

*“They* **WATCHED HIM**  
**CLOSELY . . .**



*That They  
Might Accuse  
Him”*

Mark 3:2

## MARK 3:1-6 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> And He entered the synagogue again, and a man was there who had a withered hand. <sup>2</sup> So they watched Him closely, whether He would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse Him. <sup>3</sup> And He said to the man who had the withered hand, "Step forward." <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> Then the Pharisees went out and immediately plotted with the Herodians against Him, how they might destroy Him.

“THEY WATCHED HIM CLOSELY ...  
*That They Might Accuse Him*”



**Luke 6:7 (NKJV)**  
7 So the scribes and  
Pharisees watched Him  
closely, whether He  
would heal on the  
Sabbath, that they  
might find an accusation  
against Him.



**“THEY WATCHED HIM CLOSELY ...  
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**Luke 14:1-3 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> Now it happened, as He went into the house of one of the rulers of the Pharisees to eat bread on the Sabbath, that they watched Him closely. <sup>2</sup> And behold, there was a certain man before Him who had dropsy. <sup>3</sup> And Jesus, answering, spoke to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?”





“THEY WATCHED HIM CLOSELY ...  
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**Luke 20:19–20 (NKJV)**

<sup>19</sup> And the chief priests and the scribes that very hour sought to lay hands on Him, but they feared the people—for they knew He had spoken this parable against them.

<sup>20</sup> So they watched *Him*, and sent spies who pretended to be righteous, that they might seize on His words, in order to deliver Him to the power and the authority of the governor.

# “THEY WATCHED HIM CLOSELY ... *That They Might Accuse Him*”

They Criticized Jesus ... (Mark 2:1-3:6)



- **For What He Said** (your sins are forgiven) – 2:1-12
- **For His Associations** (He ate with sinners) – 2:13-17
- **And His Disciples Because of What They Didn't Do** (didn't fast) – 2:18-22
- **For What His Disciples Did** (plucked grain) – 2:23-28
- **Because He Did Good** (healed ) - 3:1-6



Justifiable, Fair, Positive Criticism Is  
**GOOD & NECESSARY**



- **Criticism** - “an act of criticizing; to judge as a critic; to find fault; to blame or condemn.” - Merriam Webster
- **Constructive criticism** - that which is expressed in love to “build up,” not to tear down — it is always expressed face-to-face, never behind their back.



Justifiable, Fair, Positive Criticism Is  
**GOOD & NECESSARY**



John 7:24 (NKJV)  
24 Do not judge  
according to  
appearance, but  
judge with righteous  
judgment.”

Matthew 7:1-5 (NKJV)  
<sup>1</sup> “Judge not, that you  
 be not judged. <sup>2</sup> For  
 with what judgment  
 you judge, you will be  
 judged; and with the  
 measure you use, it  
 will be measured back  
 to you.



[illegible]

Matthew 7:1-5 (NKJV)  
3 And why do you look at  
the speck in your  
brother's eye, but do not  
consider the plank in your  
own eye? 4 Or how can  
you say to your brother,  
'Let me remove the speck  
from your eye'; and look, a  
plank is in your own eye?



Matthew 7:1-5 (NKJV)  
5 Hypocrite! First  
remove the plank  
from your own eye,  
and then you will see  
clearly to remove  
the speck from your  
brother's eye.

Justifiable, Fair, Positive Criticism Is  
**GOOD & NECESSARY**



- **Self Examination –**  
2 Cor. 13:5; Mat. 7:1-5
- **Attitudes, Actions & Methods hindering OUR Effectiveness For Christ -**  
John 15:2; Heb. 12:5-11
- **Sin MUST Be Dealt With –**  
Mt. 18:15-17; 2 Thes. 3:6,14
- **False Teachers & Divisive Brethren –** Acts 18:26; 2 Jn 1:9,10; Mt. 7:16; Rom. 16:17



# CRITICAL SPIRIT



“an obsessive attitude of criticism and fault-finding, which acts to tear others down”

**is Destructive & Evil**



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**Fruit of A Critical Spirit – Mark 2:1-3:6**



