

Here's How It Works VII – Hands and Feet

Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

Romans 6:13

REVIEW

In the Bible, hands represent what we *do*, and feet represent where we *go*. Believers' hands and feet are to be consecrated unto the Lord. See: “Then shalt thou kill the ram, and take of his blood, and put it upon the tip of the right ear of Aaron, and upon the tip of the right ear of his sons, and upon the thumb of their right hand, and upon the great toe of their right foot” (Ex. 29:20)

I. HANDS

A. They represent what we DO.

“Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it.”
(Prov. 3:27)

“Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.” (Eph. 4:28)

“Study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands....”
(I Thess. 4:11)

“Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands....” (Job 1:10)

“She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.” (Prov. 31:19)

B. They indicate sincerity in praying.

“Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.” (Ps. 141:2)

C. They indicate sincerity in pledging.

“Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth, that I will not take from a thread even to a shoelatchet....”
(Gen. 14:22-23)

“The LORD hath sworn by his right hand....” (Isa. 62:8)

D. They represent power.

“The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.” (Ps. 110:1)

“Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Let your hands be strong [in God's service], ye that hear in these days these words by the mouth of the prophets....” (Zech. 8:9)

E. They are shown to be the means of blessing.

“He took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.” (Mark 10:16)

“If there be among you a poor man of one of thy brethren within any of thy gates in thy land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not harden thine heart, nor shut thine hand from thy poor brother: But thou shalt open thine hand wide unto him, and shalt surely lend him sufficient for his need, in that which he wanteth.” (Deut. 15:7-8)

F. Guilt is linked to their abuse.

“For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity....” (Isa. 59:3)

“When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it.” (Matt. 27:24)

“Give them according to their deeds, and according to the wickedness of their endeavours: give them after the work of their hands; render to them their desert.” (Prov. 28:4)

“Though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished....” (Prov. 11:21)

“The desire of the slothful killeth him; for his hands refuse to labour.” (Prov. 21:25)

G. Hence the importance of the topic.

“And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.”
(Matt. 5:30)

H. ... and our need to look to the Lord.

“And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.” (Ps. 90:17)

II. FEET

A. They represent where we go.

“Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil.” (Prov. 4:26-27)

B. So, when we go the wrong way, they are linked to sin.

“My son, walk not thou in the way with [sinners]; refrain thy foot from their path: For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood.” (Prov. 1:15-16)

“Feet that be swift in running to mischief.” (Prov. 6:18)

“For he is cast into a net by his own feet, and he walketh upon a snare.” (Job 18:8)

“Make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way.” (Heb. 12:13)

C. We must look to God to establish our feet.

“When I said, My foot slippeth; thy mercy, O LORD, held me up.” (Ps. 94:18)

“He will keep the feet of his saints....” (I Sam. 2:9)

“He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.” (Ps. 40:2)

“The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.” (Hab. 3:19)

D. We must look to God to guide our feet.

“[The Savior came] to guide our feet into the way of peace.” (Luke 1:79)

“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” (Ps. 119:105)

III. WORDS FOR THE PROCESS THROUGH WHICH WE MAY BE GOING

A. Fear – of failure and its effect on the lost, the saved, and God, ultimately leading to a deeper awe and reverence for the Lord who is so much higher than we.

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge....” (Prov. 1:7)

B. Fall – before God in utter wonder and submission to His will and power to achieve it even in us.

“The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.” (Rev. 4:10-11)

C. Flee – to God and away from sin; resist the devil and observe him flee from us.

“Flee also youthful lusts.” (II Tim. 2:22) “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” (James 4:7)

D. Forget – prior history of sin and failed attempts at godliness.

“Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before.”
(Phil. 3:13)

E. Follow – after God with a determination that will not accept anything less than success.

“Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.” (Phil. 3:12)

F. Find – God.

“I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.” (Prov. 8:17)

