

“The word providence means foresight; timely care; particularly, active foresight, or foresight accompanied with the procurement of what is necessary for future use, or with suitable preparation.... the care or benevolent guidance of God or nature” (Webster).

Homer Hailey defined providence as God's
“foresight and forethought in creating the
universe whereby he could be in control and
carry out his purpose to its ultimate
consummation”



Matthew 6:24-33

- Don't worry about life, food, clothing
 - God feeds the birds of the air (Matt. 6:27)
 - Worry won't add to our height (Matt. 6:27)
 - God will cloth us (Matt. 6:28-31)



Example of Foolish Worry

- Luke 10:40-42

But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, “Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me.” And Jesus answered and said to her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.”



James 5:13-18

- James asks three questions:
 - His First Question: “is any among you suffering?”
 - Suffering is from “kakopatheo” to suffer misfortune, hardship and is used only three other times.
 - 2 Tim. 2:3, “Suffer hardship with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.”
 - 2 Tim. 2:9 he says of himself, “wherein I suffer hardship unto bonds as a malefactor.”
 - 2 Tim. 4:5, He tells Timothy to “suffer hardship, do the work of an evangelist.”
 - All refer to suffering for the cause of Christ. It may be physical or mental
 - What to do - let him pray



James 5:13-18

- James' 2nd Question
 - “Is anyone cheerful?”
 - What to do - Sing!



James 5:13-18

- **James' 3rd Question**
 - **“Is any among you sick?”**
 - **Sick (astheneo) is used 36 times and is translated “sick” and “weak” almost equally**
 - **What to Do**
 - **Call for the elders to pray and anoint with oil**



Results:

- “And the prayer of faith” will save the sick
 - “sick” in verse 15 is different than “sick” in verse 14 and means “to grow weary, be weary” probably refers to a weariness of mind
- “If he committed sins” Be Forgiven!



How Do We Know?

- “The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much”
(James 5:16)
- Example of Elijah (Vs. 17-18)



Example

- Esther
 - **Esther 4:14** For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for *such* a time as this?"