- **Rejects clear evidence – 2:1-12**
- **Castigates the sinner instead of teaching them – 2:13-17**
- **Condemns the righteous & their appropriate actions – 2:18-22**
- **Condemns the innocent – 2:23-28**
- **Exposes our ungodliness & wickedness – 3:1-6; Jam. 4:11,12**

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## Causes of A Critical Spirit

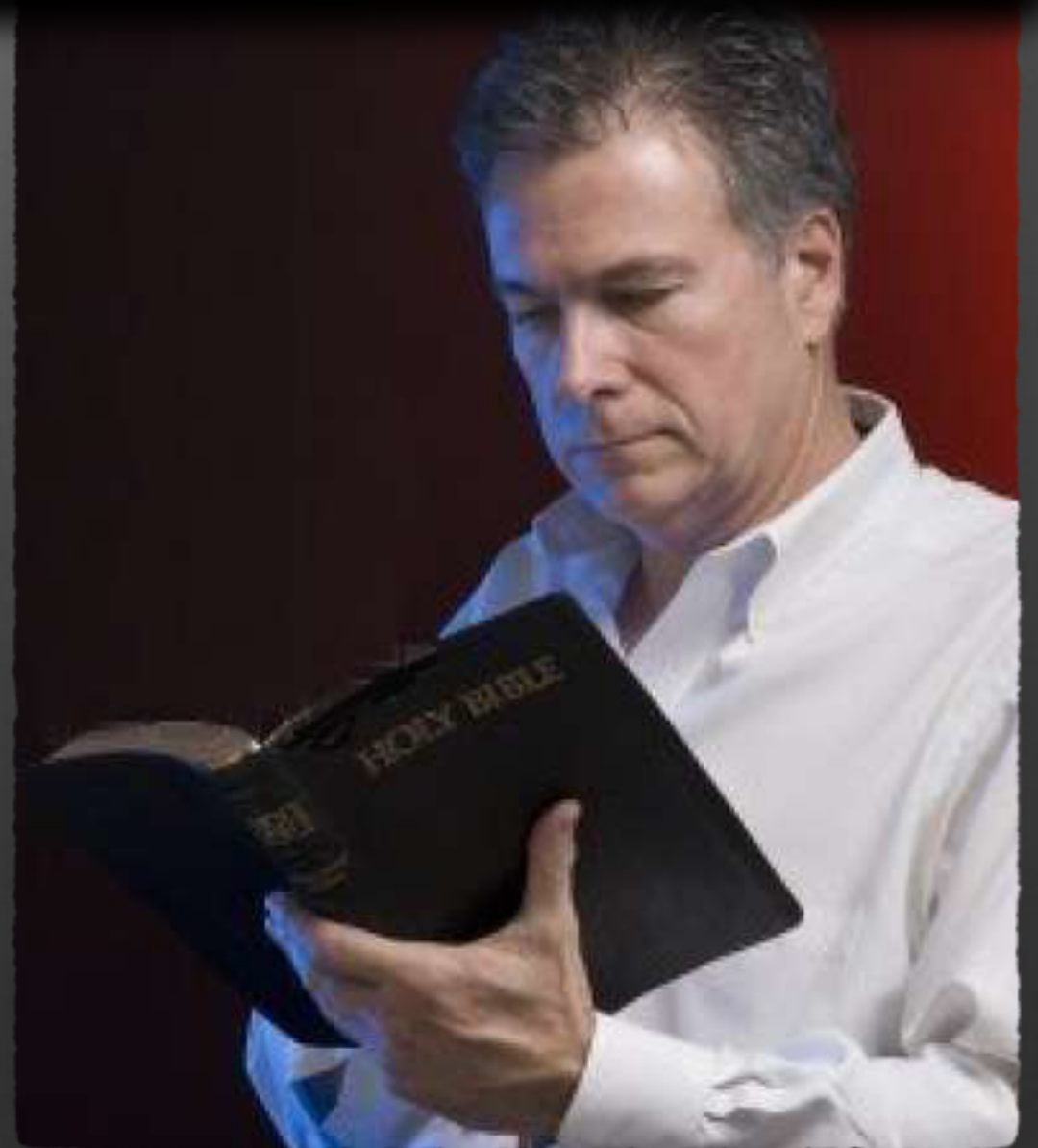


- **The Devil** – Rev. 12:10; Job 1:9ff
- **Pride** – Pro 13:10; 21:24; Jam 4:11
- **Self Righteousness** – Luke 18:9-14
- **Carnality** – 1 Cor. 3:1-4; Gal. 5:15
- **Lack of Love & Mercy** – 1 Cor. 13:4-7; (unforgiving, negativity)
- **Ignorance** – Mark 2:25;
- **Hypocrisy** – Mat. 23:4,23, 29,30

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## The Cure For A Critical Spirit

- **Humility – Recognizing We All Have Faults** – Rom 3:23; John 8:7; Tit 3:1-5
- **Put On The New Man** – Eph. 4:23-32; Col. 3:10-14;
- **Bear the Fruit of The SPIRIT** – Gal. 5:22,23; 1 Co. 13:4-8
- **Diligently Add To Our Faith** – 2 Pet. 1:5-11

