

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 -

Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me."

Passage – Luke 6:10-19

¹⁰ After looking around at them all, He said to him, "Stretch out your hand!" But he did; and his hand was restored.

According to Mark's Gospel, the Lord was looking around at them with indignation over their misapplication of doctrine and their obstinacy of soul.

Mark 3:5 –

After looking around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart . . .

. . . He said to him, "Stretch out your hand!" But he did. . .

- So how did he fulfill the command of our Savior to stretch out that hand?
- He did this by faith in the Person of Christ to provide the needed ability.



Faith in God is how we accomplish all things that bring glory to God in this life.

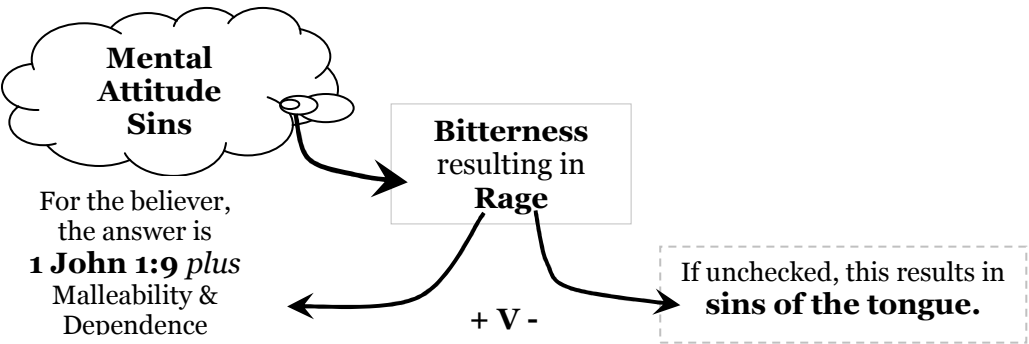
. . . and his hand was restored.

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

The objective of the religious crowd was to derail the Lord's ministry, which, to them, meant getting rid of the Lord Jesus Christ.

POD – Rage and bitterness are mental attitude sins.

POD – They are fueled by arrogance and result [if unchecked] in activist scheming in the demise of another.



Mark 3:6

⁶The Pharisees went out and immediately *began* conspiring with the Herodians against Him, as to how they might destroy Him.

- ✓ This is the point at which a plot was undertaken to murder the Lord Jesus Christ.
- ✓ Arrogance is blinding because the arrogant person will compromise his doctrine to achieve his agenda.
- ✓ In order to achieve the destruction of the Lord and His ministry, the Pharisees had to compromise their doctrine and band together with the **Herodians**.

Herodians

1. They were the political and religious enemies of the Pharisees.
2. Political enemies because their candidate must be loyal to Rome
Loyal to Rome in order to secure benefits for the commonwealth
3. Religious enemies because the Pharisees considered them apostate Jews
4. Therefore, the Pharisees compromised their doctrine in order to use the Herodians as a means to accomplish their objective.

POD - The believer caught up in the arrogance complex of sins compromises doctrine to achieve his objective.

- ✓ To achieve his objective, the arrogant believer uses people.
- ✓ In order to use people, he must associate with them.
- ✓ To associate with those who will help him achieve his objective requires compromising doctrine.

Self-justification
Self-deception
Self-absorption

What does the Lord do at this time? **He breaks contact and moves on!**

⁷Jesus withdrew to the sea with His disciples; and a great multitude from Galilee followed; and also from Judea,

⁸and from Jerusalem, and from Idumea, and beyond the Jordan, and the vicinity of Tyre and Sidon, a great number of people heard of all that He was doing and came to Him.

Observation - As Jesus was a communicator of God's message, so those with positive volition located themselves in the vicinity of the Messenger.

➤ **Nothing else mattered to them!**

⁹And He told His disciples that a boat should stand ready for Him because of the crowd, so that they would not crowd Him;

- ✓ He recognized he had a [*primary*] responsibility to teach.
- ✓ Provisions had to be made to facilitate the teaching.
- ✓ Here we see the disciples functioning as deacons should.
- ✓ The crowd would press in on Him to such an extent that people could not hear the message.
- ✓ By having a boat on stand-by, He could separate Himself from the crowd in order to teach – emphasis on a contingency plan to facilitate the Word of God being taught!

- - **Note that healing was less important than teaching to our Lord.** - -

¹⁰for He had healed many, with the result that all those who had afflictions pressed around Him in order to touch Him.

- ✓ People had different motivations for coming – some legitimate and others for their own reasons.
- ✓ Priority to the Lord was the effective communication of God’s message, not the healing of people.
- ✓ Healing was a divine prerogative, used as a testimony to the fact that He, as their Messiah, had divine authority over sin, sickness, & death.

Observations to a Local Church that come from this -

- People who attend church oftentimes attend for very different reasons - motivations are different.
 - ... Maybe it is the MUSIC program.
 - ... Maybe it is other attractions distinct from the teaching of the Word.
- As the people attempted to press in upon the Lord and crowd Him with their afflictions, so people who attend church will attempt to press upon the pastor their afflictions and personal agendas.
 - ✓ The solution is to do what the Lord did. . .
 - Get in the boat!
 - Create a distance between you and the people in order to objectively facilitate the teaching of the Word.
 - ✓ If you get too close and involved with the people, it will hinder what you are supposed to do as a pastor - to teach the Word of God.
 - ✓ That’s really what the people need, whether they know it or not.
 - ✓ When people could not gain access to the Lord in that boat, their motivations were tested.

Where there is spiritual impact in the souls of believers through the teaching of God’s Word, there will also be demonic opposition.

