

Matthew
Chapter 12
July 12, 2020

Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath

*Memory
Verse*

“Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.” Genesis 2:1-3

Jesus Teaches on the True Meaning of the Sabbath

In the book of Genesis, God the Father teaches us a very important lesson. It was a lesson that would have been very foreign to people in that time, and can still seem strange to some in our time. The lesson is that you should set aside one day a week to rest and focus on God. People in bible times wouldn't have known anything about vacations, they would work seven days a week without a day off.

God had established a principle, but unfortunately, people began to add rules and regulations to God's commandments that He didn't intend. So, by the time Jesus started His ministry, a day of rest and focusing on God, had turned into anything but rest.

Jesus knew that the Sabbath had been twisted into something it wasn't supposed to be. The disciples were accused of violating the Sabbath because they were hungry and started plucking heads of grain to eat as they walked through the field. Jesus used this as an opportunity to teach those that were following Him about God's true character. The three examples Jesus points out in the scriptures are:

1. King David - 1 Samuel 21, King David and his men were very hungry. So, they went into the temple and ate the “showbread”, which was special bread that only the priests were to eat.
2. The Priests - Numbers 28, the priests were instructed to work on the sabbath, such as offering sacrifices, trimming the wicks for the candles, which would seem to go against God's commands.
3. The Man with Withered Hand - Matthew 12, Jesus points out that those accusing Him would rescue one of their own sheep if it fell in a hole on the Sabbath. So why would they not rescue a man with a broken/withered hand on the Sabbath.

Jesus quotes Hosea 6:6 - God desires mercy and not sacrifice. The point of the Sabbath was mercy, not showing your friends how much you were sacrificing. God's intention was that His people would find real rest in dedicating a day to spending time in His presence.

Read Matthew Chapter 12 and answer the questions below.

Bible

*Questions
& Personal
Application*

1) What were Jesus' disciples doing that upset the Pharisees?

2) Who went into the tabernacle and ate the showbread?

Hint read 1 Samuel 21

3) How do the priests break the laws man made for the Sabbath?

Hint read Numbers 28:9-10

4) What does Jesus have to say about what the priests do on the Sabbath?

Hint read Matthew 12:5

5) What does Jesus say the Pharisees will rescue on the Sabbath?

6) What did Jesus say is more valuable than sheep?

7) What does Jesus say about doing good? When is it ok to do good things for people?

Hint read Matthew 12:12

Prayer:

Jesus, thank you that I can find true rest in you. When I am tired and stressed out, I can come to you and find rest for my soul. Help me to share the joy of the rest you give with others. Amen.

Craft

Sabbath Rest

https://ithappensinablink.com/creation-day-7#_a5v_p=4047137

