

The Gospel of Matthew

Bible Study – Examination, Exposition, and Application

Chapter 12:1-50 – The Problem with Jesus' Power

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Chapter 12 – Problem with Jesus & His Power

► Distinctives: What Makes God's People (distinctly) Godly?

- **Anglican** – (1) Holy Scripture, (2) Creeds, (3) The Sacraments, and (4) the Historic Episcopacy
- **Baptist** – (1) Biblical Authority, (2) Individual Soul Liberty, (3) the Autonomy of the Local Church, (4) Priesthood of All Believers, and (5) the Separation of Church and State
- **Methodist** – (1) Prevenient Grace, (2) Justifying Grace, (3) Sanctifying Grace, (4) Means of Grace, (5) Gifts of Grace, and (5) a Universal Church in Conference under Elected Bishops
- **Presbyterian** – (1) the Sovereignty of God; (2) the authority of the Scriptures, (3) the necessity of grace through faith in Christ, (4) the rule of elders (the presbytery)
- **Roman Catholics** - (1) Holy Scripture according to the Magisterium, (2) Five Sacraments, (3) Transubstantiation, (4) Mariology, (4) Papal Structure
- **Judaism** – (1) Monotheism, (2) Circumcise, (3) Kashrut (Kosher Dietary Laws), and (4) Sabbath observance

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Chapter 12 – Problem with Jesus & His Power

- ▶ **Sabbath Observance: What Makes God's People (distinctly) Godly?**
 - ▶ **Keep the Sabbath – “Resting” (Hb. Melakha – creating/creativity)**
 - ▶ **Thirty-Nine Melakhof Categories** – Garments; Hides; Construction;
 - ▶ **The Order of Bread** – planting, plowing, reaping, gathering, threshing (extraction), winnowing, sorting/purifying, dissecting, sifting, kneading/amalgamating, and cooking/baking
 - ▶ **Saving Human Life** (Hb. Pikuach Nefesh) - When human life is endangered, a Jew is not only allowed, but required, to violate any Sabbath law that stands in the way of saving that person (example: to take a woman in active labor to a hospital)

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Chapter 12 – Problem with Jesus & His Power

- ▶ **12:1-50 Problems with Jesus on the Sabbath & His Power**
 - ▶ **v. 1-8 - Plucking Grain on the Sabbath** - Deut. 23:25 vs. Ex. 20:8-11
 - ▶ Jesus confronts the Pharisees – 1 Sam. 21:1-6
 - ▶ Bread of Presence – 12 loaves symbolizing “communion”
 - ▶ Priestly Service – “working” to offer sacrifices (Num. 28:9-10)
 - ▶ Human need supersede the Regulations of the Law - Quotes Hosea 6:6
 - ▶ Son of Man is lord (sovereign authority) of the sabbath
 - ▶ **v. 9-21 – Sabotage on the Sabbath – Jesus in the synagogue**
 - ▶ Pharisees ask: Helping Others on the Sabbath – Ex. 23:4-5, Deut. 22:4
 - ▶ Jesus heals (restores) the man's *chronically* withered hand
 - ▶ Jesus heals many crowds to fulfill Isaiah 42:1-4

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► 12:1-50 Problems with Jesus on the Sabbath & His Power

► v. 22-37- Reactions to Jesus and His Power

- Crowd – amazed, awestruck: “Can this be the Son of David?”
- Pharisees – Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons (2 Kgs 1:2)
 - Exorcisms apart from Jesus – v. 27; Mk. 9:38; Acts. 19:13-19
 - A House Divided: Satan or the Holy Spirit
 - Plundering a Home: v. 30 “Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters”
 - Unforgiveable Sin: “blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.”
 - Good or bad – evidence “fruit;” good and bad come from the heart
 - An Account: day of judgment “every careless word you utter...”
 - Words: Justification and condemnation

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► 12:1-50 Problems with Jesus on the Sabbath & His Power

► v. 38-42- Requests for Jesus to Use His Power (a Sign)

- Scribes and Pharisees – “Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.”
 - Jesus’ answer – evil and adulterous generation (Jer. 3:8; Eze 23:37)
 - Sign of the Prophet Jonah – death and resurrection
 - Nineveh will judge this generation
 - Queen of the South (Sheba) – 1 Kgs 10:1-10 2 Chr. 9:1-9)

► v. 43-45 – Return of the Unclean Spirit

► v. 46-50 – Jesus’ True Family

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