> *Mark 3:5 – “Looking around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, he said to the man, ‘Stretch out your hand.’ He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. Then the Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.”*

Blessed be the name of our Lord Jesus Christ forever. God’s Word is our spiritual nourishment, giving us eternal life. Therefore, taking time each day to meditate on it yields benefits not only for today but for eternity—even for trillions of years ahead.

Today, by God’s grace, we reflect briefly on the anger of Christ. When we read the passage above, we see a moment when the Lord went into the synagogue and encountered a man with a withered hand.

When Jesus intended to heal him, He noticed that the Pharisees and Herodians were watching closely, hoping to accuse Him if He healed on the Sabbath. Jesus’ response? He became deeply

angry—not at the man, but at the hardness of their hearts. He looked around at them “with anger,” from those on His left to those on His right, from the front row to the back, intentionally revealing the depth of His righteous indignation.

Reflect: If you were among the Pharisees, how would you have responded to Christ’s anger? Often, it is easy to interpret anger as hatred. Yet, Scripture shows us that Christ’s anger is always coupled with compassion. Though His face expressed righteous anger, His heart was filled with sorrow for the hardness and sinfulness of their hearts. This is true divine anger: it is never hatred but a longing for repentance and restoration.

When God corrects you for your sins, do not think He hates you or is cruel. His apparent anger is motivated by love—He desires your repentance, not your destruction. As 2 Peter 3:9 reminds us: “The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise… not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.”

Similarly, when God warns against sexual immorality, greed, idolatry, or any sinful path that leads to eternal destruction, it is not because He wishes to punish unjustly. It is because He loves you and desires transformation. Sometimes He may remove

things from your life or deny your requests to turn your heart back to Him.

Revelation 3:15-20 provides this principle clearly:

> *“I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. … Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. Therefore be earnest and repent. Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.”*

Notice verse 19: “Those whom I love, I rebuke and discipline.” God’s discipline is always motivated by love, even when it appears stern. When Christ confronts sin in your life, it is not to punish but to protect, guide, and restore you.

Practical Steps for True Repentance:

Surrender fully to God: Acknowledge your sins and ask for

forgiveness sincerely, committing to a new beginning.

Remove sinful habits: Destroy objects or practices that lead you into sin, such as immodest clothing, pornography, alcohol, or immoral relationships.

Pursue godly fellowship: Surround yourself with fellow believers who encourage spiritual growth.

Walk in consistent obedience: Faith without works is dead (James 2:17). True repentance is demonstrated by a transformed life.

When God sees sincere repentance and a transformed life, He strengthens you to overcome temptations that once seemed impossible. This results in profound spiritual growth and intimacy with Christ.

Baptism as Confirmation:
After repentance, it is essential to follow through with water baptism as instructed in Scripture (John 3:23; Acts 2:38). Baptism signifies rebirth and public declaration of your commitment to Christ.

> *Mark 3:5 reminds us again:*
> *“Looking around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart.” This shows that God’s anger is purposeful: it is always directed at sin and hardness of heart, never at His beloved children who seek Him.*

Blessings to you. Please share this message with others and join our channel on WhatsApp for more spiritual guidance.

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