The Battle Cry

Sermon Outline

A. When Wounded (vs. 13-14):

1. **Suffering** – Any believer who is seeking to live out the principles for the godly living that James has shared (1:2-4, 12, 26; 2:14-26; 5:7-11) may continuously factually experience painful suffering to the point of creating distress and hardship by those who do evil.

2. **He must pray** – James commands these suffering believers to continuously prostrate themselves and make special petitions to God.

3. **Is anyone cheerful?** – A believer that is continually have strong feelings that joyful because they feel encouraged and therefore in good spirits.

4. **Sing praises** - Those who are cheerful are commanded to get a stringed instrument and continuously play songs of praise to God.

5. **Sick** - This is a different Greek word than was used for affliction and suffering in verse 13.

6. **Sick** - Those who are continually without strength because they are spiritually or physically weak. This could be because of their willful abuse of the Lord’s Supper.

7. **They must call** – Believers who are weak must cause themselves to command the elders of the church to attend to them.

8. **Elders** – The elders who were appointed in every church (Acts 14:23) or in each town (Titus 1:5) were given the authority by God to oversee the congregation. It is these that must be called when the suffering experienced by a believer is continuous.

9. **Church** – The elders must be of that local assembly of believers.

10. **They are to pray** – Once the member calls the elders the elders are commanded to collectively cause themselves to make intercession to make a special request before God.

11. **Anointing** – James uses this word which more attached to smearing or rubbing an oil on someone for medical purposes like the man on the road to Jericho (Luke 10:30-37). The word for anointing ‘Chrio’ symbolized the smearing of oil on someone for sacred purposes. The name of Christ finds its root from this word – ‘The anointed One.’
12. **Anointing** – There is no restoration promised in this verse. It is promised in verse 15 when there is a call for faith. Christ repeated said it is the person’s faith that healed them.

13. **Anointing** – The anointing of the oil is symbolic, since many people used Olive oil like medicine, to strengthen this weak believer’s faith. It is the same as Christ would do when He used mud on the eyes of the blind man (John 9:6). This is only done once – aorist mood.

14. **Name of the Lord** – The prayer of the elders still depended on authority and nature of Christ.

15. **Name of the Lord** – James already established the power of Christ name in chapter 2:19; “You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe and shudder.”

**B. When Healing….. (vs. 15):**

1. **The prayer offered** – This word for prayer makes “a vow”. It seems like James is implying that the elders must vow their faith to be in God alone.

2. **Faith** – The object of the elders prayer is to demonstrate faith.

3. **Faith** – The elders must have confidence with a deep commitment with complete confidence that God has the ability and authority of to resolve whatever the believer is experiencing.

4. **Faith** – Establishing a church with elders was not just to have leaders it was to ensure that in these chaotic times (last days) we can have hope.

5. **Will restore** - God will deliver the believer from physical or spiritual weakness. This could take place in heaven or on earth. This passage does not indicate that this deliverance will take place at that moment because this word relates to present and future deliverance.

6. **The Lord will raise Him up** – The deliverance from sickness, danger, spiritual weakness or physical pain providing new life to a believer totally depends on God’s power, authority and sovereign will.

7. **If he has committed sins** - If the believer has been continuously sinning so that the sin has become rooted in their lives as a result of them becoming spiritually or physically weak due to all their afflictions their sins will be forgiven (Hebrews 10:26-39).

8. **Forgiven** – This believer is liberated from the power of sin, the record that those sins created, the punishment the sins may have caused, and they no longer stand guilty before God.