

Bible Study Service in Surabaya, June 23, 2014 (Monday Evening)

Speaker: Deacon Youpri Ardiantoro

Peace and grace in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark 3: 1-7

3:1. And He entered the synagogue again, and a man was there who had a withered hand.

3:2 So they watched Him closely, whether He would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse Him.

3:3 And He said to the man who had the withered hand, "Step forward."

3:4 Then He said to them, "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they kept silent.

3:5 And when He had looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their hearts, He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored as whole as the other.

3:6 Then the Pharisees went out and immediately plotted with the Herodians against Him, how they might destroy Him.

3:7 But Jesus withdrew with His disciples to the sea. And a great multitude from Galilee followed Him, and from Judea

= Jesus healed a man whose right hand was withered in the synagogue.

It refers to one who is sinful, weak, and so on.

It means that we must bring the sinful to the temple of God.

The sinful in the temple of God can be divided into **two kinds** as follows.

1. A man who had a withered right hand refers to the sinful who wants to be healed.
2. The Pharisees and the Herodians who were inside the temple, but never experienced the power of the service to God or life renewal. Thus, they kept on being flesh and blood human.

A MAN WHO HAD A WITHERED RIGHT HAND

Luke 6: 6

6:6. Now it happened on another Sabbath, also, that He entered the synagogue and taught. And a man was there whose right hand was withered.

The right hand was withered.

The functions of the hand are as follows.

1. **Matthew 6: 3**

6:3. "But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,

The first function is **to give**.

The withered right hand cannot give to God and other people who are in need. It means stinginess.

One seizes the possession of God and other people because of not being able to give. It means greediness.

1 **Corinthians 6: 10**

6:10. nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.

Continuing in it, such person cannot enter heavenly kingdom.

2. **Isaiah 1: 15**

1:15. When you spread out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you; Even though you make many prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood.

The second function of the hand is **to be spread out for praying**.

The withered right hand cannot do that, does not want to pray, or prays but the prayer is not answered by God.

'Your hands are full of blood' = wicked deeds. As long as we keep the wicked deeds, we cannot pray or we are able to pray but the prayer is not answered by God.

The deeds of the hand that are wicked are as follows.

o **Isaiah 59: 1-3**

59:1. Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear.

59:2 But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.

59:3 For your hands are defiled with blood, And your fingers with iniquity; Your lips have spoken lies, Your tongue has muttered perversity.

It relates to the mouth, namely the lying mouth that does not say correctly. One cannot pray if he keeps on lying.

○ **Isaiah 59: 8**

59:8. The way of peace they have not known, And there is no justice in their ways; They have made themselves crooked paths; Whoever takes that way shall not know peace.

The second is the deed that does not know peace, meaning not confessing the mistake. Even blaming others. In addition, it also means one cannot forgive the mistake of others.

○ **Psalm 26: 10**

26:10. In whose hands is a sinister scheme, And whose right hand is full of bribes.

The third one is the like to give or receive the bribe.

○ **Proverbs 6: 10**

6:10. A little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to sleep â€œ

The fourth is the lazy or the ones who like to postpone their works. Being lazy, one must be evil. Do not postpone anything God has stirred in your heart!

3. **Psalm 134: 2**

134:2. Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, And bless the LORD.

The third function is the hands are lifted up **to praise and glorify God**.

The withered hand cannot praise and glorify God.

The examples of not glorifying God are as follows.

○ **Genesis 9: 26**

9:26. And he said: "Blessed be the LORD, The God of Shem, And may Canaan be his servant.

Noah got drunk and naked. Ham knew about that, but he went out to tell it to his brothers. Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and went backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father's nakedness. Then, Noah said "Blessed be the LORD, The God of Shem".

Noah refers to parents, both physical and spiritual ones.

There are many mistakes of the parents, but we must not gossip about them, or else we are like Ham, whose right hand was withered. Consequently, there is curse in life.

○ **1 Samuel 25: 39**

25:39. So when David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, "Blessed be the LORD, who has pleaded the cause of my reproach from the hand of Nabal, and has kept His servant from evil! For the LORD has returned the wickedness of Nabal on his own head." And David sent and proposed to Abigail, to take her as his wife.

= life that cannot repay good for good, but evil for good. Consequently, God struck him.

4. **1 Thessalonians 4: 11**

4:11. that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you,

The fourth function is **to work** physically and spiritually.

Spiritually, we work in the vineyard.

The withered hand cannot be used. It means one stops his ministering and he does not want to minister again.

We must work in the vineyard because only the workers in it will get the wage.

Therefore, we must work or minister to God correctly, especially because God has tried hard to enable us to minister to

Him.

The proof is He goes out early in the morning in order to look for the workers and then at 9 a.m., 12 at noon, at 3 p.m., and 5 p.m. he does it again. Those were the time of Jesus's crucifixion.

