THE QUESTION

What did early Christians teach about prayer, sickness and restoring the wandering (James 5:13–20)?

Asked by a THF member on August 2, 2026 · published November 9, 2026 · 12 numbered quotations · the 40 early Christian passages and 285 Bible verses we kept are listed at the back, each with a link.

Read it online: thehistoricfaith.com/early-church-questions/what-did-early-christians-teach-about-prayer-sickness-and-restoring-the

The short answer *Interpretation: our reading of the passages, not their words*

Early Christians read James as a call to live all of life with God: pray in trouble, give thanks in good times, and pray for the sick. They saw the church as one family that prays together, corrects sin, and brings back those who wander. Their deeper hope in suffering was endurance and lasting communion with God.

LIBRARY ONLY	This study was written only from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible, never from the web. Every passage we kept from what the library gave is listed at the back, with a link to read it.
HOW IT WAS MADE	Compiled by machine learning from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible only. Every quotation was matched word for word against our stored text. Not yet reviewed by The Historic Faith.
SHARING WITH AN AI?	Every quotation here comes from The Historic Faith's library. If you paste this study into an AI, anything it adds beyond these pages comes from that AI, not from us.

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POINT 1 OF 8

Pray and give thanks at all times

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Lactantius teaches that a believer should give thanks even in trouble and stay steady in good times too. Prayer is not only for church. It belongs at home and even in bed. A Christian is God's temple and should always have God with him.

1

"And even in troubles, let him still give thanks; and in good things, let him make amends, so that he may be the same at all times, and be firm, unchangeable, and unshaken."

later in the same passage

"And let him not think that this should be done only in the temple, but also at home, and even in his own bed. In short, let him always have God with him, consecrated in his heart, since he himself is a temple of God."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Lactantius,** *Divine Institutes* 25 (c. 290–320 AD) **Source 37, page 9** **Read it in the library ›**

THF's updated English

POINT 2 OF 8

A mature believer's whole life is prayer

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Clement of Alexandria describes the mature Christian. For him, prayer is not an emergency call. His whole life is an ongoing conversation with God. This fits James, who tells believers to pray when afflicted and to sing when cheerful.

2

"His whole life is prayer and conversation with God. And if he is free from sins, he will certainly obtain what he wishes."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Alexandria,** *Stromata* 7.12 (c. 190–215 AD) **Source 20, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**

THF's updated English

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POINT 3 OF 8

The church prayed over the sick

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Early church prayers show what James describes. The Liturgy of St. James prays for the old, weak and sick to be healed and saved. The Apostolic Constitutions give a prayer asking God to bless oil and water so they may restore health, through Christ.

3 “For those who are old and weak, for the sick and afflicted, and for those troubled by unclean spirits, for their speedy healing from God and their salvation”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Early Liturgies,** *Divine Liturgy of St. James* 1 (c. 200–400 AD) **Source 26, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

4 “But if the bishop is present, let the presbyter and deacon stand by, and let him say this: O Lord of hosts, the God of powers, the creator of the waters, and the supplier of oil, who are compassionate and a lover of mankind, who have given water for drinking and for cleansing, and oil to give man a cheerful and joyful countenance, do You now also sanctify this water and this oil through Your Christ, in the name of him or her who has offered them, and grant them power to restore health, to drive away diseases, to banish demons, and to scatter all snares, through Christ our hope.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Apostolic Constitutions** (c. 250–380 AD) **Source 34, page 9** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 4 OF 8

Prayer gives strength to endure suffering

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Tertullian says Christian prayer does not always take away pain. Instead it gives the suffering and grieving the strength to endure. He also says prayer can restore the sick and help the weak. Healing is asked for, but endurance is its steady gift.

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5 “It has no grace given to it to keep away any sense of affliction. But it supplies the suffering, and the feeling, and the grieving, with endurance.”

later in the same passage

“And so it knows nothing except how to call back the souls of the departed from the very path of death, to transform the weak, to restore the sick, to purge the possessed, to open prison bars, and to loose the bonds of the innocent.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *On Prayer* 29 **Source 24, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
(c. 196–220 AD)
THF's updated English

POINT 5 OF 8

God's people are one praying family

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Tertullian calls the church one body joined by a shared faith and hope, praying to God together. Aristides says Christians call even converted servants brothers, without distinction, and love one another. This is the kind of family James has in mind.

