

Sermon Outline November 11, 2012

“Lord of the Sabbath”

Luke 6:1-11

*“Young man up on the hillside
Teaching new ways
Each word winning them over
Each heart a kindled flame
Old men watch from the outside
Guarding their prey
Threatened by the voice of the paragon
Leading their lambs away
Leading them far away ...”
Michael W. Smith*

I believe Jesus was very INTENTIONAL when healed on the Sabbath –

I. It was His INTENTION to pick a fight with those who were WRONG about the Sabbath, so He might correct them and teach what is right –

1. They were wrong about the very nature and PURPOSE of the day –

What was / is, the PURPOSE of the Sabbath, now the Lord’s Day? Its purpose was and is to Honor God; it was a day set apart for God:

A. They were commanded to set this day aside to honor God for His work of creation –

⁸ “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it. (Exodus 20:8-11 NKJ)

B. They were later commanded to set this day aside to honor God for His work of redemption –

¹³ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁴ but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your ox, nor your donkey, nor any of your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you. ¹⁵ And remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day. (Deuteronomy 5:13-15 NKJ)

They were to honor God: A. Because He created them and B. because He redeemed them!

2. How were they to honor God?

A. By setting one day in seven apart as “holy” – Genesis 20:8-9

B. By not working on this holy day – Genesis 20:10; Deuteronomy 5:14

3. How and why is not working one day per week honoring to God?

A. It demonstrated Israel’s dependence upon and trust in God –

²⁹ “See! For the LORD has given you the Sabbath; therefore He gives you on the sixth day bread for two days. Let every man remain in his place; let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.” ³⁰ So the people rested on the seventh day. (Exodus 16:29-30 NKJ)

⁴ but in the seventh year there shall be a sabbath of solemn rest for the land, a sabbath to the LORD. You shall neither sow your field nor prune your vineyard.

⁵ What grows of its own accord of your harvest you shall not reap, nor gather the grapes of your untended vine, for it is a year of rest for the land. (Leviticus 25:4-5 NKJ)

This would take some faith –

B. It gave them a day to focus upon God, without the distraction of work or other things –

You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. (Isaiah 26:3 NKJ)

4. How were the Pharisees NOT honoring God?

It seems they were MORE STRICT about the day than Jesus was!

That was their problem! They were so strict about the RULE, they had forgotten about the RULER, God, Who the day was meant to honor – Luke 6:11

A. *Exceptions were permitted for hunger* –
NKJ Luke 6:1 Now it happened on the second Sabbath after the first that He went through the grainfields. And His disciples plucked the heads of grain and ate *them*, rubbing *them* in *their* hands. ² And some of the Pharisees said to them, "Why are you doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath?"

³ But Jesus answering them said, "Have you not even read this, what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: ⁴ "how he went into the house of God, took and ate the showbread, and also gave some to those with him, which is not lawful for any but the priests to eat?" (Luke 6:1-4 NKJ)

B. *Exceptions were permitted for healing* –
⁶ Now it happened on another Sabbath, also, that He entered the synagogue and taught. And a man was there whose right hand was withered. ⁷ So the scribes and Pharisees watched Him closely, whether He would heal on the Sabbath, that they might find an accusation against Him. ⁸ But He knew their thoughts, and said to the man who had the withered hand, "Arise and stand here." And he arose and stood. ⁹ Then Jesus said to them, "I will ask you one thing: Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy?" ¹⁰ And when He had looked around at them all, He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he did so, and his hand was restored as whole as the other. ¹¹ But they were filled with rage, and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus. (Luke 6:6-11 NKJ)

Understanding Jesus' power and sovereignty is why I believe He was sort of picking a fight here. If He really wanted to He could have avoided this confrontation with the Scribes and Pharisees by miraculously putting food in His disciples stomach's on Sabbath days - -- they would not even have to chew 😊 He also could have healed the man with the withered hand the day before!

Yet He confronts these men –

⁹ Then Jesus said to them, "I will ask you one thing: Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy?"

Does not, doing good, honor God, even on the Sabbath?

II. *It was His INTENTION to reveal and assert Himself as Lord of the Sabbath –*

⁵ And He said to them, "The Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath." (Luke 6:5 NKJ)

1. *The day was never primarily about the day, but about HE the day was meant to HONOR!*

A. *This is true even about our humble birthdays.*

B. *This is why aspects of the Sabbath commands CHANGE –*

(1) ¹¹ For *in* six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that *is* in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it. (Exodus 20:8-11 NKJ)

GREAT EVENT REMEMBERED – Creation

(2) ¹⁵ And remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day. (Deuteronomy 5:13-15 NKJ)

GREAT EVENT REMEMBERED – Redemption from slavery in Egypt (which is also a type of God's redeeming us from our sins)

(3) ⁷ Now on the first *day* of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight. (Acts 20:7 NKJ) He did evangelism at the synagogues on Saturdays – Acts 13:13-15; 14:1; 17:1-2; 18:1-4; 19:6-8

² On the first *day* of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come. (1Corinthians 16:2 NKJ)

¹⁰ I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet, (Rev 1:10 NKJ)

GREAT EVENT REMEMBERED – Resurrection (the day was changed from seventh to first day of the week) –

2. *We change the Day to Honor Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Sabbath!*
⁵ And He said to them, "The Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath." (Luke 6:5 NKJ)

Arnold A. Brevick