It means that the calling of the Lord costs the sacrifice of Christ.

5. Galatians 2: 9

2:9. *and when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.*

The fifth function is **to shake hand** with others or make fellowship.

The withered hand cannot be made for shaking hands with others or joining for a fellowship like the Pharisees and Herodians who kept the hatred and the hardness of heart.

Consequently, the man with the withered hand would have died.

God did not want it, so He helped him.

The ways God helps us are as follows.

1. Isaiah 1: 18

1:18. *"Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.*

The first way is **through the remission of sin**.

No matter what kind of sin we have, God is able to forgive us if we stop doing that and confess it.

2. Through the true teaching Word, starting from convincing or showing the false thing. If one does not receive it, there will be a rebuke. If it is still rejected, there will be chastening to give the help.

Such person willingly received the true teaching Word. It means that he received the Word regardless of any risk until he could believe in the Word.

After he received the Word or stood in the middle or stepped forward, the Lord said "Stretch out your hand" although the right hand of the person withered. It means **the work of faith**.

As a result, the withered hand can be made alive.

The healed hand can be spread out to pray. It means the deed that can glorify God, work, and join for the fellowship of the body of Christ to reach perfection.

THE PHARISEES AND HERODIANS

They were in the hardness of heart.

Ephesians 4: 17-23

4:17. *This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind,*

4:18 *having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;*

4:19 *who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.*

4:20 *But you have not so learned Christ,*

4:21 *if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus:*

4:22 *that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,*

4:23 *and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,*

The hardness of heart means there is no life renewal, but one keeps on living in old life or flesh and blood human.

The signs are as follows.

- (verse 25): there is lie.

4:25. *Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another.*

One cannot change if he keeps on lying.

- (verse 26): anger.

4:26. *"Be angry, and do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath,*

It means the anger with emotion.

- (verse 28): stealing.
4:28. *Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.*
- (verse 29): corrupt word that does not edify, but becomes stumbling-block.
4:29. *Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.*
- **Mark 3: 4**
3:4. *Then He said to them, "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they kept silent.*
= 'kept silent' means there is no firmness although one knows about the good and not.
It begins from not being able to distinguish between the true teaching Word and the false one.
In such condition, one cannot change because he cannot distinguish between the right and not in all matters.

Consequently, the Lord got angry. It means there is judgment or wrath of God.

He will go out of the right fellowship and make a conspiracy ("3:6. *Then the Pharisees went out and immediately plotted with the Herodians against Him, how they might destroy Him*).

Such person cannot change because of looking for the mistake of Jesus.

The Pharisees and Herodians will become the antichrist.

1 John 2: 19

2:19. *They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.*

Tonight, let us have the life renewal. Do not become the same as the Pharisees and Herodians!

There are three things that can change us as follows.

1. The cross of Christ.

Philippians 3: 17-21

3:17. *Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.*

3:18 *For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:*

3:19 *whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things.*

3:20 *For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,*

3:21 *who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.*

The cross means as follows.

- suffering in the flesh because of sinning,
- suffering in the flesh without any sin.

We must bear the cross in order to be renewed. **Do not avoid the cross!**

God wants to change us to be as glorious as He is through the cross.

Nevertheless, there are many people who become the enemy of the cross of Christ. They do not want to suffer in order to stop sinning as well as suffer without any sin.

2. The true teaching Word.

2 Corinthians 3: 18

3:18. *But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.*

It is written in the Bible, whose verse explains other verses of the sixty six books.

If we willingly hear the Word, it will become the faith. If we do it, we will be renewed to have the same image with God.

3. **Worship prayer.**

Matthew 17: 1-2

17:1. Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves;

17:2 and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.

We are being renewed in the worship prayer.

The true worship prayer is encouraged by the true teaching Word with one saying, namely 'alleluia'.

Revelation 19: 1, 3-4, 6

19:1. After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God!

19:3 Again they said, "Alleluia! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!"

19:4 And the twentyâ€”four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sat on the throne, saying, "Amen! Alleluia!"

19:6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunders, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!

The voice of worship is the reflection of the one in heaven.

The right voice of worship will do the life renewal, **beginning from the face.** The sad face is changed into the bright one.

The examples of sad face are as follows.

- o Cainâ€™s sad face because of jealousy.
- o Hannahâ€™s sad countenance because of life pressure.
- o Two disciples that went to Emmaus had sad face because of disappointment.

The clothes are changed.

It refers to our daily conducts.

Mark 3: 7

3:7. But Jesus withdrew with His disciples to the sea. And a great multitude from Galilee followed Him, and from Judea

Facing the Pharisees and Herodians, Jesus withdrew to the sea.

It means that God will leave one who does not have life renewal.

Let us keep on having the life renewal, so that God will never leave us.

God blesses you.