

New Testament Prayer

'Prayer changes the believer'

- I.** There many facets to New Testament prayer.
 1. A new High Priest.
 2. New access to God.
 3. Multiple areas of content: adoration, worship, intercession, supplication.
- II.** Review of the vow from faith (Jam. 5:15-16).
 1. Verse 15 'vow' noun, verse 16 verb of noun (both "pray" KJV).
 2. Verse 15 is the result of confession, already has restored family relationship—faith.
 3. Verse 15 sins will be forgiven (1 Jn. 1:9).
 4. Verse 15 "sick" (KJV) is mentally weary, overwhelmed.
 5. Verse 15 "saved" and "raised up" are alluding to physical healing.
 6. Verse 16 "confess" is 'outwardly agree' with the others.
 7. Verse 16 references the previously mentioned sin v. 15 ("faults" KJV).
 8. The last of Verse 16 should read "very strong is the supplication of a righteous one being made effective." Obviously by following the above protocol.
- III.** Interpretation:
 1. **Verse 15:** the believer has sinned and the guilt has caused him mental anxiety (Eph. 4:30). After confession to the Father, the believer determined not to commit that sin again: vow from faith. Because the saint changed his mind the Lord will 'save' and 'raise him up' from his perilous mental state of mind. The sins are 'sent away', forgiven, hence the return of peace from God.
 2. **Verse 16:** 'confess' is different than 1 John 1:9; it is the 'outward agreement' here with others. The agreement is regarding the previously mentioned sin in v. 15. (Contextually the sin involves distention with other Christians v. 9. "Grudge" has the idea of causing grief—a habitual action). "Pray" is most likely "wish well" for one another. The problem is resolved. The resolution of the conflict with other believers is the bases for the healing of the mental anguish, sick, of verse 15.
- IV.** Summary: verse 15 is the result of confession to God; verse 16 is making right with men the results of the sinning.