6 “We are one body, joined together by a common religious profession, by unity of discipline, and by the bond of a common hope.”

later in the same passage

“We gather together as an assembly and congregation, so that by offering prayer to God with united force, we may wrestle with Him in our prayers.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *Apology* 39 **Source 23, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
(c. 196–220 AD)
THF's updated English

7 “And when they have done so, they call them brothers without distinction.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Aristides,** *Apology* 15 **Source 13, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
(c. 125–140 AD)
THF's updated English

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POINT 6 OF 8

Elders lead and sin is corrected

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

James tells the sick to call the elders. Tertullian describes elders who lead because of proven character, not money. He also says the church gave warnings and corrections when members sinned. Caring for one another included telling the truth.

8

"Proven men of our elders preside over us. They gain that honor not by purchase, but by established character."

later in the same passage

"In the same place, exhortations are made, rebukes are given, and sacred censures are administered."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *Apology* 39 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 23, page 8** Read it in the library ›

THF's updated English

POINT 7 OF 8

Bringing back a wanderer is a great reward

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

The letter known as Second Clement points to James 5 and calls it no small reward to turn back a soul that is wandering and perishing. An early liturgy also prays for God to help and restore every Christian who is afflicted or has wandered away.

9

"For it is no small reward to turn back a wandering and perishing soul so that it may be saved."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Rome,** *Second Epistle* 15 (c. 88–99 AD) **Source 5, page 7** Read it in the library ›

THF's updated English

10

"Have pity on, help, and restore every Christian soul that is afflicted or wandering."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Early Liturgies,** *Divine Liturgy of St. Mark* 1 (c. 200–400 AD) **Source 27, page 8** Read it in the library ›

THF's updated English

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POINT 8 OF 8

The greater hope is life with God

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Irenaeus says God gives communion with Himself to all who keep loving Him, and that this communion is life and light. The account of Polycarp's death shows this hope in action: through patience he overcame his judge and won the crown of immortality.

11 “To everyone who continues in their love for God, He grants communion with Him. Communion with God is life and light and the enjoyment of all the benefits He has in store.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book V* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 17, page 8** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

12 “For, having through patience overcome the unjust governor and thus gained the crown of immortality, he now, with the apostles and all the righteous in heaven, joyfully glorifies God, the Father, and blesses our Lord Jesus Christ, the Savior of our souls, the Governor of our bodies, and the Shepherd of the Catholic Church throughout the world.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Polycarp,** *Martyrdom of Polycarp* (c. 100–155 AD) **Source 12, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

THE LIMITS

What these passages don’t tell us

- These passages do not explain in detail how the early church carried out the anointing of the sick described in James.
- They do not promise that every sick person will be healed in this life.
- A word-for-word match shows that a quotation really is in our text. It does not show that our reading of it is right, or who wrote each work.

WHERE EVERY QUOTE CAME FROM

The Sources

The 40 early Christian passages and 285 Bible verses we kept for this question (repeats and weak or off-topic search hits were left out): early Christian passages first (sources 1–40, grouped by writer, earliest first), then Bible verses in The Faith Once Delivered Bible (sources 41–237, in Bible order), then 88 more verses THF links

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to these passages, by reference. **Quote 1, page 2** beside a source shows where the study quotes it. Passages are in THF's updated English unless marked "1885 English" (the Roberts–Donaldson translation, public domain). "… [continues online]" marks a passage the library gave only in part. **On paper?** At **thehistoricfaith.com**, Bible verses are in the **Audio Bible** and early Christian writings in the **Library** (search for the title).

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITERS *40 passages from 22 writers*

Didache, *c. 50–120 AD · source 1*

1 *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 16 (1885 English; on point 5) "24:42 But often shall you come together, seeking the things which are befitting to your souls: for the whole time of your faith will not profit you, if you… [continues online] **read ›**

Barnabas, *c. 70–132 AD · source 2*

2 *Epistle of Barnabas* (1885 English) "shalt confess thy sins. Thou shalt not go to prayer with an evil conscience. This is the way of light… [continues online] **read ›**

Mathetes, *c. 80–200 AD · source 3*

3 *Epistle to Diognetus* (1885 English; on point 8) are dishonoured, and yet in their very dishonour are glorified. They are evil spoken of, and yet are justified; they are reviled, and bless… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Rome, *c. 88–99 AD · sources 4–6*

4 *Second Epistle* 17 (on point 6) And let us not only seem to believe and pay attention now, when we are being admonished by the elders. But when we go home, let us also remember the… [continues online] **read ›**

5 *Second Epistle* 15 (1885 English) **Quote 9, page 5** "5:19-25 For this recompense we are able to render to the God who created us, if he who speaks and hears both speak and hear with faith and… [continues online] **read ›**

6 *Second Epistle* 16 (on point 7) "covers a multitude of sins, 1 Peter 4… [continues online] **read ›**

Hermas, *c. 90–150 AD · sources 7–8*

7 *Shepherd* "pray to God, and He will heal your sins, and the sins of your whole house, and of all the saints… [continues online] **read ›**

