



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

Laying on of Hands

in the Old Testament



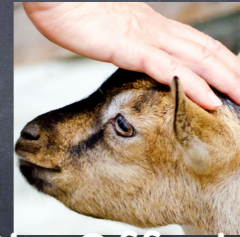
Blessing



Commission



Dedication



Sin Offering

- OT: Blessing, Commission to Lead; Dedication to Service; Sin Offering

Laying on of Hands

Jesus



Healing



Blessing

- Jesus: Healing; Blessing

Laying on of Hands

Saints

Gifts of
the Spirit

(Apostles Only)

Healing

Commission

- Saints
 - Apostles: gifts of the Spirit
 - Healing
 - Commission



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



- Healing
- Dedication
- Determination
- Confidence



- Sign
- Honor
- Confidence
- Submission

Saints

The Example of Timothy

- Timothy
- Provides a great example of various aspects of laying on of hands
- And raises more questions

Saints

The Example of Timothy

1 Timothy 4:14, NT p. 362

Do not neglect the gift you have, which
was given you by prophecy when the
council of elders laid their hands on you.

- 1 Timothy 4:14 (ESV) 14 Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you.

Saints

The Example of Timothy

1 Timothy 4:14, NT p. 362

Do not neglect the gift you have, which
was given you by prophecy when the
council of elders laid their hands on you.

- Do not neglect
 - Context: Paul: “until I come... devote yourself to”
 - public reading of Scripture
 - exhortation
 - teaching
 - do not neglect gift
 - Practice these things
 - Immerse yourself in them
 - All see progress

Saints

The Example of Timothy

1 Timothy 4:14, NT p. 362

Do not neglect the gift you have, which
was given you by prophecy when the
council of elders laid their hands on you.

- 1 Timothy 4:14 (ESV) 14 Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you.
 - Gift you have
 - Given by prophecy
 - **Council of elders (presbytery)**

Saints

The Example of Timothy

1 Timothy 4:14, NT p. 362

Do not neglect the gift you have, which
was given you by prophecy when the
council of elders laid their hands on you.

- What is this gift given by elders?
 - Cannot be one of the gifts of the Spirit - only Apostles could do this

Saints

Gifts may be

miraculous abilities

1 Corinthians 12:4-11



NT p. 298

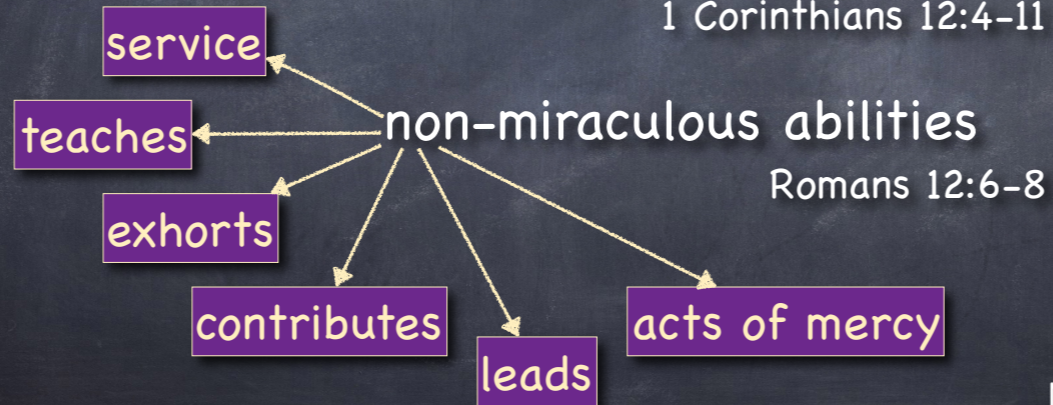
- miraculous - 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
 - Wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing
 - miracles, prophecy
 - distinguish spirits
 - tongues, interpretation

Saints

Gifts may be

miraculous abilities

1 Corinthians 12:4-11



NT p. 275-276

- non-miraculous: Romans 12:6-8
 - Prophecy (seems miraculous (making separations that God doesn't make?))
 - service, teaches, exhorts
 - contributes, leads
 - acts of mercy

Saints

The Example of Timothy

1 Timothy 4:14, NT p. 362

Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you.

- Could it be the role he has as a teacher?
 - Commission
 - It would fit context
 - Set example
 - Devote to reading, exhortation, teaching
 - Progress
 - Keep close watch on self and teaching
 - Persist

Saints

The Example of Timothy

1 Timothy 4:14, NT p. 362

Do not neglect the gift you have, which
was given you by prophecy when the
council of elders laid their hands on you.

- Could it be when he left Lystra with Paul to be a fellow worker?
 - Dedication

Saints

The Example of Timothy

2 Timothy 1:6, NT p. 366

For this reason I remind you to fan into
flame the gift of God, which is in you
through the laying on of my hands,

- 2 Timothy 1:6-7 (ESV) 6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of **my** hands, 7 for God gave **us** a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Saints

The Example of Timothy

2 Timothy 1:6, NT p. 366

For this reason I remind you to fan into
flame the gift of God, which is in you
through the laying on of my hands,

- Paul laid hands on Timothy
- Gift of God
 - Same as gift of the Spirit, a specific one?

Saints

The Example of Timothy

2 Timothy 1:6, NT p. 366

For this reason I remind you to fan into
flame the gift of God, which is in you
through the laying on of my hands,

- fan into flame
 - God's gifts don't overpower the will of the individual (they can be resisted, and neglected)
- spirit of power, love, self-control
 - vs. 5: your sincere faith

Saints

The Example of Timothy

1 Timothy 5:22, NT p. 363

Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands,
nor take part in the sins of others; keep
yourself pure.

