

(14) Withered Hand Sabbath Controversy (Matt. 12:9-14; Mk. 3:1-6; Lk. 6:6-11)

1. This confrontation takes place even before the miracle is accomplished.
 - a. In the Pool of Bethesda incident the confrontation took place after the miracle.
 - b. In the Plucked Grain incident the confrontation took place as the activity unfolded.
 - c. In this incident the confrontation precedes the activity.
2. The divergent details.
 - a. Mark & Luke do not record the Pharisees' question to Jesus.
 - 1) In these two Gospels Jesus phrases a question to them in terms of doing good versus doing harm (Mk. 3:4; Lk. 6:9).
 - 2) In these two Gospels Jesus "looks around at them" (Mark: in anger) and proceeds with the miracle (Mk. 3:5; Lk. 6:10).
 - b. Matthew's record details a question the Pharisees offer, and the Lord's reply contrasts men with sheep (Mt. 12:10), and affirms the Sabbath's appropriateness for doing good (Mt. 12:11-12).
3. The identical result: Jesus Christ defiantly healed the man even though the scribes and Pharisees disapproved (Matt. 12:13; Mk. 3:5-6; Lk. 6:10-11).
4. The Lord's anger (Mk. 3:5) and the Pharisees' anger (Mt. 12:14; Mk. 3:6; Lk. 6:11) are quite a contrast.