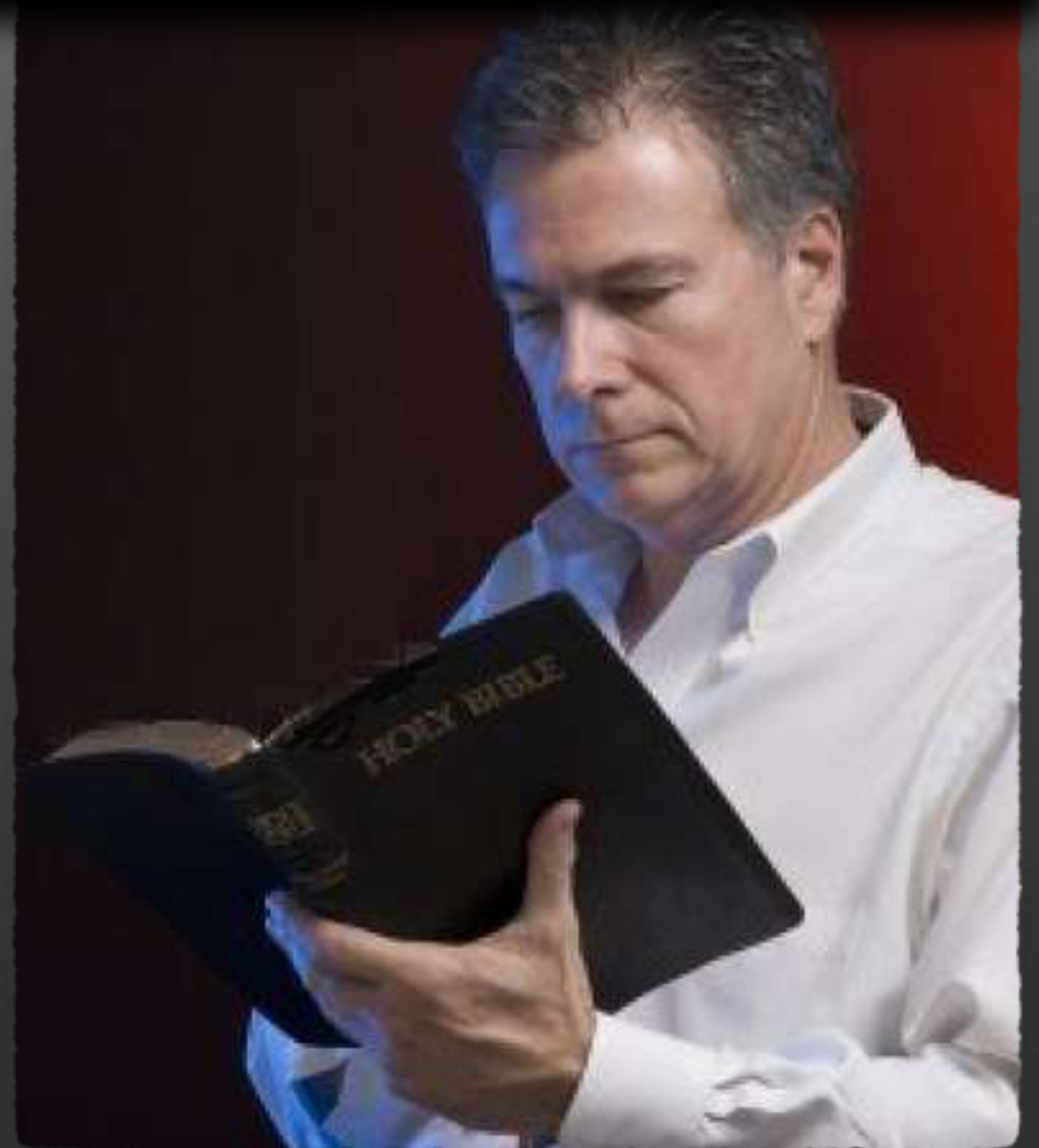




“THEY WATCHED HIM CLOSELY ...  
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## The Fruit of A Godly Spirit

- **Honesty & Fairness** –  
John 7:24; Prov 18:13
- **Patient, Long-suffering,  
Considerate, Forgiving**  
– Rom 14:1-12, 19-21;  
Col. 3:12-14; Eph. 4:32
- **Seeks Peace** — Rom  
12:18; 2 Tim. 2:22; Heb.  
12:14; Luke 17:3



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## The Fruit of A Godly Spirit

- 
- A man with dark hair, wearing a white shirt, is shown from the chest up, holding a black Bible. He is looking down at the Bible with a focused expression. The background is dark and out of focus.
- **Honesty & Fairness** – John 7:24; Prov 18:13
  - **Patient, Long-suffering, Considerate, Forgiving** – Rom 14:1-12, 19-21; Col. 3:12-14; Eph. 4:32
  - **Seeks Peace** — Rom 12:18; 2 Tim. 2:22; Heb 12:14; Luke 17:3

- **Opposes injustice** – John 7:24; Is. 1:17
- **Acts decisively against SIN** – Mat. 5:29,30; 1 Cor. 5; Rom 16:17; Gal. 2:5; etc.
- **Does NOT partake in sinful behavior** — Eph. 5:7,11
- **Exposes False Teachers** — Mat 23; Acts 15:2



# “THEY WATCHED HIM CLOSELY ...

## Matthew 27:35–37, 54 (NKJV)

<sup>35</sup> Then they crucified Him, and divided His garments, casting lots, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet: *“They divided My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.”* <sup>36</sup> Sitting down, they kept watch over Him there. <sup>37</sup> And they put up over His head the accusation written against Him: THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS ... <sup>54</sup> So when the centurion and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying, “Truly this was the Son of God!”

# “THEY WATCHED HIM CLOSELY ...



- To honestly **examine** the evidence — John 20,30,31
- **Believe** that He is the Christ, the Son of God — John 8:24
- **Confess** Him before men — Acts 8:37; Romans 10:9,10
- **Repent** of your sins — Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30
- **Be baptized** in the name of Jesus, into Him, for the forgiveness of your sins — Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-6
- Be **faithful** to Him / become like Him — Heb 5:8,9; 12:1-3; Phil 2:5





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## LUKE 6:6-10 (NKJV)

<sup>6</sup> Now it happened on another Sabbath, also, that He entered the synagogue and taught. And a man was there whose right hand was withered. <sup>7</sup> So the scribes and Pharisees watched Him closely, whether He would heal on the Sabbath, that they might find an accusation against Him. <sup>8</sup> But He knew their thoughts, and said to the man who had the withered hand, “Arise and stand here.” And he arose and stood.

## LUKE 6:6-10 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “I will ask you one thing: Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy?” <sup>10</sup> And when He had looked around at them all, He said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” And he did so, and his hand was restored as whole as the other.