- 1 Timothy 5:22 (ESV) 22 Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, nor take part in the sins of others; keep yourself pure.

Saints

The Example of Timothy

1 Timothy 5:22, NT p. 363

Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands,
nor take part in the sins of others; keep
yourself pure.

- Context: 1 Timothy 5:17-25 (ESV)
 - 17-19: Let the elders who rule well
 - 20 As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest may stand in fear.
 - 21: keep these rules without prejudging, doing nothing from partiality.

Saints

The Example of Timothy

1 Timothy 5:22, NT p. 363

Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands,
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- 22 Do not be hasty
 - in the laying on of hands,
 - nor take part in the sins of others;
 - keep yourself pure.

Saints

The Example of Timothy

1 Timothy 5:22, NT p. 363

Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands,
nor take part in the sins of others; keep
yourself pure.

- 23 (No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.)
- 24 The sins of some people are conspicuous, going before them to judgment, but the sins of others appear later
- 25 So also good works are conspicuous, and even those that are not cannot remain hidden.

Saints

The Example of Timothy

1 Timothy 5:22, NT p. 363

Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands,
nor take part in the sins of others; keep
yourself pure.

- Why did Timothy lay hands on others?
 - Couldn't be to give gifts of the Holy Spirit (not an apostle)

Saints

The Example of Timothy

1 Timothy 5:22, NT p. 363

Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands,
nor take part in the sins of others; keep
yourself pure.

- Commission elders (common supposition from context)
 - as preacher it was Timothy's job to appoint elders?
 - I don't like this at all. No other indication that an evangelist had this duty.
 - Or as apostolic representative of Paul Timothy was to appoint elders
- Identify with them (connect with "sins of others")

Saints

The Example of Timothy

Elders on Timothy

Gift

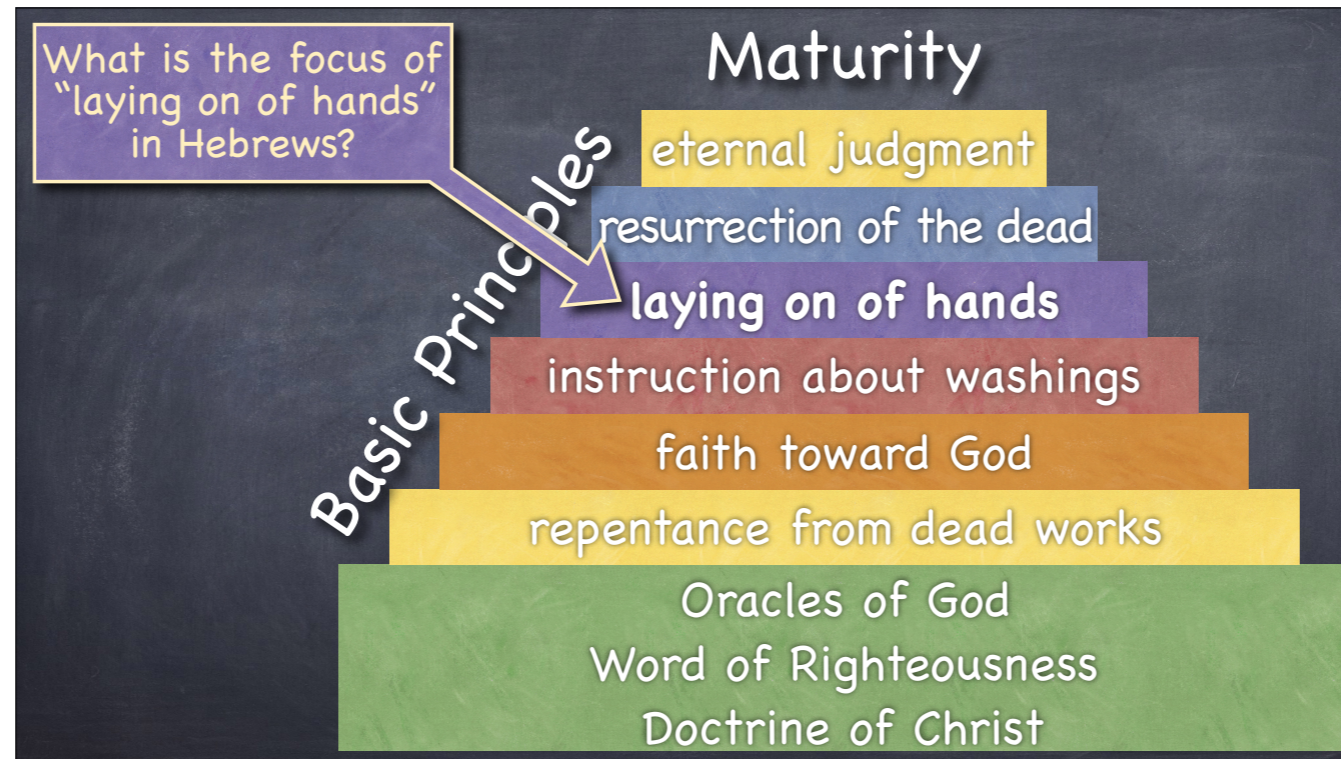
Paul on Timothy

Gift of God

Timothy on ???

???

- Elders laid hands on Timothy to give gift (through prophecy)
- Paul laid hands on Timothy to give gift of God.
 - Some suggest that these two happened at the same time: Paul imparting gifts, Elders approving. (Greek grammar)
- Timothy laid hands on others (but why???)
 - appoint elders?
 - approval?



