The Gospel of Mark-Christ the Servant

Mark 3:1-19 Your Personal Notes: 1."And he entered again into the synagogue; and there was a man there which had a withered hand. 2. And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the sabbath day; that they might accuse him. 3. And he saith unto the man which had the withered hand, Stand forth. 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. 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. 6. And the Pharisees went forth, and straightway took counsel with the Herodians against him, how they might destroy him. 7.But Jesus withdrew himself with his disciples to the sea: and a great multitude from Galilee followed him, and from Judaea, 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. 9. And he spake to his disciples, that a small ship should wait on him because of the multitude, lest they should throng him. 10. For he had healed many; insomuch that they pressed upon him for to touch him, as many as had plagues. 11. And unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him, and cried, saying, Thou art the Son of God. 12. And he straitly charged them that they should not make him known. 13. And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him. 14. And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, 15. And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils: 16.And Simon he surnamed Peter; 17. And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and he surnamed them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder: 18. And Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Canaanite, 19. And Judas Iscariot, which also betrayed him: and they

went into an house."

Spurgeon's Notes on Mark

3:5 - A man was present in the synagogue who had a shriveled hand. In the same synagogue was the Savior, ready to restore that hand. What a fortunate meeting! The Pharisees sat watching Jesus, not to be delighted by an act of his power but to find something for which they might accuse him. When it was all over, the most they would be able to allege would be that Jesus had healed a shriveled hand on the Sabbath. The Savior put plainly before them the question, "Is it lawful to do good on the Sabbath days, or to do evil?" The question only allowed one reply. But they declined to answer one of the simplest questions in morals. They had looked on him; now he looked on them. In that look were two things: anger and grief--indignation and inward sorrow. Jesus was angry that they should willingly blind their eyes to a truth so plain. He had put to them a question to which there could only be one answer, and they would not give it. Mingled with his anger was grief. He was heartbroken because of "the hardness of their hearts." Their blind enmity grieved him because it was securing their own destruction. But his anger ended with that look; he spoke no word of rebuke. Jesus did not speak a word, and yet he said more without words than another person could have said with words. He saved his words for the man with the shriveled hand: "Stretch forth thine hand." What a disgrace to our race, for people to be so inhuman as to wish to see a fellow human being remain deformed and to dare to blame the gentle physician who was about to make him perfectly whole! Humans indeed are at enmity with God when they find an argument for hate in a deed of love.