, an Apostle, did it in Ephesus (Acts 19)

Saints

Healing

Acts 9:12, 17-19, NT p. 218-219

And laying his hands on him ... "so that you may
regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit".

- Galatians 1:15-19 (ESV) 15 But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace, 16 was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone; 17 nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. 18 Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and remained with him fifteen days. 19 But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

Saints

Healing

Acts 28:8, NT p. 256

It happened that the father of Publius lay sick with fever and dysentery. And Paul visited him and prayed, and putting his hands on him, healed him.

- Paul on father of Publius (chief man on Malta): prayed and putting hands on - healed
 - Acts 28:8 (ESV) 8 It happened that the father of Publius lay sick with fever and dysentery. And Paul visited him and prayed, and putting his hands on him, healed him.

Saints

Healing

Acts 19:11-12, NT p. 239

And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, so that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were carried away to the sick, and their diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them.

- Laying on of hands not necessary
 - Acts 19:11-12 (ESV) 11 And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, 12 so that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were carried away to the sick, and their diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them.



- Did healing actually, physically pass through the hands?
- No.
- But was this important?
 - Of course to those healed.
 - But more importantly for the sign.

Saints

Commission

- Commission
 - Or maybe dedication?

Saints

Commission

Acts 6:6, NT p. 212

These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

- Men Chosen to Serve
 - Acts 6:3-6 (ESV) 3 Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. 4 But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” 5 And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. 6 **These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.**

Saints

Commission

Acts 6:6, NT p. 212

These they set before the apostles, and
they prayed and laid their hands on them.

- **6 These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.**
- Why set before Apostles?
 - approval? confirm the choice of the congregation?

Saints

Commission

Acts 6:6, NT p. 212

These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

- “We will APPOINT”
 - Acts 6:3 (ESV) Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty.
 - Thayer: to set, place, put
 - to set one over a thing (in charge of it)
 - to appoint one to administer an office

Saints

Commission

Acts 6:6, NT p. 212

These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

- (Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary) usually signifies **“to appoint a person to a position.”**
 - **Not a formal ecclesiastical ordination is in view, but the “appointment,” for the recognition of the churches, of those who had already been raised up and qualified by the Holy Spirit, and had given evidence of this in their life and service (see No. 11).** It is used of the priests of old, Heb. 5:1; 7:28; 8:3 (rv, “appointed”). See conduct, make, ordain, set.

Saints

Commission

Acts 6:6, NT p. 212

These they set before the apostles, and
they prayed and laid their hands on them.

- (Apologetics Study Bible Notes) it indicated the recognition that God called particular people for a particular purpose and served to confirm them in their task.

Saints

Commission

Acts 6:6, NT p. 212

These they set before the apostles, and
they prayed and laid their hands on them.

- (Lenski's Commentary on the New Testament) The Lord's blessing was invoked upon the elected men, and the hands were laid on them in this Old Testament symbolical act, which transferred the office with its duties and privileges and pictured the bestowal of the divine blessings that were necessary for this important work.

Saints

Commission

Acts 6:6, NT p. 212

These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

- Why important?
 - Church was being divided
 - Disunity
 - grumbling
- Men who solved this needed the saints to know they are approved and submit themselves to them.

Saints

Commission

Acts 13:2-3, NT p. 226

The Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

- Barnabas and Saul on First Journey
 - Acts 13:1-3 (ESV) 1 Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "**Set apart for me** Barnabas and Saul for **the work to which I have called them.**" 3 Then after fasting and praying they **laid their hands on them** and sent them off.