8 *Shepherd* (on point 5) an assembly of righteous men who have faith in the Divine Spirit, and this assembly of men offers prayer to God, then the angel of the prophetic Spirit, who is… [continues online] **read ›**

Ignatius of Antioch, *c. 98–117 AD · sources 9–11*

9 *Epistle of Ignatius to the Ephesians* (on point 7) ceasing on behalf of others; for there is hope of their repentance, that they may attain to God. For "can't the one who falls rise again, and the one… [continues online] **read ›**

10 *Epistle to the Romans* (1885 English) "being gathered together in love, ye may sing praise to the Father, through Christ Jesus, that God has deemed me, the bishop of Syria, worthy to be sent for from… [continues online] **read ›**

11 *Epistle to the Philadelphians* (1885 English; on point 7) "all them that repent, God grants forgiveness, if they with one consent return to the unity of Christ, and communion with the bishop… [continues online] **read ›**

Polycarp, *c. 100–155 AD · source 12*

12 *Martyrdom of Polycarp* (1885 English) **Quote 12, page 6** "having through patience overcome the unjust governor, and thus acquired the crown of immortality, he now, with the apostles and all the righteous [in heaven], rejoicingly glorifies God, even the… [continues online] **read ›**

Aristides, *c. 125–140 AD · source 13*

13 *Apology* 15 (1885 English) **Quote 7, page 4** "they do not call them brethren after the flesh, but brethren after the spirit and in God… [continues online] **read ›**

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Justin Martyr, *c. 130–165 AD · source 14*

14 *First Apology* (on point 5) we continuously remind each other of these things. The wealthy among us help the needy, and we always stay together. For all things we are provided with, we bless the… [continues online] **read ›**

Tatian, *c. 150–180 AD · source 15*

15 *Diatessaron* 13 (1885 English; on point 3) “Mark 6:13 And they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick with oil, and healed them… [continues online] **read ›**

Irenaeus, *c. 175–202 AD · sources 16–17*

16 *Against Heresies: Book III* (1885 English; on point 8) “also He passed through every stage of life, restoring to all communion with God… [continues online] **read ›**

17 *Against Heresies: Book V* **Quote 11, page 6** “Communion with God is life and light and the enjoyment of all the benefits… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Alexandria, *c. 190–215 AD · sources 18–22*

18 *Who Is the Rich Man That Shall Be Saved?* 42 (1885 English; on point 7) “before all, the Saviour Himself goes to meet them, welcoming them… [continues online] **read ›**

19 *Instructor* 1.2 (1885 English) “He heals the soul itself by precepts and gifts — by precepts indeed, in course of time, but being liberal in His gifts, He says to us sinners, Your sins be… [continues online] **read ›**

20 *Stromata* 7.12 (1885 English) **Quote 2, page 2** “whole life is prayer and converse with God… [continues online] **read ›**

21 *Stromata* 7.7 (1885 English; on point 2) “also faith, that one will receive, is a species of prayer gnostically laid up in store… [continues online] **read ›**

22 *Who Is the Rich Man That Shall Be Saved?* 9 (1885 English; on point 5) “not as a slave making slaves, but sons, and brethren, and fellow-heirs, who perform the Father's will… [continues online] **read ›**

Tertullian, *c. 196–220 AD · sources 23–24*

23 *Apology* 39 **Quotes 6, 8, pages 4, 5** “in mind and soul, we do not hesitate to share our earthly goods with one another… [continues online] **read ›**

24 *On Prayer* 29 **Quote 5, page 4** “and the feeling, and the grieving, with endurance. It increases grace by virtue, so that faith may know what she obtains from the Lord, understanding what, for God's name… [continues online] **read ›**

Early Liturgies, *c. 200–400 AD · sources 25–27*

25 *Divine Liturgy of St. Mark* 1 (on point 7) “guide them all, good Lord, into the way of salvation and into Your sacred fold… [continues online] **read ›**

26 *Divine Liturgy of St. James* 1 (1885 English) **Quote 3, page 3** “those who are in old age and infirmity, for the sick and suffering, and those who are troubled by unclean spirits, for their speedy cure from God and their salvation… [continues online] **read ›**

27 *Divine Liturgy of St. Mark* 1 (1885 English) **Quote 10, page 5** “relieve, and restore every Christian soul that is afflicted or wandering… [continues online] **read ›**

Origen, *c. 215–254 AD · source 28*

28 *Against Celsus* 11 (1885 English) “although one may not be so exalted (as the sun), nevertheless let such an one pray to the Word of God (who is able to heal him), and still more… [continues online] **read ›**

Cyprian, *c. 248–258 AD · sources 29–31*

29 *Epistles* (1885 English) “each one, acknowledging his own sins, even now put off the conversation of the old man… [continues online] **read ›**

