# "A 3'RD THREAT AGAINST THE CHURCH AT JERUSALEM"

## ACTS 6:1-4

1. **AN INTERNAL CRISIS AROSE WHICH THREATENED THE SUPERNATURAL UNITY OF THIS CHURCH (6:1-2)** 
   1. Its Nature: Murmuring
   2. Its Cause: Neglected Ministry
      1. It Appeared As Though *Hebrew* Widows Were Being Favored Over The *Hellenized* Widows (6:1)
      2. The Shear Numbers Were Overwhelming The Apostles And Essentially Preventing Them From Fulfilling Their Primary Purpose (6:2)
2. **SPECIFIC STEPS WERE TAKEN BY THE APOSTLES TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM (6:3-4)** 
   1. They Command The People To Divide Up Ministry Responsibilities
      1. Up Until This Point, The Apostles Had Been Doing It All
      2. That Which Would Now Be Divided Up, Would Be A Ministry, Just As The Giving Out Of The Word Is A Ministry
   2. They Stipulated The Qualifications For The *Seven Men* Who Would Essentially Relieve The Apostles In This "Hands On" Area (6:3)
      1. Sterling Integrity
      2. Spirit Filled
      3. Skilled Insights Into Practical Matters
   3. They Emphasized Their Steadfast Determination Concerning Their Own Calling (6:4)
      1. Today's Ministerial Training Is Actually A Prostitution Of Biblical Mandates
      2. Prayer & The Word Were Their Primary Areas Of Ministry