- What is the focus of "laying on of hands" in Hebrews?
- 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

Old Testament	Jesus	Apostles	Elders	Prophets & Teachers	Saints
Blessing 	Blessing	Gifts of the Holy Spirit	Gift	Commission	Healing
Commission	Healing	Healing			Timothy laying on hands
Dedication		Commission			
Sin Offering		Gift of God			

- Based on what we've seen, which of these can we eliminate?
- It must be **Foundational** to our **maturity**
 - OT
 - Blessing from parent to child? No.

Laying on of Hands

Old Testament	Jesus	Apostles	Elders	Prophets & Teachers	Saints
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Dedication		Commission			
Sin Offering		Gift of God			

- Sin offering? No.
 - We don't lay hands on a scapegoat!
 - Jesus provided salvation...
 - Covered: repentance, faith, baptism!

Laying on of Hands

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Dedication		Commission			
Sacrifices		Gift of God			

- Commission to lead God's people?
 - Directed by God
- Dedication to serve?
 - Directed by God

Laying on of Hands

Old Testament	Jesus	Apostles	Elders	Prophets & Teachers	Saints
Blessing 	Blessing 	Gifts of the Holy Spirit	Gift	Commission	Healing
Commission	Healing 	Healing			Timothy laying on hands
Dedication		Commission			
Sacrifices 		Gift of God			








- Jesus?
 - Nope... We don't compare to Him.
 - Not blessing children
 - Nor healing the sick.

Laying on of Hands

Old Testament	Jesus	Apostles	Elders	Prophets & Teachers	Saints
Blessing 	Blessing 	Gifts of the Holy Spirit 	Gift	Commission	Healing
Commission	Healing 	Healing			Timothy laying on hands
Dedication		Commission			
Sacrificial Offerings 		Gift of God			









- Apostles
 - Gifts of the Holy Spirit
 - only through Apostles' hands
 - Could be instructing/reminding them of the purpose and usefulness of the gifts
 - Paul, in more detail, in Corinthians
 - But not everyone received a gift, and gifts were temporary signs

Laying on of Hands

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Dedication		Commission			
Spiritual Offerings 		Gift of God 			









- Healing
 - Could be, but temporary also
- Commission
 - 6 men to a specific task in serving local church
- Gift of God
 - Paul to Timothy... but don't know? Spiritual gift?

Laying on of Hands

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Spiritual Offerings 		Gift of God 			











- Elders
 - Gift given through prophecy
 - Not a spiritual gift (only apostles)
 - We don't have the prophecy...
 - Elders lay hands on saints!

Laying on of Hands

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Dedication		Commission			
Sacrifice 		Gift of God 			

- Prophets and Teachers
 - Commission
 - Barnabas and Saul to go teach
 - fasting and prayer
 - Holy Spirit called
 - We won't have this happen directly.

Laying on of Hands

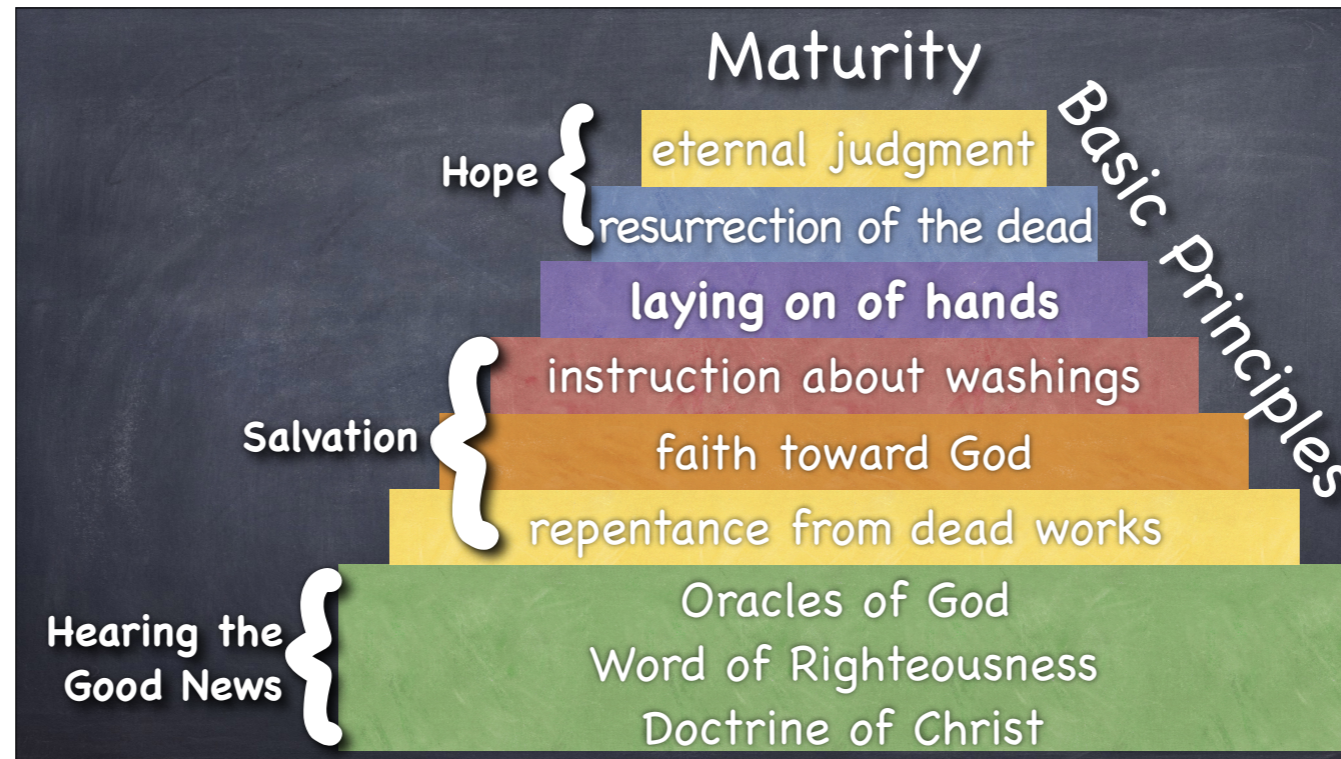
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Sacrifice Offerings 		Gift of God 			