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30 *Epistles* (1885 English; on point 7) “they have made confession, and have received the imposition of hands on them by you in acknowledgment of their penitence, should be remitted to the Lord with the peace promised… [continues online] **read ›**

31 *Treatises* (1885 English) “I entreat you, beloved brethren, that each one should confess his own sin, while he who has sinned is still in this world, while his confession may be received, while… [continues online] **read ›**

Apostolic Constitutions, *c. 250–380 AD · sources 32–34*

32 *Apostolic Constitutions* (on point 3) “us still pray earnestly for them. Save them, O God, and raise them up by Your power… [continues online] **read ›**

33 *Apostolic Constitutions* (on point 3) “us pray for every Christian soul. Save us and raise us up, O God, by Your mercy… [continues online] **read ›**

34 *Apostolic Constitutions* (1885 English) **Quote 4, page 3** “if the bishop be present, let the presbyter and deacon stand by, and let him say thus: O Lord of hosts, the God of powers, the creator of the waters… [continues online] **read ›**

Commodianus, *c. 250–300 AD · source 35*

35 *Writings* (1885 English) “confession of your fault shall not be in vain… [continues online] **read ›**

Lactantius, *c. 290–320 AD · sources 36–37*

36 *Epitome of the Divine Institutes* 67 (1885 English; on point 1) “we, even though there is no offense of ours, yet ought to confess to God, and to entreat pardon for our faults, and to give thanks even in evils… [continues online] **read ›**

37 *Divine Institutes* 25 (1885 English) **Quote 1, page 2** “any evil, let him make amends, and let him confess that the evil has happened to him on account of his faults… [continues online] **read ›**

Peter of Alexandria, *c. 300–311 AD · source 38*

38 *Canonical Epistle* (1885 English; on point 7) “we shall cause others also, who may have lapsed, and wish to return to what is right, to be negligent and remiss in this respect, having as a pretext, that… [continues online] **read ›**

Anonymous · *source 39*

39 *Treatise Against the Heretic Novatian* 1 “2:10-11. Therefore He says, "First tell your sins, that you may be justified… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Rome · *source 40*

40 *First Epistle to the Corinthians* (1885 English) “us pray, therefore, and implore of His mercy, that we may live blameless in love, free from all human partialities for one above another… [continues online] **read ›**

THE BIBLE *197 verses, The Faith Once Delivered Bible (Old Testament from the Septuagint), in Bible order*

41 **Matthew 3:6** They were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins. **read ›**

42 **Matthew 5:4** Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. **read ›**

43 **Matthew 5:12** Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven. For that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you. **read ›**

44 **Matthew 5:23** “If therefore you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has anything against you, **read ›**

45 **Matthew 6:17** But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, **read ›**

46 **Matthew 9:2** Behold, they brought to him a paralyzed man lying on a bed. Jesus, seeing their faithfulness, said to the paralyzed man, “Take courage, child! Your sins are forgiven you.” **read ›**

47 **Matthew 15:28** Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faithfulness! Let it be done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed from that hour. **read ›**

48 **Matthew 17:21** But this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.” **read ›**

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49 **Matthew 18:15** "If your brother sins against you, go, show him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained back your brother. **read ›**

50 **Matthew 19:29** Everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands for my name's sake shall receive a hundredfold and inherit eternal life. **read ›**

51 **Matthew 23:8** But you are not to be called 'Rabbi', for one is your teacher, the Christ, and all of you are brothers. **read ›**

52 **Matthew 26:7** a woman came to him having an alabaster jar of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on his head as he sat at the table. **read ›**

53 **Matthew 26:30** When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. **read ›**

54 **Mark 2:5** Jesus, seeing their faithfulness, said to the paralyzed man, "Child, your sins are forgiven you." **read ›**

55 **Mark 2:9** Which is easier, to say to the paralyzed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your mat, and walk'? **read ›**

56 **Mark 3:35** For whoever does the will of God is my brother, my sister, and mother." **read ›**

57 **Mark 5:23** and pleaded earnestly with him, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and she will live." **read ›**

58 **Mark 6:13** They cast out many demons, anointed many sick people with oil, and healed them. **read ›**

59 **Mark 10:35** James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came near to him, saying, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we will ask." **read ›**

60 **Mark 11:25** Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father, who is in heaven, may also forgive you your transgressions. **read ›**

61 **Mark 14:3** While he was at Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, as he reclined at the table, a woman came having an alabaster jar of ointment of pure nard—very costly. She broke the jar and poured it over his head. **read ›**

62 **Luke 1:75** in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our life. **read ›**