Saints

Commission

Acts 13:2-3, NT p. 226

The Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

- Set Apart
 - Thayer
 - to mark off from others by boundaries, to limit, to separate
 - in a good sense: to appoint, set apart for some purpose
 - (CWSB Dictionary) to separate, select to some office or work (Acts 13:2; Rom. 1:1; Gal. 1:15)

Saints

Commission

Acts 13:2-3, NT p. 226

The Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

- (MED) *aphorizō* is also used to designate the setting apart of a person for a specific task. Paul was "set part for the gospel of God" (Rom. 1:1; cf. Gal. 1:5, where he writes that God "set [him] apart from birth"). Similarly, Paul and Barnabas are set apart for the work of evangelism (Acts 13:2). In Antioch Peter separated himself from the Gentiles when a Jewish party from James arrived, thus incurring Paul's displeasure (Gal. 2:12).
 - Is this like Levites?

Saints

Commission

Acts 13:2-3, NT p. 226

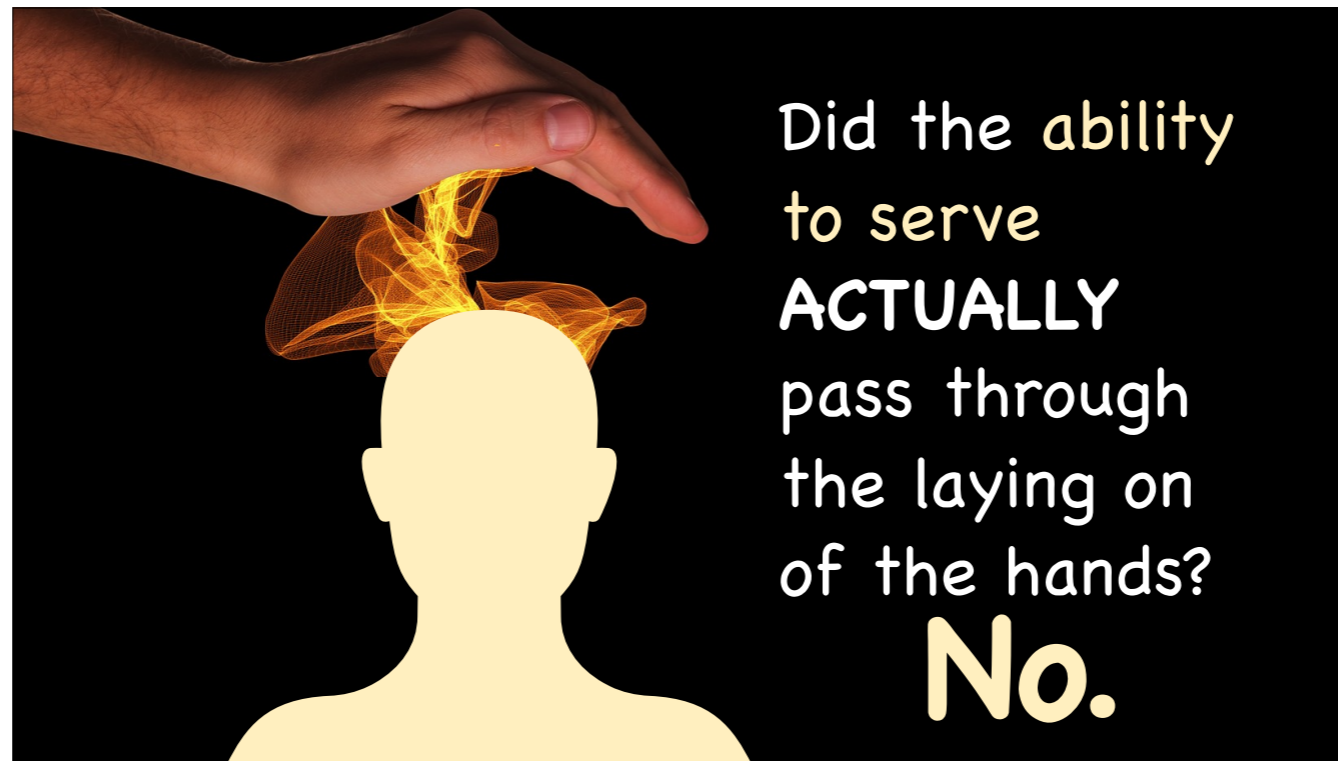
The Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

- Acts 14:26 (ESV) and from there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had fulfilled.