- Saints
 - Healing
 - gift only given through Apostles
 - used as a sign
 - Could be what Hebrews refers to?
 - Timothy
 - not do it in haste
 - not sure of the purpose.

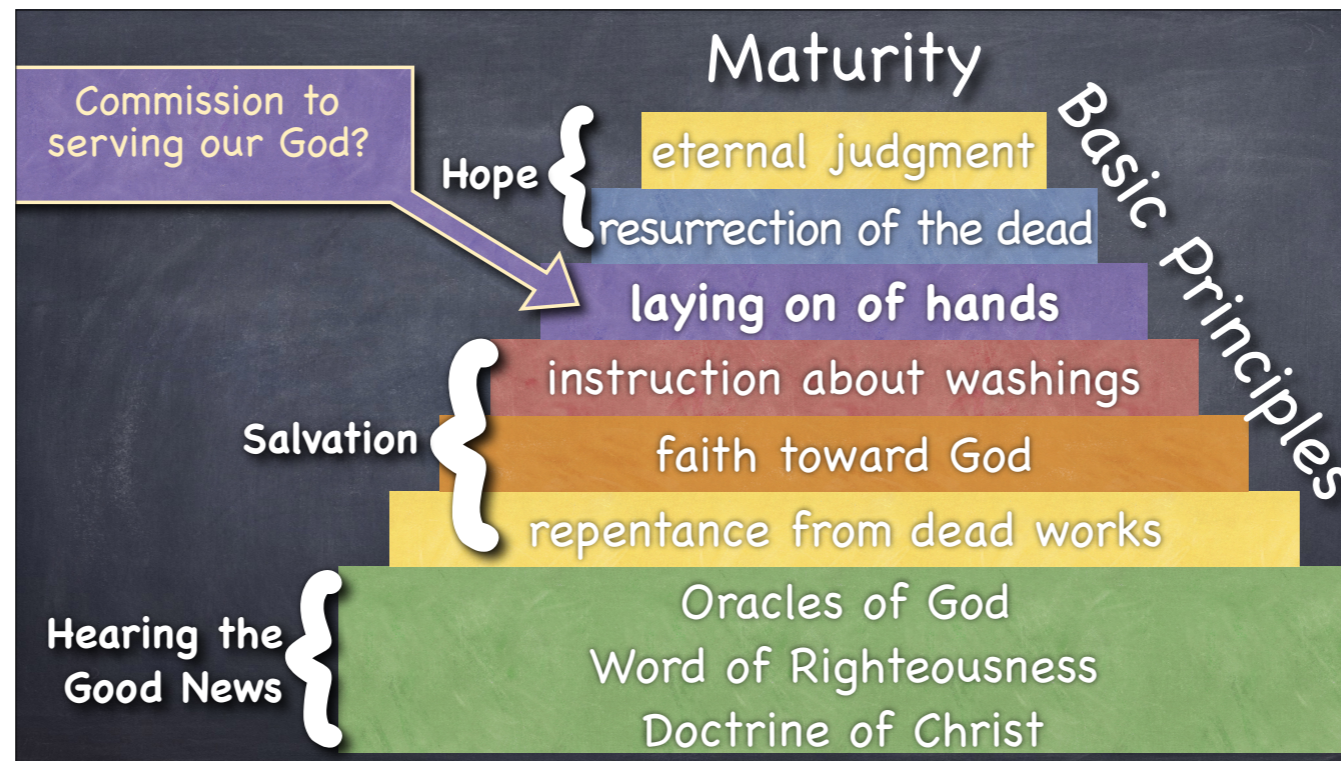
Laying on of Hands

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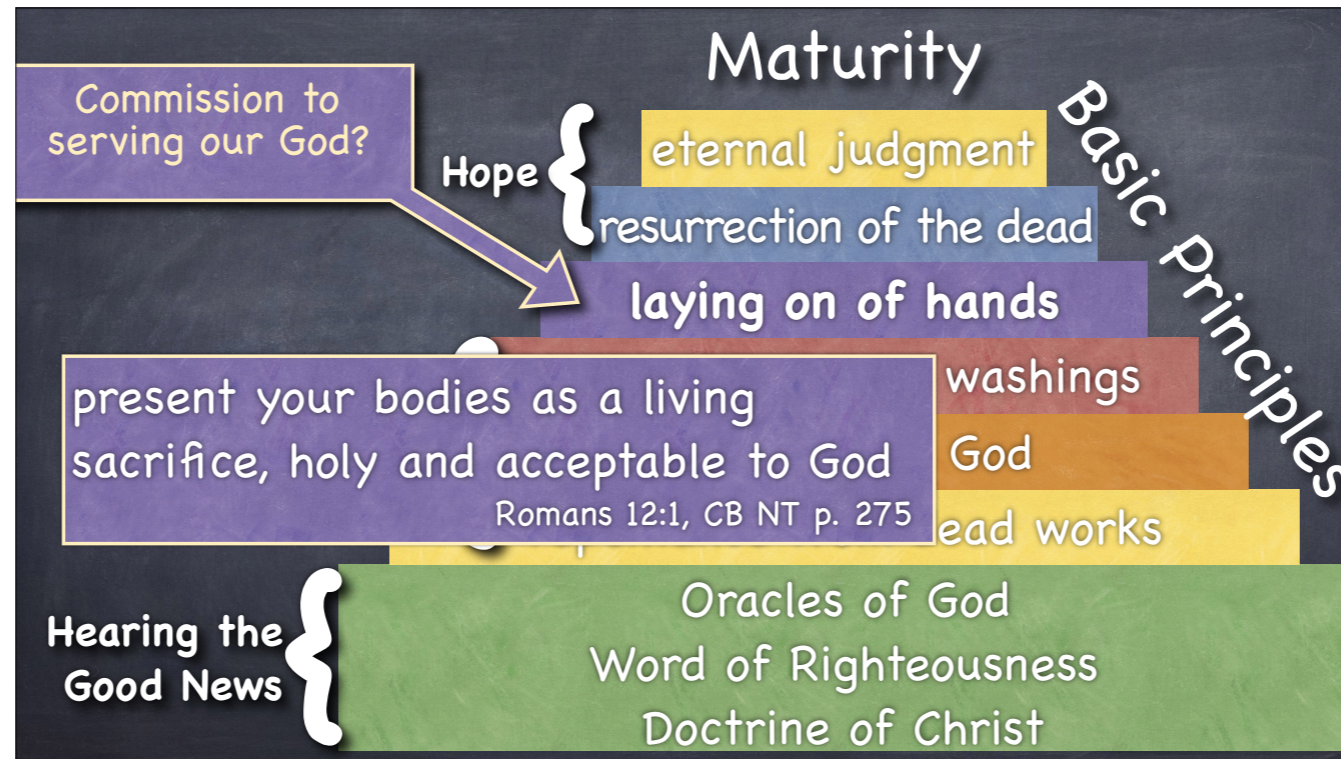
