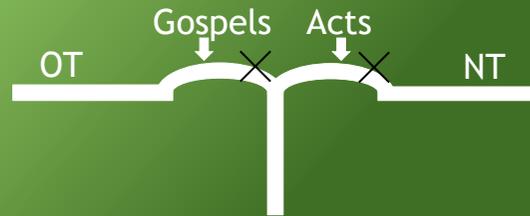


Lord of the Sabbath

Matthew 12:1

Context

- Story of Redemption



Context

- Jewish Distinctives
 - Circumcision
 - Dietary Laws
 - Sabbath

Context

- Sabbath Keeping
 - the seventh day
 - sundown to sundown
 - holy day
 - day of rest
 - no work to be done

Context

- Significance of Sabbath for Israel
 - Trust and Obedience - Exodus 16
 - Holiness - Exodus 20
 - Sign of Covenant - Exodus 31
 - Freedom of Slavery - Deut. 5

Mercy vs. Ritual

- on the sabbath
 - disciples were hungry
 - pick heads of grain and eat
 - Look!
 - doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath

Mercy vs. Ritual

- David and his companions
 - ate the consecrated bread
 - not lawful for them to do

Mercy vs. Ritual

- in the Law
 - on the Sabbath the priests in the temple desecrate the day
 - yet are innocent

Mercy vs. Ritual

- One greater than the temple is here.
 - Jesus is the ultimate interpreter of the law.
 - It all points to him and is fulfilled in him.

Mercy vs. Ritual

- The Sabbath was made for man,
 - not man for the Sabbath.
 - Mk. 2:27
 - Man was not created so that there would be someone to keep the Sabbath.
 - The Sabbath was created as a blessing for man.

Mercy vs. Ritual

- If you had known what these words mean
 - “I desire mercy, not sacrifice”
 - you would not have condemned the innocent.

Mercy vs. Ritual

- For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath
 - Jesus has sovereign authority over the fulfillment of the sabbath in the kingdom age.

Good vs. Evil

- he went into their synagogue
 - a man with a shriveled hand
- looking for a reason so accuse Jesus
 - they asked him
 - Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?

Good vs. Evil

- If any of you has a sheep
 - and it falls into a pit on the Sabbath
 - will you not...lift it out?

Good vs. Evil

- How much more valuable is a man than a sheep?
- Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.

Good vs. Evil

- The man's hand was completely restored.
- Pharisees...plotted how they might kill Jesus.

What should I do?

- Colossians 2:16-17
 - do not let anyone judge you...with regard to a Sabbath day.
 - These are a shadow of the things to come;
 - the reality, however, is found in Christ.

What should I do?

- Romans 14:1-8
 - One man considers one day more sacred...another man considers every day alike.
 - Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind.
 - ...we belong to the Lord.

What should I do?

- Hebrews 4:9-11
 - Salvation in Christ
 - There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for God's people.
 - Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest...

What should I do?

- Sunday is not the Sabbath in any technical or legal sense.

What should I do?

- The principles of Sabbath are a blessing.
 - Trust and Dependence on God
 - Holiness
 - Rhythms of rest and restoration
 - Freedom from slavery

Lord of the Sabbath

- Jesus is the ultimate interpreter of the law and the fulfillment of the Sabbath.
- Pursue mercy over mere ritual and good over evil.
- Enjoy the spiritual blessings of Christ.