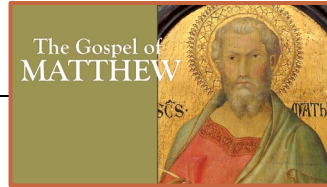


Lord of the Sabbath

Matthew 12:1–21

Emily Mitchell
June 29, 2025

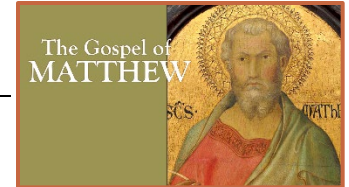


NOTES

Lord of the Sabbath

Matthew 12:1–21

Suggested Study Questions*
June 29, 2025



- What have been your experiences of Sabbath observance?
- *Reread Matthew 12:1–21.*
- Dale Bruner comments about this passage that “Jesus did not cancel Sabbath observance (and so, did not cancel the law of God); he protected it from abuse.” In what ways do you think Sabbath laws have been abused? What are some proper and life-giving ways to observe the Sabbath?
- Why do you think Jesus quotes Hosea 6:6 (“I desire mercy and not sacrifice”), and how do you interpret this quotation and learn from it?
- What does it mean that the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath (verse 8)?
- In verse 12, Jesus declares, “How much more valuable is a human being than a sheep!” What are some ways that the world communicates the value they may assign to different people, based on appearance, ability, age, citizenship status, etc.? What are some ways that you have learned to abide in the awareness of how much more God values and treasures you?
- God’s purpose in the Sabbath commandment is to promote the good of human beings: to give them rest, restoration, and greater health. To observant Jews, the sabbath was a joy, not a burden. What is the invitation from God to you about practicing sabbath delight this summer (feasting, playfulness, being unhurried, ceasing from using your phone, or checking email, etc.)?

*Select or adapt questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.