- The only aspect that I see could have meaning to all saints for growing to maturity is commission/dedication
- Both of these are about the work or service that we offer to God.



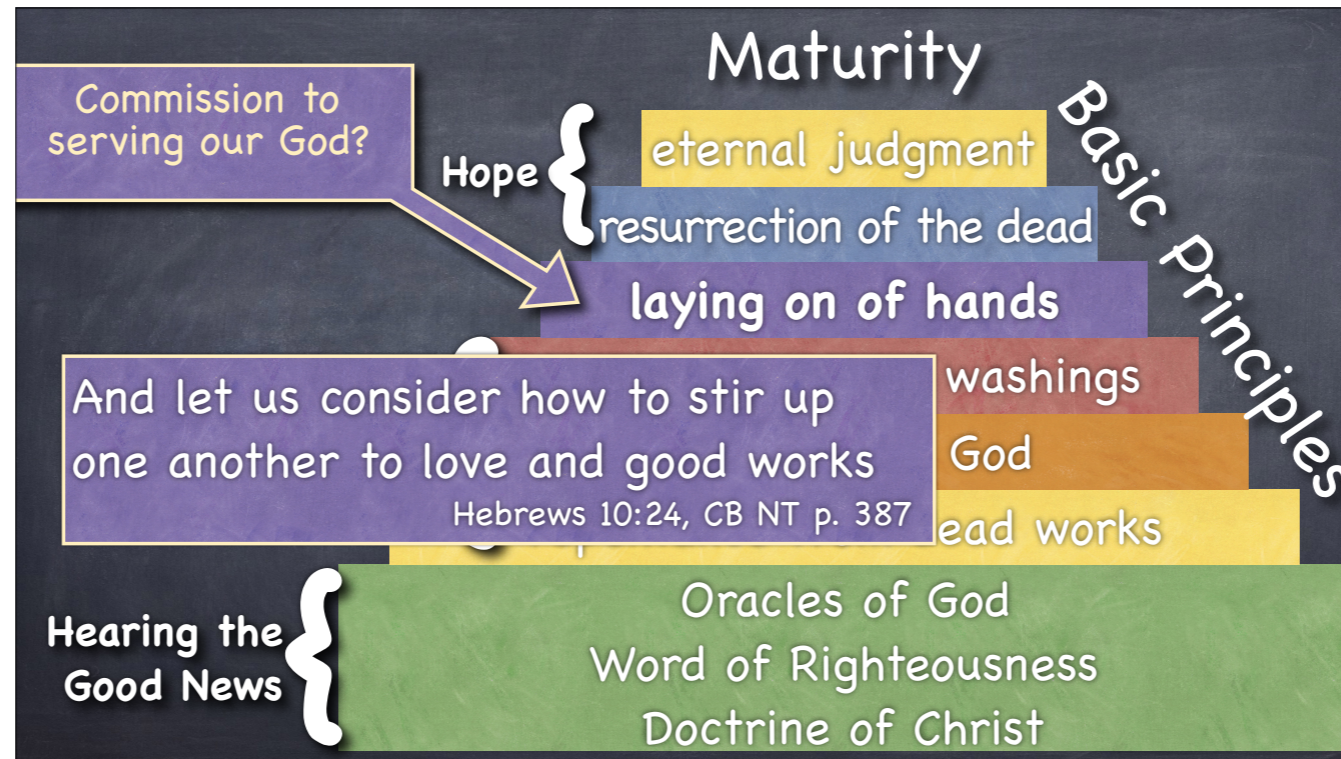
- Hearing the Good News
- Salvation: Right with God
- Hope: Resurrection and Judgment (End)