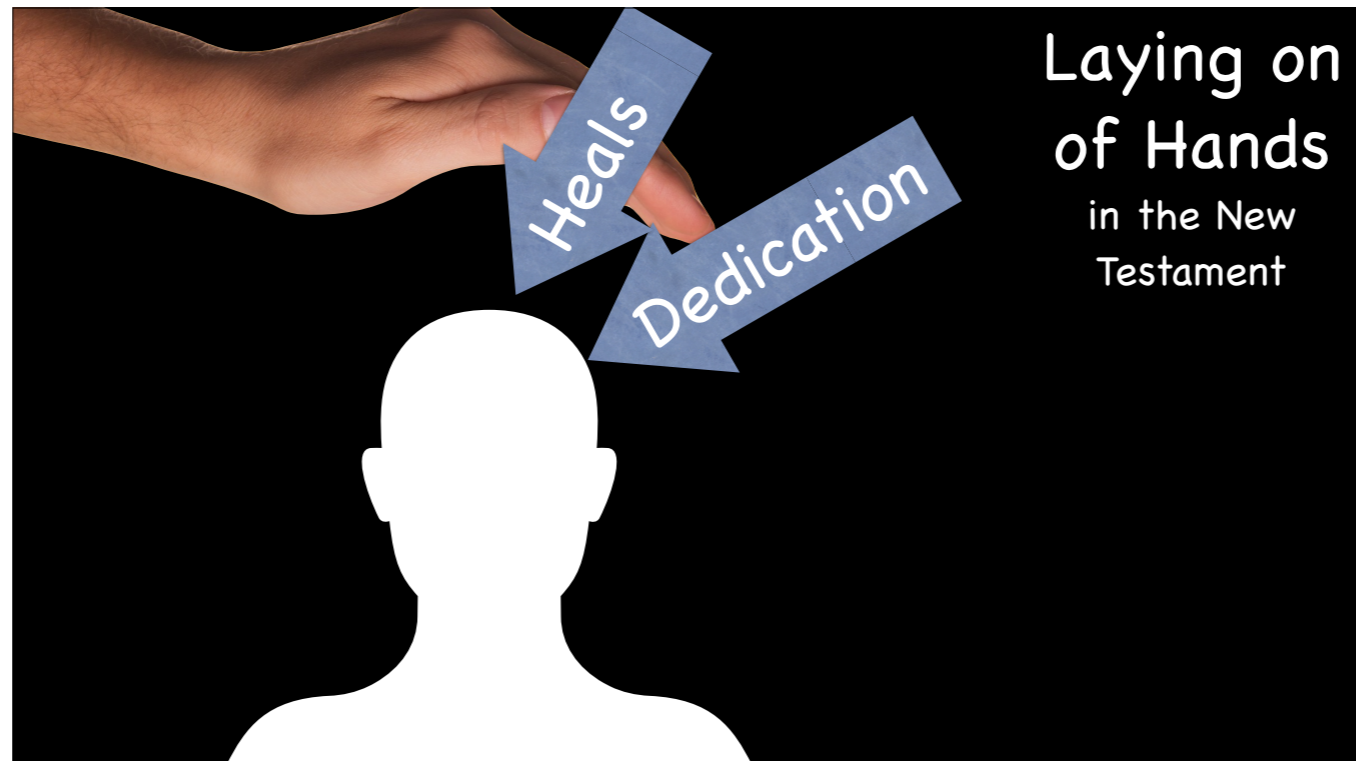
Saints

Commission

- Both 7 servants and Saul and Barnabas were chosen
 - By congregation... set before Apostles
 - By God... set apart and called