63 **Luke 5:23** Which is easier to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'? **read ›**

64 **Luke 7:46** You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. **read ›**

65 **Luke 7:50** He said to the woman, "Your faithfulness has saved you. Go in peace." **read ›**

66 **Luke 9:54** When his disciples, James and John, saw this, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from the sky and destroy them, just as Elijah did?" **read ›**

67 **Luke 17:3** Be careful. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him. If he repents, forgive him. **read ›**

68 **Luke 17:4** If he sins against you seven times in the day, and seven times returns, saying, 'I repent,' you shall forgive him." **read ›**

69 **Luke 17:5** The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faithfulness." **read ›**

70 **Luke 17:19** Then he said to him, "Rise and go. Your faithfulness has saved you." **read ›**

71 **Luke 18:42** Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight. Your faith has made you well." **read ›**

72 **John 1:2** He was in the beginning with God. **read ›**

73 **John 5:26** For just as the Father has life in himself, so he also granted the Son to have life in himself. **read ›**

74 **John 6:57** As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on me will also live because of me. **read ›**

75 **John 11:2** This was the Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was sick. **read ›**

76 **John 12:3** Therefore Mary took a pound of ointment of pure nard, very precious, and anointed Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. **read ›**

77 **John 17:3** This is eternal life, that they should know you, the only true God, and him whom you sent, Jesus Christ. **read ›**

78 **John 17:21** that they may all be one; even as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that you sent me. **read ›**

79 **Acts 2:46** Day by day they continued steadfastly with one accord in the temple, breaking bread at home and sharing food with gladness and simplicity of heart, **read ›**

80 **Acts 2:47** praising God and having favor with all the people. The Lord added to the church day by day those who were being saved. **read ›**

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81 **Acts 3:16** By faith in his name, his name has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith which is through Jesus has given this man perfect soundness before you all. **read ›**

82 **Acts 4:30** as you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are done through the name of your holy servant Jesus." **read ›**

83 **Acts 5:15** As a result, they carried the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats, so that as Peter passed by, at least his shadow might fall on some of them. **read ›**

84 **Acts 6:6** whom they set before the apostles. When they had prayed, they laid their hands on them. **read ›**

85 **Acts 8:22** Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray to God that perhaps the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. **read ›**

86 **Acts 9:34** Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and make your bed!" Immediately he arose. **read ›**

87 **Acts 9:40** Peter sent them all out, and knelt down and prayed. Turning to the body, he said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. **read ›**

88 **Acts 9:41** He gave her his hand and raised her up. Calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive. **read ›**

89 **Acts 12:5** So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer was being made to God for him by the church. **read ›**

90 **Acts 13:3** Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. **read ›**

91 **Acts 13:26** Brothers, descendants of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, the word of this salvation has been sent to you. **read ›**

92 **Acts 14:9** He listened to Paul speaking. Paul, looking intently at him and seeing that he had faith to be healed, **read ›**

93 **Acts 14:23** They appointed elders for them in every church and, after prayer with fasting, commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed. **read ›**

94 **Acts 15:13** After they were silent, James answered, "Brothers, listen to me. **read ›**

95 **Acts 16:25** But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. **read ›**

96 **Acts 19:12** so that even handkerchiefs or aprons from his body were brought to the sick, and their diseases left them, and the evil spirits went out of them. **read ›**

97 **Acts 19:18** Many also of those who had believed came, confessing and declaring their deeds. **read ›**

98 **Acts 20:17** From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and summoned the elders of the church. **read ›**

99 **Acts 28:8** Publius's father lay sick with fevers and dysentery. Paul went in to him, prayed, laid his hands on him, and healed him. **read ›**

100 **Romans 4:7** "Blessed are those whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. **read ›**

101 **Romans 9:5** of whom are the fathers, and from whom is Christ as concerning the flesh, who is over all, God, blessed forever. Amen. **read ›**

102 **Romans 12:12** rejoicing in hope, enduring in troubles, continuing steadfastly in prayer, **read ›**

103 **Romans 16:14** Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes, and the brothers with them. **read ›**

104 **Romans 16:24** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all! Amen. **read ›**

105 **1 Corinthians 1:3** Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **read ›**

106 **1 Corinthians 1:9** God is faithful, through whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **read ›**

107 **1 Corinthians 6:7** Therefore it is already altogether a defeat for you that you have lawsuits with one another. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded? **read ›**

108 **1 Corinthians 7:5** Do not deprive one another, except by agreement for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to fasting and prayer, and come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. **read ›**

109 **1 Corinthians 7:24** Brothers, let each remain with God in the condition in which he was called. **read ›**

110 **1 Corinthians 8:6** yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things, and we for him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and we through him. **read ›**

