

James 5:6-20

Range of Meanings

Consider several words in James 5:6-20 that have a range of meanings that may affect the translation and the interpretation of the passage. Unless otherwise noted, the examples provided are one among numerous others in various contexts. Footnotes are provided for both English and Greek versions as well as Greek dictionary entry for each word.

ἀσθενέω (*astheneō*)¹ in James 5:14

Heal the **sick**, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay. Matthew 10:8

As for the one who is **weak** in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. Romans 14:1

σώζω (*sōzō*)² in James 5:15a and 20

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will **save** his people from their sins. Matthew 1:21

Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has **made you well**.” And instantly the woman **was made well**. Matthew 9:22

κάμνω (*kamnō*)³ in James 5:15b

Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not **grow weary** or fainthearted. Hebrews 12:3

[*kamnō* is used only twice in the New Testament. The only occurrence other than Hebrews 12 is in James 5:15 where it is translated as “sick” or “ill” with few exceptions.⁴ For example, *Young’s Literal Translation* has “distressed.”⁵]

ἰάομαι (*iaomai*)⁶ in James 5:16

But the centurion replied, “Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant **will be healed**.” Matthew 8:8

For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I **would heal** them. Matthew 13:15 (quoting Isaiah 6:9-10).

¹ <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans%2014%3A1%2CMatthew%2010.8&version=ESV,%20thgnt>
<https://www.billmounce.com/greek-dictionary/astheneo>

² <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matthew%201%3A21%2C%209.22&version=ESV;THGNT> ;
<https://www.billmounce.com/greek-dictionary/sozo>

³ <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=heb%2012.3&version=ESV;THGNT>
<https://www.billmounce.com/greek-dictionary/kamno>

⁴ <https://www.biblegateway.com/verse/en/James%205%3A15>

⁵ <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=James%205%3A15&version=YLT>

⁶ <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matthew%208.8%2C%2013.15&version=ESV,%20thgnt>
<https://www.billmounce.com/greek-dictionary/iaomai>