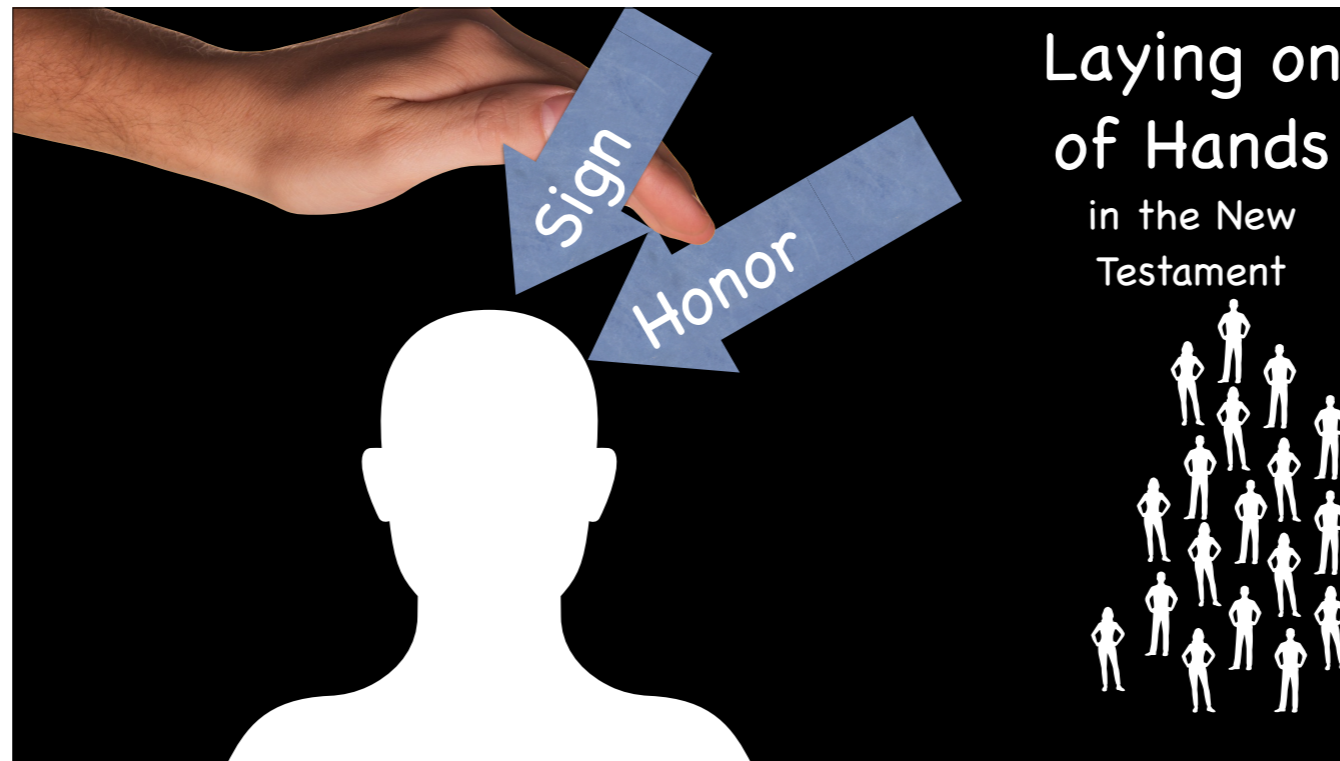
- Did ability to serve actually, physically pass through the hands?
- No.
- But was this important?
 - Approval of Apostles for important work to be done. Congregation accepts their work and service; submits
 - Confidence and courage for Barnabas and Saul
 - know they have been chosen
 - know work they must do



- What it does for the one who has hands laid on him?
 - 1. Heals
 - 2. Dedication
 - It's MY job (not someone else's job)
 - If it is to be, it is up to me.



- 3. Determination
 - importance of task/service
 - I MUST be busy at this work
- 4. Confidence
 - approved by God
 - I'm doing what God wants me to do.