111 **1 Corinthians 10:3** and all ate the same spiritual food; **read ›**

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112 **1 Corinthians 10:16** The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? **read ›**

113 **1 Corinthians 12:9** to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, **read ›**

114 **1 Corinthians 16:20** All the brothers greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. **read ›**

115 **2 Corinthians 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and God of all comfort, **read ›**

116 **2 Corinthians 1:4** who comforts us in all our trouble, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, through the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. **read ›**

117 **2 Corinthians 1:6** But if we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation, which works through endurance of the same sufferings that we also suffer; and our hope for you is firm. If we are comforted, it is for your comfort and salvation, **read ›**

118 **2 Corinthians 1:21** Now he who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, **read ›**

119 **2 Corinthians 2:4** For out of much trouble and anguish of heart I wrote to you with many tears, not that you should be made to grieve, but that you might know the love that I have so abundantly for you. **read ›**

120 **2 Corinthians 2:7** so that, on the contrary, you should rather forgive him and comfort him, lest by any means such a one should be swallowed up with his excessive sorrow. **read ›**

121 **2 Corinthians 4:8** We are pressed on every side, yet not crushed; perplexed, yet not in despair; **read ›**

122 **2 Corinthians 4:9** pursued, yet not forsaken; struck down, yet not destroyed; **read ›**

123 **2 Corinthians 6:10** as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing and yet possessing all things. **read ›**

124 **2 Corinthians 8:4** earnestly begging us for the favor of sharing in the service to the saints. **read ›**

125 **2 Corinthians 13:11** Finally, brothers, rejoice! Be perfected. Be comforted. Be of the same mind. Live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you. **read ›**

126 **2 Corinthians 13:12** Greet one another with a holy kiss. **read ›**

127 **2 Corinthians 13:14** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, God’s love, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen. **read ›**

128 **Galatians 1:3** Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, **read ›**

129 **Galatians 3:26** For you are all children of God, through faith in Christ Jesus. **read ›**

130 **Galatians 6:1** Brothers, even if a man is caught in some fault, you who are spiritual must restore such a one in a spirit of meekness, looking to yourself so that you also are not tempted. **read ›**

131 **Galatians 6:10** So then, as we have opportunity, let us do what is good toward all men, and especially toward those who are of the household of the faith. **read ›**

132 **Galatians 6:18** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen. **read ›**

133 **Ephesians 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, **read ›**

134 **Ephesians 2:18** For through him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. **read ›**

135 **Ephesians 2:19** So then you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and of the household of God, **read ›**

136 **Ephesians 3:15** from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, **read ›**

137 **Ephesians 4:5** one Lord, one faith, one baptism, **read ›**

138 **Ephesians 4:6** one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in us all. **read ›**

139 **Ephesians 4:25** Therefore, putting away falsehood, speak truth each one with his neighbor, for we are members of one another. **read ›**

140 **Ephesians 4:32** And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other, just as God also forgave us in Christ. **read ›**

141 **Ephesians 5:19** speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs; singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; **read ›**

142 **Ephesians 6:18** praying at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and plea, and staying alert to this end with all perseverance and prayer for all the saints, **read ›**

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143 **Ephesians 6:23** Peace be to the brothers, and love with faithfulness, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **read ›**

144 **Philippians 1:2** Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **read ›**

145 **Philippians 2:18** In the same way you also should rejoice, and rejoice with me. **read ›**

146 **Philippians 4:4** Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. **read ›**

147 **Philippians 4:14** Nevertheless, you did well to share in my trouble. **read ›**

148 **Philippians 4:21** Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me greet you. **read ›**

149 **Philippians 4:23** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. **read ›**

150 **Colossians 1:2** to the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **read ›**

151 **Colossians 3:4** When Christ, our life, is revealed, then you also shall be revealed with him in glory. **read ›**

152 **Colossians 3:13** bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, if any man has a complaint against any; even as Christ forgave you, so you also do. **read ›**

153 **Colossians 3:16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, in all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your heart to the Lord. **read ›**

154 **Colossians 4:2** Continue steadfastly in prayer, watching in it with thanksgiving, **read ›**

155 **Colossians 4:15** Greet the brothers who are in Laodicea, with Nymphas and the church that is in his house. **read ›**

156 **1 Thessalonians 1:4** knowing, brothers loved by God, that you are chosen, **read ›**

157 **1 Thessalonians 1:6** And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, receiving the word in much trouble with joy of the Holy Spirit, **read ›**

158 **1 Thessalonians 3:4** For even when we were with you, we told you beforehand that we would suffer trouble, just as it happened, as you know. **read ›**

159 **1 Thessalonians 3:7** For this reason, brothers, in all our trouble and distress we were comforted about you through your faithfulness. **read ›**