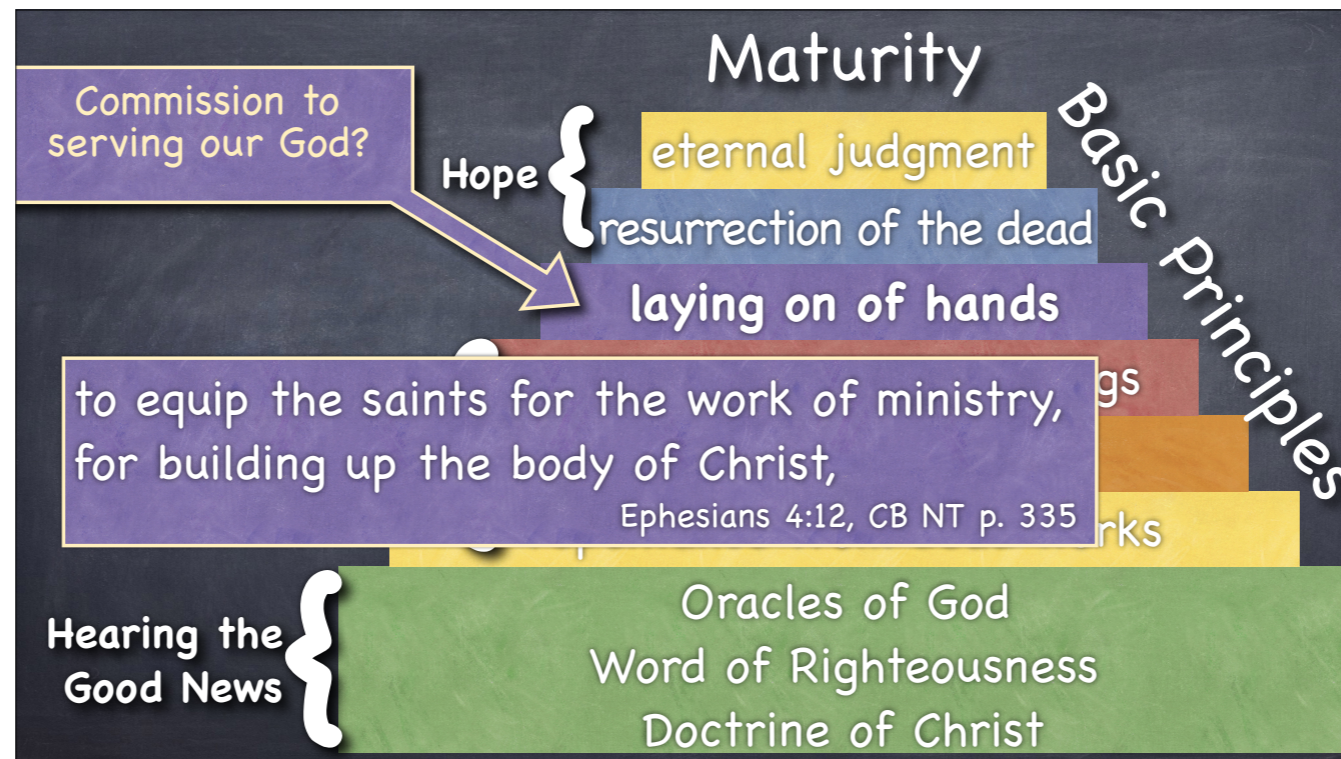
- Laying on of Hands?
 - Commission to service and dedicated to God?
- This would deal with our daily lives before God, our work in His service



