

# STRETCH FORTH THY HAND

## MARK 3:1-12

Text:

Introduction:

The earthly ministry of the Lord was surrounded by disagreement. Controversy swirled around everything the Lord did.

Those who were most often offended were offended because He forgave a man's sins, (Mark 2:6-7); ate a meal with sinners, (Mark 2:16); refused to honor their rituals, (Mark 2:18); and because He allowed His disciples to pick and eat grain on the Sabbath, (Mark 2:24).

Our text once again finds the Savior in the synagogue of the Sabbath. The Pharisees followed Jesus to the synagogue looking for some way to trap Him, discredit Him and destroy Him and His ministry.

As we look at this story we see very clearly three types of hearts on display.

Notice:

# 1. THE HARD HEART

## A. Their Plan (vs 1-2)

### Mark 3:1-2

And he entered again into the synagogue; and there was a man there which had a withered hand. <sup>2</sup>And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the sabbath day; that they might accuse him.

## B. Their Problem (vs 5)

### Mark 3:5

And when he had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, he saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched *it* out: and his hand was restored whole as the other.

## C. Their Plot (vs 6)

### Mark 3:6

And the Pharisees went forth, and straightway took counsel with the Herodians against him, how they might destroy him.

# 2. THE HOLY HEART

## A. His Command (vs 3)

### **Mark 3:3**

And he saith unto the man which had the withered hand, Stand forth.

#### B. His Confrontation (vs 4)

### **Mark 3:4**

And he saith unto them, Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace.

#### C. His Compassion (vs 5)

### **Mark 3:5**

And when he had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, he saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched *it* out: and his hand was restored whole as the other.

## **3. THE HOPEFUL HEART**

#### A. What they saw in Jesus (vs 10)

### **Mark 3:10**

For he had healed many; insomuch that they pressed upon him for to touch him, as many as had plagues.

#### B. What they sought (vs 10)

C. What they said (vss 8, 11)

**Mark 3:8**

And from Jerusalem, and from Idumaea, and *from* beyond Jordan; and they about Tyre and Sidon, a great multitude, when they had heard what great things he did, came unto him.

**Mark 3:11**

And unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him, and cried, saying, Thou art the Son of God.