

It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.
If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

Standing on the Promises of God -

Romans 8:28

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

Passage – Luke 6:6-11

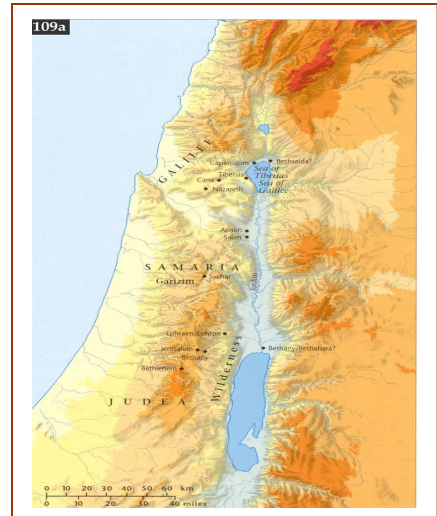
In these past few classes, we followed our Savior and the disciples to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast of Passover – the 2nd one, so far, in His ministry.

While in Jerusalem, He healed the invalid on the Sabbath at the pool of Bethesda [meaning “mercy”].

- ✓ This was a demonstration of divine mercy, grace, and compassion.
- ✓ The self-righteous religious crowd was shocked.
- ✓ An informal court was composed to charge the Lord with breaking the Sabbath.
- ✓ He handed them the charge of blasphemy as well when He said. . .

Sanhedrin – a counsel composed of 70 high priests that had jurisdiction over Judea

- They have the authority to issue warrants for arrest.
- Authority to try people for violating the Mosaic Law



‘Ο πατήρ μου ἔως ἄρτι ἐργάζεται καὶ ἐγὼ ἐργάζομαι –

“The Father of me right this very moment is working Himself and I am working Myself.”

Arrogance prevents people from seeing the error of their ways and causes them to misapply truth.

The Lord then departed from religious territory with the disciples, but they were being followed by a special squad of Pharisees.

This special squad of Pharisees charged the disciples with breaking the Sabbath for eating grain while traveling (Matthew 12:1-2).

- It was actually lawful (Deut. 23:24-25).
- The Lord stepped in, with great sarcasm, and mounted a four part defense.

*After the Lord speaks, the religious crowd has nothing to say!
The religious crowd is always silent after the truth is presented.*

A few notes about religious people (in review) -

1. Religious people fall into two categories - believer and unbeliever.

- **Unbelievers** are locked into a system of works.

Religion is a system whereby man attempts to gain God's approval by his actions and deeds.

Doing things in an attempt to make God happy with you!

- **Believers**, although having placed faith alone in Christ to get into heaven, [Ephesians 2:8-9] now resort to works in an attempt to please God. They have not learned how to live this life as a "new spiritual species."

2. In either category, the religious person is arrogant.

- The religious person believes that he is righteous because of what he does for God.
- Therefore, his righteousness is dependent upon works.
 - He seeks to earn God's love, approval, and justification.
 - Blessing is based on what HE can do!
- The grace oriented Christian understands he *has* God's approval.
 - He was justified apart from works.
 - He was blessed and continues to be blessed as a son of God.

3. Arrogance blinds people to the liberty of the spiritual life.

4. Arrogance prevents people from making correct applications.

"*The Christ of the Gospels*," Sheppard, p. 161

Mishnah - the authoritative legal tradition of the scribes

Talmud - contains the Mishnah with rabbinic commentary and discussion

Luke 6:6-11

With a squad of Pharisees assigned to flank the Lord's ministry, He presents His 5th defense -

He is the Lord of the Sabbath.

⁶On another Sabbath He entered the synagogue and was teaching; and there was a man there and his right hand was withered.

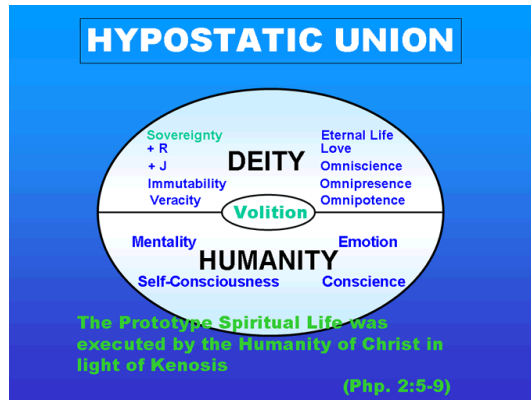
"Withered" – ξηρός - "*dried up*"

- A hand that is dried up
- It has no life in it.
- It's deformed and unusable.