160 **1 Thessalonians 3:10** night and day praying most earnestly to see your face and to supply what is lacking in your faithfulness? **read ›**

161 **1 Thessalonians 3:11** Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you. **read ›**

162 **1 Thessalonians 5:16** Always rejoice. **read ›**

163 **1 Thessalonians 5:17** Pray without ceasing. **read ›**

164 **1 Thessalonians 5:25** Brothers, pray for us. **read ›**

165 **1 Thessalonians 5:26** Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss. **read ›**

166 **2 Thessalonians 1:2** Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **read ›**

167 **2 Thessalonians 1:4** so that we ourselves boast about you in the churches of God for your perseverance and faithfulness in all your persecutions and the troubles you endure, **read ›**

168 **2 Thessalonians 2:1** Now, brothers, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to him, we ask you **read ›**

169 **2 Thessalonians 3:18** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. **read ›**

170 **1 Timothy 4:5** For it is sanctified through the word of God and prayer. **read ›**

171 **1 Timothy 4:14** 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 elders. **read ›**

172 **1 Timothy 5:1** Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father; the younger men as brothers; **read ›**

173 **1 Timothy 5:23** No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for your stomach and your frequent illnesses. **read ›**

174 **Philemon 1:2** to the beloved Apphia, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: **read ›**

175 **Philemon 1:3** Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **read ›**

176 **Hebrews 1:9** You have loved righteousness and hated iniquity; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your companions.” **read ›**

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177 **Hebrews 2:11** For both he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one, for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brothers, **read ›**

178 **Hebrews 3:6** but Christ is faithful as a Son over his house. We are his house, if we hold fast our confidence and the glorying of our hope firm to the end. **read ›**

179 **Hebrews 4:16** Let us therefore draw near with boldness to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace for help in time of need. **read ›**

180 **Hebrews 10:33** partly being publicly exposed to reproaches and distress, and partly becoming partners with those who were treated in this way. **read ›**

181 **Hebrews 11:25** choosing rather to share ill treatment with God's people than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a time, **read ›**

182 **Hebrews 11:37** They were stoned. They were sawn apart. They were tempted. They were slain with the sword. They went around in sheep skins and in goat skins; being destitute, afflicted, ill-treated— **read ›**

183 **Hebrews 12:14** Follow after peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no man will see the Lord, **read ›**

184 **Hebrews 13:1** Let brotherly love continue. **read ›**

185 **Hebrews 13:25** Grace be with you all. Amen. **read ›**

186 **James 1:1** James, a slave of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are in the Dispersion: Greetings. **read ›**

187 **James 1:2** Count it all joy, my brothers, when you encounter various trials, **read ›**

188 **James 1:5** But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. **read ›**

189 **James 1:21** Therefore, laying aside all filthiness and the abundance of wickedness, receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. **read ›**

190 **James 2:1** My brothers, do not show partiality in your faithfulness to our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. **read ›**

191 **James 2:5** Listen, my beloved brothers. Has not God chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faithfulness and heirs of the kingdom which he promised to those who love him? **read ›**

192 **James 3:9** With it we bless God the Father, and with it we curse people who have been made in the likeness of God. **read ›**

193 **James 3:13** Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show his works by good conduct in the meekness of wisdom. **read ›**

194 **James 4:8** Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners. Purify your hearts, you double-minded. **read ›**

195 **James 4:9** Lament, mourn, and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. **read ›**

196 **James 5:7** Be patient therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient over it, until it receives the early and late rain. **read ›**

197 **James 5:8** You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. **read ›**

198 **James 5:9** Do not grumble, brothers, against one another, so that you will not be judged. Behold, the judge stands at the door. **read ›**

199 **James 5:10** My brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the Lord's name as an example of suffering and patience. **read ›**

200 **James 5:11** Behold, we call those who endure blessed. You have heard of Job's endurance; see the outcome the Lord brought about, for he is full of tender compassion and merciful. **read ›**

201 **James 5:13** Is any among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praises. **read ›**

202 **James 5:14** Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; **read ›**

203 **James 5:15** And the prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him. **read ›**

204 **James 5:16** Confess your trespasses to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. A righteous person's prayer has great power in its working. **read ›**

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205 **James 5:18** He prayed again, and the sky gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit. **read ›**

206 **James 5:19** Brothers, if any among you wanders from the truth and someone turns him back, **read ›**

207 **James 5:20** let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins. **read ›**

208 **1 Peter 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **read ›**

209 **1 Peter 1:21** who through him believe in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. **read ›**

210 **1 Peter 2:17** Honor all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king. **read ›**

211 **1 Peter 2:24** who himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that, having died to sins, we might live to righteousness; by his bruise you were healed. **read ›**

