

# The Miracles of Jesus

## Lesson Twelve

### Healing a Man's Withered Hand

Text: Matthew 12:9-13; Mark 3:1-5; Luke 6:6-10

#### Introduction:

1. In Capernaum, Jesus healed a paralyzed man before the Pharisees, scribes and doctors of the law.
2. But, before He healed him, Jesus forgave his sins.
3. Following this, He chose a publican named Matthew to be one of His disciples.
4. In Jerusalem, he healed a man at the Pool of Bethesda on the Sabbath, further angering the Jews.
5. On another Sabbath, He and his disciples picked and ate grain from a field.
6. Then, on another Sabbath, Jesus healed a man with a withered hand.
7. Thus, it is clear to see that Jesus was confronting the Jews on their traditions that contradicted the Law of God.

#### I. The Miracle

- A. The man had a hand that was withered – literally, “shrunk, dried up, wasted.”
- B. Jesus commanded him to “stretch forth” his hand, something that would have been impossible due to his condition.
- C. Immediately, it was restored – “reconstituted, returned to its former or natural state” – and it was whole – “healthy, sound, true.”

#### II. The Manifestation

- A. Again, with this miracle, Jesus was demonstrating His power and authority.
- B. By proving his power to heal, He showed His authority over the traditions of the Pharisees (cf. Mark 7:10-11).
  1. Notice that the miracle took place in “their synagogue” (Matt. 12:9).
  2. Notice that before He worked the miracle, Jesus asked if it were lawful to heal on the Sabbath. {*Mark says that they “watched Him” so they could accuse Him.*}
  3. Notice that Jesus asked, “Is it lawful to do good on the Sabbath days, or to do evil, to save life, or to kill?”
    - a. Healing a sick man was a good deed; however, they said that it could not be done on the Sabbath.
    - b. Not healing the man because of some tradition that was in error would be evil (cf. Galatians 6:10; James 4:17).
  4. Notice that Jesus looked on them with anger.
  5. Notice that Jesus was grieved – “sorrowed, afflicted” – by the hardness of their hearts.
- C. As soon as Jesus had healed this man, they began to plot as to how they could kill Him, even joining forces with the Herodians (Mark 3:6).

III. The Message

- A. Traditions of men must be replaced by the Word of God.
- B. We must not let difficulties cause us to give up or neglect our duties.
- C. We must beware the hardening of our hearts.
- D. This miracle reminds us of our need of spiritual restoration.