

## A New Order of Priesthood

*Scripture reading:* Exodus 19:6, 2 Peter 2:9

Do you know that when you lay hands on a person that you are actually putting your life on the line for that person? Did you know that is what it means? Did you know that God made the people of Israel lay their hands on the priest and confess their sins over him, and their sins left them and went into the priest? Amen. You know, I have seen it happen. We had situations where brothers laid their hands on people but they didn't have the spiritual virtue or energy to counteract the thing that was in that person and it came back upon them.

One day, we were called up into a mountain top to go pray for a woman who was possessed with some devil. We all left to go but this young man took a short-cut through the bushes and got up there first. What he wanted to have was the glory of being the person who delivered the woman. If you have those kinds of things in you, keep away from demons. They will kill you because they can spot a wrong thought anywhere. The boy ran up there. He laid his hands on the woman. When we got there, his hand was crippled, withered; and we never got him better. He started having epileptic seizures and had them until he died. We could not bring deliverance to him.

You have to beware of how you lay hands. Do you remember in Hebrews 6:1, Paul speaks of the "*laying on of hands*" as part of our foundation doctrine? You need to have that foundation doctrine well secured in your foundation. Because in the laying on of hands, you are actually accepting unto yourself the problem that the person has.

There was a woman in the Bible that had the issue of blood. You can imagine that it was some sin that gave her that issue. Now-a-days we might say it was some sort of venereal disease. She grabbed the hem of Jesus' garment and Jesus said, "*I felt virtue come out of Me*" (Mark 5:25-33). Do you realize that when you lay hands on a person, you are giving out virtue? YES! He said, "*I felt virtue come out of Me.*" His disciples said, "But everybody is touching You and rubbing up against You." Jesus responded, "No, no. Something else: there was a deliberate action that pulled the virtue out of Me." Do you know what action it was? Faith. The woman believed it! I am telling you - you do not know how strong faith is!

FAITH! By FAITH then, we are going to fit the bill of God - not because we are righteous, not because we are pretty, not because we are good, not because we are better than anybody else - BUT BECAUSE WE BELIEVE WHAT GOD SAYS. He will make you a royal priesthood.

Now, God created the priesthood to be a mediator between God and man. Do you know that is what a priest is? When Jesus Christ came, Jesus became the mediator between God and us. So, the priesthood was abolished. But then, He said He had a new priesthood after the order of Melchizedek (Hebrews 7:11). Who is this Melchizedek?

Abraham went to battle and he overcame the five kings of Sodom and Gomorrah. When he was coming back, there came a man to him. Abraham said, "Who are you?" The man said that He was the king of Salem (Genesis 14:18-20) and Abraham recognized that it was God and gave Him a tenth of all, his tithes. You know, I always wondered what God did with it. Maybe He just put it up into smoke or something. But Abraham gave it to this King of Salem; and Salem is Jerusalem. Yes! City of peace! So this situation brings us into something new - a new order of priesthood has been created.

(Excerpt from *Keeping in Touch*, February 2007, pg. 36-38)

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