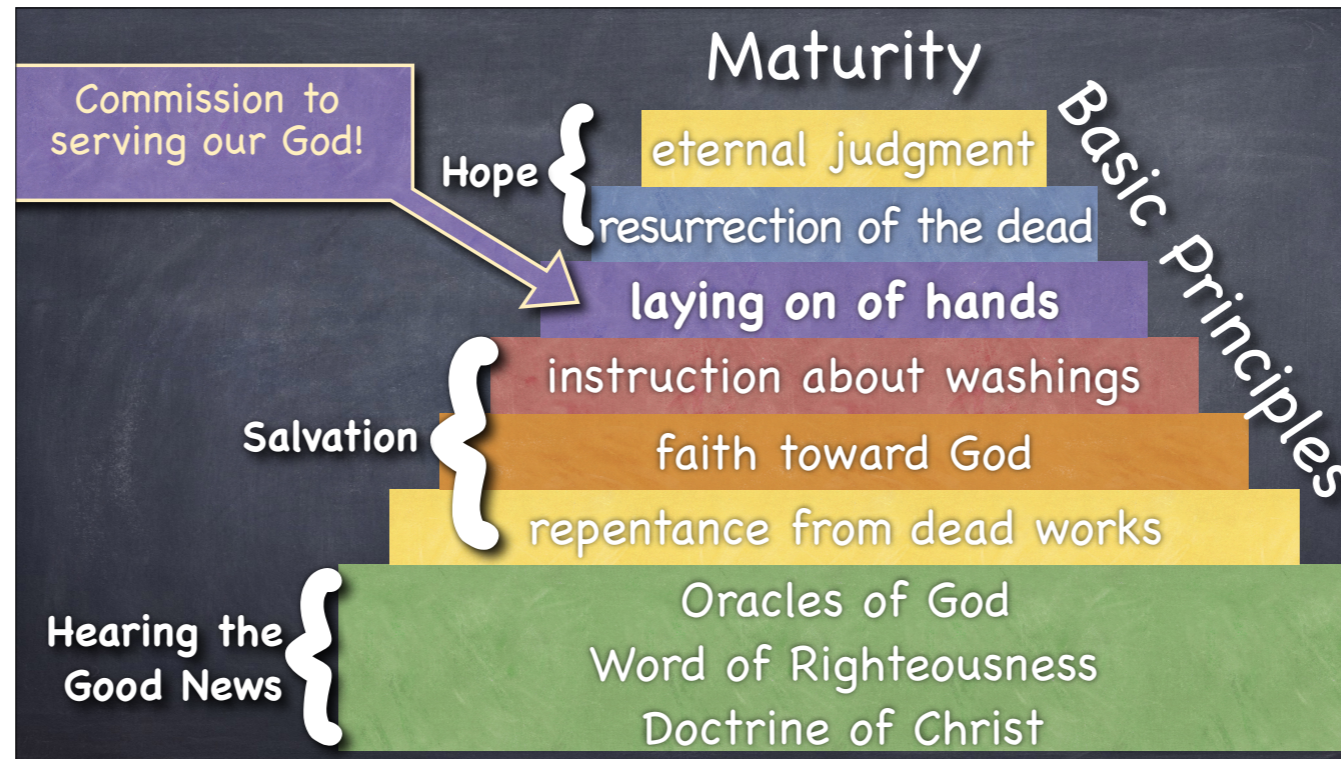
- Romans 12:1-2 (ESV) 1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.



- Hebrews 10:23-25 (ESV) 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.



- Ephesians 4:11-16 (ESV) 11 And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, 14 so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. 15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.



- For me this make most sense.



- Should we practice laying on of hands?
- Not if it's like this!

Should We Practice Laying On of Hands?

Old Testament	Jesus	Apostles	Elders	Prophets & Teachers	Saints
Blessing	Blessing	Gifts of the Holy Spirit	Gift	Commission	Healing
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Dedication		Commission			
Sin Offering		Gift of God			

- Nothing actually passes between.
- Depends on WHY we would be doing it.
 - If it's for something that isn't valid anymore (spiritual gifts, e.g.) we should not.
 - This passage isn't about parents to children blessing... so okay personally?
 - Commission/Dedication for specific task or for service?

Should We Practice Laying On of Hands?

Old Testament	Jesus	Apostles	Elders	Prophets & Teachers	Saints
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Sin Offering		Gift of God			

- Yes!
- Elders?
- Deacons?
- Sending out Evangelist?
- What else?
 - Individuals for specific tasks in congregation?
 - No implied authority in the one who lays on hands.
- How does this help me to grow to maturity in Christ? How does it help us to grow in Him?



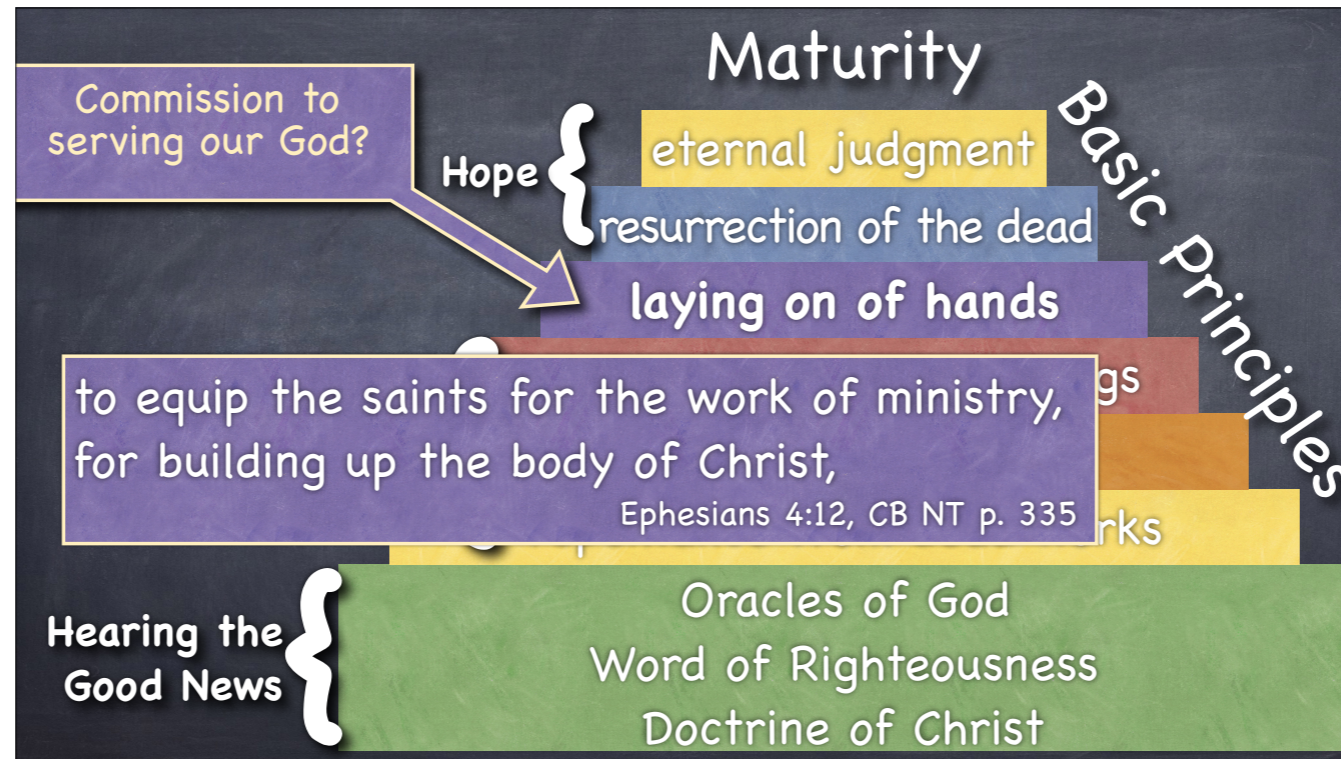
- What it does for the one who has hands laid on him?
 - 1. Dedication
 - It's MY job (not someone else's job)
 - If it is to be, it is up to me.
 - 2. Determination
 - importance of task/service
 - I MUST be busy at this work
 - 3. Confidence
 - approved by God
 - I'm doing what God wants me to do.



