

Laying on of hands

Class 4

Hierarchy, Authority and Power transfer



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“Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this will we do, if God permit.” Hebrews 6:1-3

Laying on of hands is just as it is called, but it is a Christian doctrine for transference of power. Understanding the power of touch makes knowledge of the importance of laying hands easier. Have you ever felt a movement in your body when you are touched or hugged by certain people? Whether consciously or unconsciously, something happens when there is a touch.

Laying of hands teaches Hierarchy, Authority and Power transfer.

“And without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better.” Heb.7:7

As a believer you must never forget that there are people above you who carry in them the unction you need to function. You can gain access to that power when you serve and hands are laid on you.

Laying on of hands is a doctrine of Christ which dates back to the beginning. Parents confer blessings or authority on their sons by laying on of hands. Isaac blessed his son Jacob, by laying hands on him. Gen.27:27

Sacrifices bore the sins of the children of Israel when hands are laid on them by the high priest. Leviticus 16:21. This still happens in traditional religion, only that humans, in some places take the place of animals. It is important you are cautious of who lays hands on you. At the ordination of the elders, Moses laid hands on them in order to transfer his spirit to them. Numbers 11:16-25. Moses also ordained Joshua by laying of hands, there by transferring the spirit of wisdom to him. Numbers 27:15-23, Deuteronomy 34:9 It is important that a visionary who understands his/her assignment lays hands on those to work with him/her. No other person should do it. These are few examples of laying on of hands in the old testament.

In the new testament, laying on of hands went beyond ordination, but as a means of transferring the power of the holy Ghost and all it represents from a higher authority to the lower.

“Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.” 2 Tim1:6

“Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.” 1Tim.4:14

In the above scriptures, Paul admonishes Timothy to stir up the gift that was deposited in him via the laying of hands.

Every believer has the power of the holy Spirit and that was why Jesus commanded us to lay hands on the sick in Mark 16:18.

The baptism of the holy Ghost is mostly done by the laying on of hands. Acts8:14-19. The Apostles laid hands on believers who are set aside for specific assignments. Acts6:5-6. Acts13:2&3

Laying on of hands was as important in the old testament as it is in the new testament but God wants us to be cautious because the one who is ordaining may be guilty of the sin of the ordained.

“Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.” 1Tim5:22

This is the reason why there are rules for ordination such as its written in 1Tim3:2-13

“A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; One that rules well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil. Likewise must the deacons be grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. Even so must their wives be grave, not

slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.”

Any church having leaders ordained without ensuring that they understand the above scripture risks their losing the candle light of the church.

It should be noted that the person who lays hands in the case of ordination should be respected and honored even in your closet because God watches over them. Eccl. 10:20, Numbers 12:5-12

NOTE: There will be a re-ordination. Let every leader understand the above scripture and live accordingly.