⁷The scribes and the Pharisees were watching Him closely. . .

- παρατηρέω – "*were watching closely*" - "*To lie in wait for*"
 - ✓ Watching the Lord with malice in their hearts
 - ✓ Motivated to cause Him distress – jealous over His actions
 - ✓ This is what the religious squad was assigned to do.
 - ✓ This is the modus operandi of the religious self righteous arrogant person
... *To lie in wait to catch you in a sin*

Just look at for Whom they are lying in wait.



The attributes of the unique person of History!

⁷The scribes and the Pharisees were watching Him closely *to see* if He healed on the Sabbath, so that they might find *reason* to accuse Him.

⁸ But He knew what they were thinking, and He said to the man with the withered hand, **“Get up and come forward!”**

... And he got up and came forward.

- ✓ That man took a step of faith.
- ✓ He listened to the Lord’s commands.
- ✓ He obeyed - - - because He believed.

⁹ And Jesus said to them, **“I ask y’all, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save a life or to destroy it?”**

The religious crowd is shamed into silence!

¹⁰ After **looking around** at them all, He said to him, **“Stretch out your hand!”**

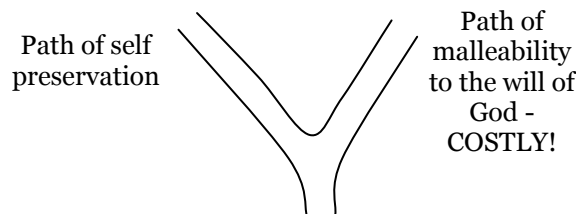
➤ Περιβλέπω – “Looking around”

Mark 3:5 – States that He is *looking around* with anger!

After looking around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, He said to the man, **“Stretch out your hand.”** And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored.

A hard heart is impervious to the truth.

Do you come to Bible class with an open mind to receive the truth?



Now the Lord is at this fork in the road – self-preservation of obeying the artificial laws made by the religious crowd or following the path of the will of God . . . a costly decision!

¹⁰ After **looking around** at them all, He said to him, “**Stretch out your hand!**”

- This is a command that the man knows he cannot fulfill.

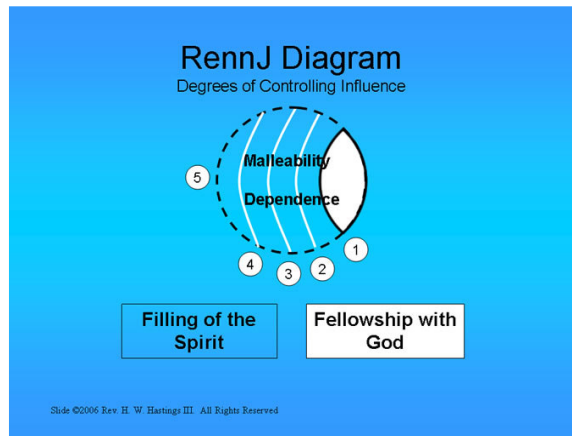
But he did . . .

- How did he fulfill the command of our Savior to stretch out that hand?
- By faith in the Person of Christ to provide the needed ability

. . . and his hand was restored.

POD - The grace oriented believer executes the unique spiritual life by faith in his Savior to provide the needed ability to do what the Savior would have him do.

- ✓ You must trust the Lord for the presence, when needed, of the required ability.
- ✓ On Whom are you walking in dependence?



¹¹ But they themselves were filled with rage, and **were discussing** together what they might do to Jesus.

- ✓ Religious people are repulsed at the grace of God.
- ✓ They have problems accepting things that they have not earned or deserved.
- ✓ So they reject the grace of God!

Regardless of the planning and plotting that was going on against the Lord, He continues right on with His ministry.

POD - Regardless of what people say about you or how they treat you, the Lord wants you to press on with the work that He has given you to do.

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.