- What it does for the one those who see it happen?
 - 1. Sign
 - This person is approved of God
 - Listen to words of God
 - 2. Honor
 - importance of task/service/role



- 3. Confidence in that one
 - approved by God
- 4. Submission
 - they have a job to do: obey?
 - help or hinder?

**We implore you on
behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.**

2 Corinthians 5:20

Next Week: Laying Hands in the NT
Jesus: Salvation

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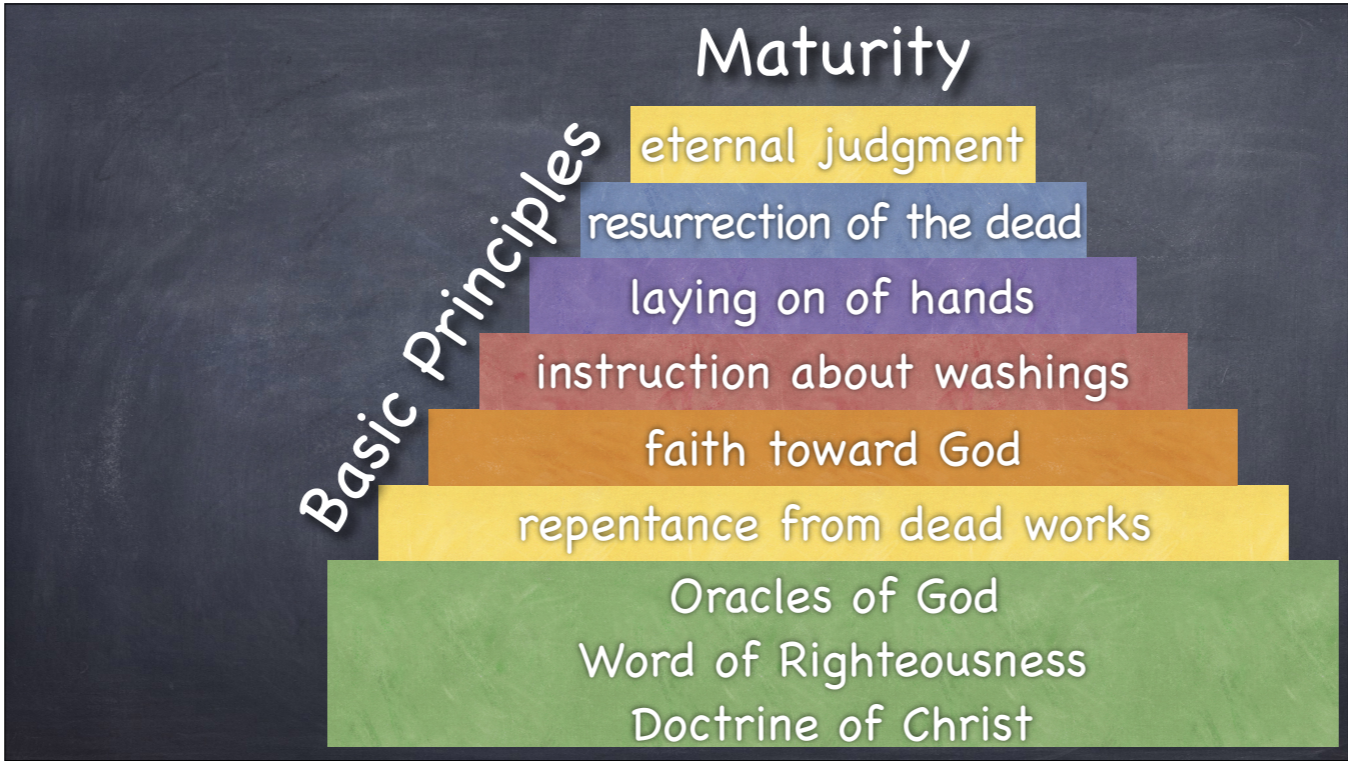
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- text

Laying on of Hands in the New Testament - 2

Hebrews 6:2

Synopsis: Laying on of Hands by saints for healing and commission.

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"Let all that you do be done with love."