¹¹ Whenever the unclean spirits saw Him, they would fall down before Him and shout, “You are the Son of God!”

¹² And He earnestly warned them not to tell who He was.

- ✓ He refused the testimony of demons because this was a testimony from an unworthy source.
- ✓ The demonic host would not be allowed the honor of heralding the Messiah.

Luke 6:12-19

¹² It was at this time. . .

- ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις – “In these days”

The days after healing the man with the withered hand on the Sabbath.

The days when the multitudes were following Him. . .

- ... from Judea and Jerusalem
- ... from Idumea
- ... from beyond the Jordan
- ... and from the vicinity of Tyre and Sidon.

The days of great momentum.

. . . that He went off to the mountain to pray. . .

- προσεύχομαι indicates the purpose that He went off to the mountain was to pray.
 - ✓ He went by Himself.
 - ✓ Privacy was required!

Sometimes there are things only discussed between YOU and the LORD!

- The Lord is getting ready to make a monumental decision the very next day – a decision about who He should choose, out of all His students, to be His disciples.

... and He spent the whole night in prayer to God.

“He spent the whole night” - εἶμι + διανυκτερεύω

- This indicates progressive motion picture action executed from the humanity of Christ in seeking the Father’s will through prayer.

The Lord went up to pray and He did not stop praying until He knew the Father’s will regarding the matter.

Corrected translation - ***He was spending the whole night in prayer to God***

¹³ And when day came, He called His **disciples** to Him. . .

“Disciples” - μαθητής – “pupils or students”

- ✓ Here He is coming down the mountain.
- ✓ He knows the Father’s will or who He will choose.
- ✓ He calls all of His students to Him.
- ✓ They assemble. . .

... and chose twelve of them, whom He also named as apostles.

The Lord does not call without also providing the means to accomplish.

He did two things -

- ✓ **He chose** - ἐκλέγομαι – “To select”
- ✓ **He named** - ὀνομάζω – “To bestow a name upon someone”

The name He bestowed upon them was *apostle* -

“Apostle” - ἀπόστολος

- ✓ “One who is entrusted with a message and sent out to represent another”
 - Delegate
 - Envoy
 - Ambassador
- ✓ This was quite an honor to be chosen and named as one entrusted with a message and sent out to represent Him and His kingdom.
- ✓ All 12 were chosen, but only after an entire night in prayer.

POD - Prayer should always precede decisions regarding the discernable will of God.

- **Expressed will of God** – “Keep on being filled with the Spirit. . .”
“Pray for one another. . .”

POD - Until that will is made apparent, the believer must wait upon the Lord for the wisdom to do what God would have him do.

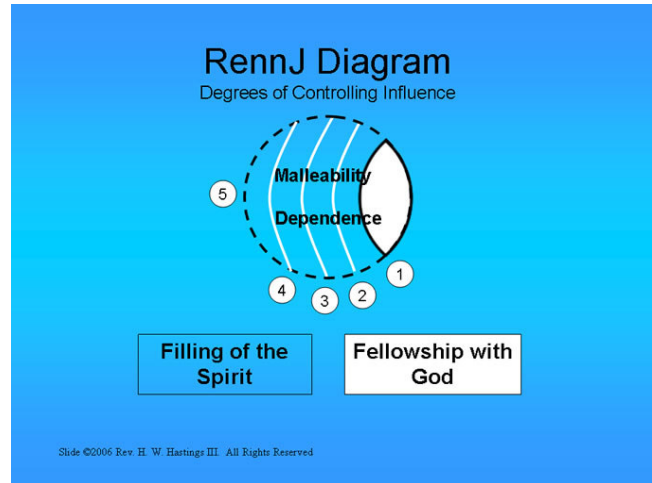
James 1:5 But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

➤ **Prerequisites for receiving wisdom regarding the discernable will of God:**

- ✓ **Following the Protocol of Prayer**
- ✓ **Malleability in RennJ Diagram**

PROTOCOL OF PRAYER

1. Address God the Father (Matt. 6:8-9).
2. By means of the Spirit (Eph. 6:18).
 - a. Filling (Eph. 5:18).
 - b. Leading (Gal. 5:18; Rom. 8:14).
 - c. Bearing Witness (Rom. 8:16; 9:1).
3. In the name of Jesus Christ (Jn. 14:13).
4. IAW the will of God (Jn. 14:13; Rom. 12:2, 8:26)
5. For the Glory of God (Jn 14:13).
6. With faith/trust (Jas. 1:6-7; Mk. 11:24).
7. Malleability to the will of God (Matt. 26:36-44; Rom. 8:26).



POD - The wisdom from above is never contrary to the infallible word of God, Bible doctrine.

POD - God's will never requires the believer to compromise Bible doctrine.

¹³ And when day came, He called His disciples to Him and chose twelve of them, whom He also named as apostles

¹⁴ Simon, whom He also named Peter and Andrew his brother; and James and John; and Philip and Bartholomew;

¹⁵ and Matthew and Thomas; James *the son* of Alphaeus, and Simon who was called the Zealot;

¹⁶ Judas *the son* of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

- ✓ These men have been chosen by the Lord Jesus Christ to represent Him.
- ✓ They are going to be His companions – getting to know Him intimately.
 - ✓ He will reveal things to them that He does to no one else.
- ✓ They will be entrusted to teach and to communicate with authority and conviction the kingdom message.
 - ✓ They will be given His authority and power to validate the message that they communicate.

Would Jesus have chosen an unbeliever to name as an apostle?

With that in mind, was Judas Iscariot a believer or unbeliever?

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