

“What Is That In Thine Hand?”

⇒ **Text:** Exodus 4:1-5

⇒ **Intro:**

- Today, our lesson's title comes from v. 2 of our text where the Lord asks Moses a question.
- **“What is that in thine hand?”**
 - I can see Moses answering the Lord, “You mean this old rod in my hand?”
 - “What use can that be to you?”
- You see the Lord already knew what Moses had in his hand.
 - The Lord just wanted to see if Moses would surrender what he had in his hand to the Lord.
- You see the rod by itself was just a plain old ordinary stick.
 - This rod was not special, it had no power in and of it self.
 - It was just a stick!
- God is about to show Moses,
 - Its not what you got,
 - Its not how much you got,
 - Its not where it came from,
 - What matters is will you surrender it unto the LORD!!!
 - When Moses surrendered the rod over to the Lord it was mightily used of God.
- The scriptures record Moses used the rod -

- To turn the waters of Egypt into blood. – Exodus 7:19-20
 - To send thunder, hail, and fire from heaven down upon the land of Egypt– Exodus 9:23
 - To bring a horde of locust upon the land of Egypt – Exodus 10:13
 - To part the waters of the red sea for Israel to pass on dry ground – Exodus 14:16
 - To smite a rock and water poured forth to quench the thirst of God’s people – Exodus 17:5-6
 - To defeat the enemy by holding it high the air atop the hill – Exodus 17:9-11.
- o What would have happened if Moses had refused to give God what was in his hand?
- A nation would have stayed in slavery
 - Thousands would have been killed
 - We may have never heard of Moses at all
 - The rod would have been just another rod

⇒ **The Lord has asked that same question of many of his people over the centuries - What is that in thine hand?**

John 6:5-12

- o WHAT IS THAT IN THINE HAND, LAD? - Five loaves and two fishes
- Not much you say, but given to God it was used to feed 5000
 - What if the Lad had held on to his lunch
 - Would we have had such a wonderful miracle recorded by Jesus

- WHAT IS THAT IN THINE HAND, MARY OF BETHANY? - a box of precious ointment (Mt.26:7-13)
 - Some complained about her wasting the ointment
 - Don't let others discourage you from giving to the Lord what is in your hand
 - What if she had kept the ointment in her hand and used for herself?
 - Would we have ever learned of her sacrifice?
 - Jesus praised her for what she had done and said her act would be memorialized wherever the gospel would be preached throughout the entire world
 - But if she had kept it in her own hand, we would have never known of her act and the ointment would have been just like any other ointment
- WHAT IS THAT IN THY HAND, DORCUS? - a needle and thread (Acts 9:36-39)
 - How many seamstress do you know of in the Bible?
 - We know Dorcus only because she gave what was in her hand to the Lord
- WHAT IS THAT IN THY HAND, DAVID? - a sling, a harp (I Sam.17:40)
 - David wasn't great because of who he was
 - David's greatness is seen in the fact that he took what he had and gave it to God

- o WHAT IS THAT IN THY HAND, SAMSON - a jawbone (Judges 15:15) 1000 slain
 - ↳ philistines defeated
 - o Don't think that Samson's secret was his physical strength
 - His strength came from the Spirit of the Lord just as ours does today
 - God takes pleasure in using insignificant things
 - o WHAT IS THAT IN THY HAND, GIDEON - lamps, pitchers, and trumpets (Judges 7) 116-25. *Medianites defeated*
 - Nobody would ever in their right mind plan to go into battle the way Gideon did
 - Thank God he was willing to take what was in his hand and use it the way God said use it.
 - God can do wonders when we give him what is in our hand
 - o WHAT IS THAT IN THY HAND, SHAMGAR - an ox goad (Judges 3:31)
 - ↳ Israel delivered
 - Not much is said in the Bible about Shamgar
 - I doubt anything would have been said of him if he had not taken what was in his hand and given it to the Lord
 - o WHAT IS THAT IN THY HAND, WIDOW - two mites (Mk.12:42-44)
 - What the widow gave wasn't much
 - You don't have to have a lot to give
 - God is a great big wonderful God, and he can take our little and make something big out of it. - *As the Song says "Little is much when God is in it"*
- ⇒ **Christian the Lord is asking the same question of you this day.**
- o WHAT IS THAT IN THY HAND, CHRISTIAN?

- o In other words the Lord is asking you –
 - Will you take what you have and give it to the LORD?
- o Someone of you may say, “~~Pastor~~ I just don’t have very much to offer God.
 - Can I tell you today God is not looking for someone who has a lot,
 - God is looking for someone who is willing to use what GOD has provided them, to accomplish his will.
- o What’s that in your hand Christian??
 - Well it’s just a King James Bible,
 - But I’m going to study,
 - I’m going to ask GOD to guide me into all righteousness.
- o What’s that in your hand?
 - Well it’s a microphone,
 - and I’m going to sing about JESUS today!!
- o What’s that in your hand?
 - It’s a musical instrument,
 - and I’m going to play it unto the LORD!!
- o What’s that in your hand?
 - Well it’s a checkbook
 - and I’m going to use it to further the Gospel of JESUS CHRIST by supporting my church and missionaries.
- o What’s that in your hand?
 - Well it’s an automobile

- And I'm going to use it to bring people to church.
- o What's that in you hand?
 - Well it's a telephone.
 - And instead of using it to bad mouth my pastor to others
 - I'm going to use it to invite people to church and tell them what a great church and pastor I have!
 - I'm going to use it to witness to others and tell them how to be saved!
- o What's that in your hand?
 - Well it's a gospel tract.
 - And I'm going to give it to someone to read so they can be saved.

⇒ **Conclusion:**

- o I ask you my friend **WHAT'S THAT IN YOUR HAND?**
 - I don't care what you got,
 - how much,
 - or how little,
 - if you give it unto the lord he will begin to do things you never imagined.
- o If Moses had not obeyed God and threw down the stick he would not have seen the awesome power of GOD.
 - How many times have we failed to answer the call of GOD, and missed out on the miracles the LORD wants us to be a part of?
- o One last question.

- What's that in your hand sinner?
 - Well it's my eternal future.
 - You know GOD gives us all the ability to choose to accept him or reject him.
 - He made it so simple that there would be no excuses in heaven as to why you rejected him.
 - Jesus Christ died so that you and I could be saved.
 - Through His blood our sin debt was paid.
 - There is no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.
 - What's in your hand, and will you give it unto the LORD?