

## The Great Physician

### Luke 6:1-19

- Jesus and the religious leaders are on a collision course, as He is doing things that is putting the spotlight on their teaching and how their living. Now Jesus is going to talk about the most sacred of their traditions the “**Sabbath**” and its going to increase the opposition, but it will increase the desire of the hearts of those who want a relationship with God and not religion from man.

#### V1-19

- **V1-2** first they asked why Jesus was healing the lame, the sick, the blind, the leper, and eating with tax collectors and sinners, people who’d been cast off by the religious community. Jesus graciously answered “**because those who are sick need a physician**” now they’re asking “**why are they plucking grain, rubbing it in their hands and eating**”? To the religious leaders Jesus disciples were breaking the Sabbath and therefore disqualifying themselves and Him from teaching, this is what Pharisees do, they follow and wait until they have something to accuse.
- What the disciples did was lawful according to **Deut 23:25**- which state that if you travel through your neighbor’s field and are hungry you may pick some corns off and eat, what your not suppose to do is go into his field and harvest what is not yours in order to sell it for profit. What the Pharisees claimed is that they shouldn’t do it on the Sabbath, that’s because the religious leaders had come up with a bunch of Do’s and Dont’s for the Sabbath and this was a Don’t.
- The “**Sabbath**” Law made at Mt. Sinai was a sign between God and the nation of Israel, the word itself means “**rest**” and it’s linked with God ceasing of work after the **6<sup>th</sup>** day of creation. During this time the Rabbis taught that until Israel kept the Sabbath perfectly that Messiah couldn’t return, so to them obeying this Law was very important both personally and nationally.
- Today the mistake we make is people try just like the Jews did back then to think that they can somehow keep the Law and by doing so it will make them acceptable to God, and that’s just wrong. Folks go as far as to say that Sunday is the “**Sabbath**” but its not as you then are confusing the first day from the seventh day and what each represents.
- The Sabbath is the last day of the week and is a reminder of the completion of “**the old creation**” (The Law) while Sunday is the first day of the week, called “**The Lord’s Day**” in the NT and is a reminder of our Lord’s finished work in “**the New creation**” (The Church).We are never to mis the two because when we do that’s wen a whole lot of confusion begins to creep in, which is why Jesus spoke of new wine mixing with “old wineskins”, and the negative effects.
- **V3-5** Jesus uses the example of King David in **1Sam 21**, asking “**have you not read**” of course they had read the story repeatedly, but had missed the meaning completely. David when hungry and exhausted went and grabbed the “showbread” which only the priest could touch and was meant for sacrifice, and he ate it and God didn’t punish him for it, proving that “**human need is more important than religious ritual**”, but people steeped in tradition can’t easily accept this.

- In **Mk 2:27**- Jesus said that “**the Sabbath was made for man not man for the Sabbath**” meaning it was meant to be a blessing and not a burden. Also **Col 2:16-18**- says that no one should judge us on whether you are keeping the Sabbath or some religious festival because to do so means that instead of you following what the scripture says, you’ve made up in your own mind what people should be doing in order to please the Lord and that kind of thinking is rooted in pride.
- **V6-7** same fight different venue, as the religious leaders take their quarrel with Jesus from out of the field and into the synagogue. Jesus is in the Synagogue teaching but instead of them paying attention to the message they are watching to see if He will heal the man with the withered hand on the Sabbath so they might accuse Him of breaking the Sabbath Law.
- **V8-10** Jesus had already shown that He knew their thoughts and that they weren’t right **5:22**, and yet here they are trying again to catch Jesus doing something so they might accuse Him. These religious leaders could care less about the handicap man and all the hardship he’d endured, if given a choice they’d rather him stay just the way he was instead of seeing him healed, but Jesus is all about the person. A legalist wants to debate the rules, a true Christian wants to see spiritual healing, one sees the letter of the Law, the other the Spirit of the Law.
- **V11-16** instead of **joy** after seeing a man’s fingers, joints and knuckles be restored right before their eyes, scripture says they weren’t just **angry** they were **enraged**, meaning they wanted to kill Him. Why would you want to get rid of someone who is helping others in this manner? **Math 12:14** says “**what to do with Him**” meant they started plotting how they could murder Jesus this is a greater violation of the Sabbath than healing someone, remember they already tried to kill Him by throwing Him off a cliff, now because He is not following their traditions and rules.
- After a night of prayer Jesus chooses from all the men and multitudes who were following Him those who will be His Apostles, and out of the twelve one of them is a traitor, in the eyes of man this looks like a huge mistake, but according to God’s plan it a part of His will. Why did it take Jesus all night? The opposition is growing, and He was about to choose men from which the future of the church rested, so I don’t think He was just praying for Himself, but also for them.
- A **Disciple** is a learner, an apprentice, while an **Apostle** is a chosen messenger sent with a special commission, Jesus had many disciples but He had only twelve handpicked Apostles.**V17-19** Jesus not only taught them how to serve, and bless, He also showed them by serving with them, remember every time that your blessing others you can be sure our Lord is right there beside you blessing you and them. Also in **Math 13:54-58** in Jesus hometown He didn’t do many miracles because of their unbelief, here everyone who touched Him was healed wow!