

Sunday Sermon Guide

Central Baptist Church – Crockett, Texas
August 9, 2026 – Sent by the King: Lord of the Sabbath

Main Passage: Matthew 12:1-8

Main Idea:

Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath, and His authority is greater than every human tradition. True faithfulness is measured by submission to Christ, not by man-made rules.

1) Human Tradition Must Never Replace God's Word (Matthew 12:1–4)

- The Pharisees accused the disciples of breaking their traditions, not God's Law.
- Rabbinical traditions had become more authoritative than Scripture.
- Jesus answered tradition with the authority of God's Word.
- David's example revealed that God's Law was never intended to work against God's purposes.
- **Key Truth:** God's Word—not human tradition—is our final authority.

2) God's Commands Must Be Understood Through God's Purpose (Matthew 12:5)

- The priests worked on the Sabbath because God commanded their ministry.
- The Sabbath was designed to promote rest, worship, and mercy.
- The Pharisees reduced obedience to checking religious boxes.
- **Key Truth:** Obedience means embracing God's heart, not merely keeping rules.

3) Jesus Is Greater Than the Temple (Matthew 12:6–7)

- The Temple pointed to God's presence, forgiveness, and covenant.
- Jesus is the fulfillment of everything the Temple represented.
- God desires mercy, not empty religious ritual.
- **Key Truth:** Religion points to Christ; Christ is greater than religion.

4) Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath (Matthew 12:8)

- Jesus claimed divine authority over what God Himself established.
- The real issue was not grain or Sabbath regulations but the identity and authority of Jesus.
- **Key Truth:** Christ's authority extends over every area of our lives.

Application

- Am I following Scripture or merely protecting traditions?
- Have I confused my preferences with God's commands?
- Is there any area of my life where I resist Christ's authority?
- Am I resting in Christ or relying on religious performance?

Bottom Line

Because Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath, His authority must govern every area of our lives—not our traditions, preferences, or opinions.

"Traditions aren't the problem. Every family has traditions. Every church has traditions. The problem comes when we give our traditions the same authority as God's Word."

"It's not just that Jesus has authority over the Sabbath; it's that Jesus has authority over us."