- Don't neglect
- Fan into Flame



- What it does for the one those who see it happen?
 - 1. Honor
 - importance of task/service/role
 - 2. Confidence in that one
 - approved by God
 - 3. Submission
 - they have a job to do: obey?
 - help or hinder?
 - Support: prayer, help



- 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,
- Let's use our gifts as our God intended to help each other grow.

**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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TRANSLATING THE WORD INTO



THE WORD IN PICTURES

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THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW
THE GOSPEL OF MARK
THE GOSPEL OF LUKE
THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

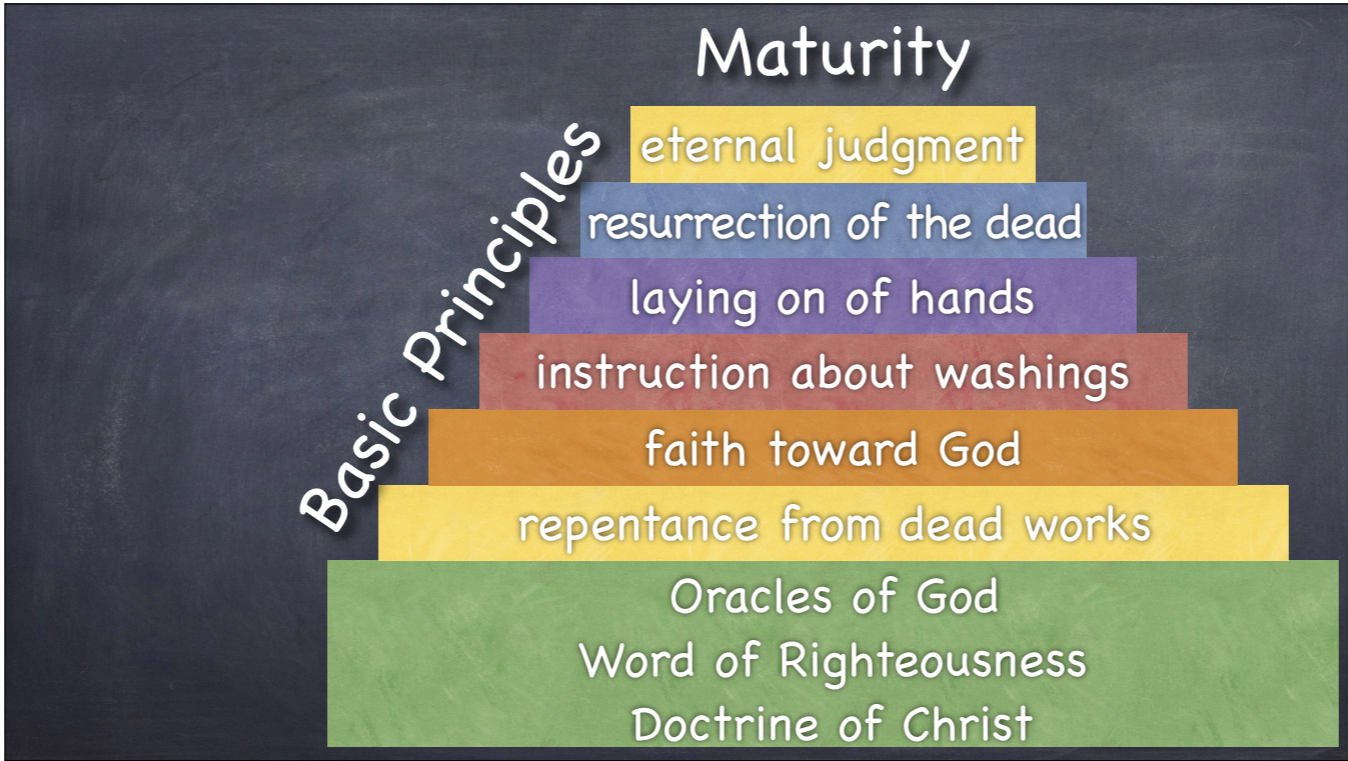
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Laying on of Hands: The Example of Timothy

Hebrews 6:2

Synopsis: Timothy provides us with three examples of the laying on of hands. In this concluding lesson, we'll think about what the Hebrew writer is referring to in this passage. We'll also consider whether laying on of hands is something that we should still do today and why it should be done.

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