212 **1 Peter 4:8** And above all things be earnest in your love among yourselves, for love will cover a multitude of sins. **read ›**

213 **1 Peter 4:13** But because you are partakers of Christ's sufferings, rejoice, that at the revelation of his glory you also may rejoice with exceeding joy. **read ›**

214 **1 Peter 4:16** But if one of you suffers for being a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God in this matter. **read ›**

215 **1 Peter 5:1** I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings, and a partaker of the glory to be revealed: **read ›**

216 **1 Peter 5:5** Likewise, you younger ones, be subject to the elders. And all of you, submitting to one another, clothe yourselves with humility, for God resists the proud, but he gives grace to the humble. **read ›**

217 **1 Peter 5:9** Resist him, firm in faithfulness, knowing that your brotherhood in the world is undergoing the same sufferings. **read ›**

218 **2 Peter 1:3** since his divine power has granted us all things pertaining to life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us through glory and virtue, **read ›**

219 **2 Peter 1:7** and in godliness, brotherly affection; and in brotherly affection, love. **read ›**

220 **1 John 1:2** and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and declare to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us— **read ›**

221 **1 John 1:3** that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. **read ›**

222 **1 John 1:7** But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from all sin. **read ›**

223 **1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. **read ›**

224 **1 John 2:12** I write to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake. **read ›**

225 **1 John 2:20** And you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. **read ›**

226 **1 John 2:27** And as for you, the anointing which you received from him remains in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you. But as the same anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is no lie, and as it taught you, you will remain in him. **read ›**

227 **1 John 5:11** The testimony is this: that God gave to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. **read ›**

228 **1 John 5:16** If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life—to those who commit sin not leading to death. There is sin leading to death; I do not say that he should ask concerning that. **read ›**

229 **1 John 5:20** But we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life. **read ›**

230 **2 John 1:9** Everyone who transgresses and does not remain in the teaching of Christ does not have God. He who remains in the teaching of Christ has both the Father and the Son. **read ›**

231 **2 John 1:13** The children of your chosen sister greet you. Amen. **read ›**

232 **Jude 1:20** But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, **read ›**

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233 **Revelation 3:18** I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, that you may become rich; and white garments, that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and eye salve to anoint your eyes, that you may see. **read ›**

234 **Revelation 5:8** Now when he had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. **read ›**

235 **Revelation 8:3** Another angel came and stood over the altar, having a golden censer. Much incense was given to him, that he should add it to the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar which was before the throne. **read ›**

236 **Revelation 8:4** The smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand. **read ›**

237 **Revelation 22:21** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with all the saints. Amen. **read ›**

ALSO LINKED BY THF TO THESE PASSAGES *88 verses, by reference*

Partly machine-linked: related to the passages, not always quoted in them. Each reference links to the verse in our audio Bible.

Genesis 2:24

Exodus 20:7

Job 1:6

Psalms 24:4 · 32:1 · 86:2

Jeremiah 23:16

Ezekiel 1:28 · 13:3

Daniel 11:31 · 12:1

Zechariah 3:1

Matthew 5:8 · 5:28 · 5:42 · 7:12 · 7:15 · 7:16 · 9:13 · 11:12 · 19:17 · 24:10 · 24:11 · 24:13 · 24:21 · 24:30 · 24:42

Mark 2:11 · 5:9 · 10:18 · 12:33

Luke 6:30 · 12:35

John 1:1 · 1:5 · 3:18 · 11:43 · 17:22 · 21:19

Acts 2:42 · 4:32 · 8:9 · 12:13 · 15:14 · 17:24

Romans 1:32 · 3:23 · 5:8 · 7:12 · 8:29 · 16:25

1 Corinthians 1:8 · 2:10 · 2:11 · 3:13 · 15:23 · 15:52

2 Corinthians 4:12 · 6:9 · 6:16 · 7:1 · 10:3

Galatians 1:19 · 3:24

Ephesians 1:4 · 2:12 · 3:9 · 6:9

Philippians 3:20

Colossians 3:2

1 Thessalonians 4:16 · 4:17 · 5:18 · 5:20

2 Timothy 2:24 · 3:2

James 1:8

1 Peter 4:7 · 4:12

1 John 1:5 · 4:1 · 4:2

3 John 1:9

Revelation 3:1 · 4:1 · 17:3 · 20:5 · 21:10

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Searched: Ante-Nicene Fathers volumes 1–9 and the Bible, including the Septuagint.

ABOUT THIS STUDY

A THF member asked “What did early Christians teach about prayer, sickness and restoring the wandering (James 5:13–20)?” on August 2, 2026. The Historic Faith answered it as a public study on November 9, 2026.

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