(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.
      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.