

## GRAINFIELDS AND A WITHERED HAND

Matthew 12: 1-14 / "Yeshua" §§51-52

Next Week: Luke 6:12-20 / §§53-54

If you remember from last week the scribes had, at the time of Jesus, created over 1,500 laws stemming from the one command given by God concerning the Sabbath. Instead of following the heart of the law, which was simply to **"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy"**, the Sabbath had become a day full of religious regulations that kept people apart, made it difficult to rest, and even more difficult to simply 'do good' to one another.

Part 1.	The Coming of the King
Part 2.	The Authentication of the King
	→ Grainfields and a Withered Hand
Part 3.	The Controversy over the King
Part 4.	The Training of the Twelve by the King
Part 5.	The Opposition to the King:
Part 6.	The Preparation of the Disciples by the King
Part 7.	The Official Presentation of the King
Part 8.	The Preparation for the Death of the King
Part 9.	The Trial of the King:
Part 10.	The Death of the King
Part 11.	The Resurrection and the Ascension of the King
Part 12.	The Sequels

### THE DISCIPLES OF JESUS ARE ACCUSED OF BREAKING THE SABBATH LAW (1-2)

The act that triggers this first incident was a simple one. The disciples were walking with Jesus through a grainfield on the Sabbath and became hungry. They did not have food with them, so they began to pluck heads of grain from a field and snack on them. The Pharisees, who were watching, confront Jesus with the behavior of his disciples. They accuse the disciples of working on the Sabbath, breaking the Mosaic Law.

According to the Pharisees interpretation of The Law, Jesus's disciples were guilty. An important note here is that Jesus is not being accused of breaking the Sabbath. The issue is with the disciples, and the Pharisees want to know; is Jesus going to **Condone or Condemn** them.

### DAVID ATE THE SHOWBREAD AND WAS NOT CONDEMNED (3-4)

If David could break The Law by eating the holy food in the sanctuary, and Scripture not condemn him, then why should Jesus's disciples not be allowed to eat from a grainfield on a Sabbath? Jesus is showing that even under the Pharisees interpretation of The Law, there were certain circumstances that allowed for the law to be modified in order to meet the needs of people. David and his men were hungry and had no other food, of course they could eat the showbread. The disciples were busy serving Jesus and had no time to work for food, of course they could pick grain on the Sabbath.

### THE PRIESTS, WORK IN THE TEMPLE, TECHNICALLY BREAK THE SABBATH LAW (5-6)

If they Pharisees wanted to be technical, then they would have to agree that the priests broke the Sabbath Law each Sabbath day. But, there is not one person in Israel who would condemn a priest for working on the Sabbath. Why? They were in the service of something greater than the Sabbath, the Temple.

## GOD DESIRES MERCY NOT SACRIFICE (7)

Verse seven strikes at the heart of the problem. The Pharisees had focused on the mechanical, ritualistic, aspects of the Sabbath, but, in doing so, had missed its essence which is mercy and compassion. They had dug so deep into the letter of the law that they missed its spirit.

## JESUS IS LORD OF THE SABBATH (8)

Jesus makes His final statement. He lays down the final card. He is the Lord of the Sabbath. He can handle the Sabbath any way that He chooses. He is Messiah, God in the flesh. He is greater than David. He is greater than the Temple. He alone holds the correct interpretation of how to properly 'keep' the Sabbath. He alone has absolute authority over the Sabbath.

## THE HYPOCRISY OF THE PHARISEES (9-14)

Jesus lays the argument and hypocrisy of the Pharisees out for everyone to see. They are willing to break the Sabbath Law to rescue an animal but they are unwilling to do it for a human. Their hypocrisy is great, but they are unable to see it. Jesus restores life to the mans hand while the Pharisees turn further into darkness and plot once more to kill Jesus.

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### **Grace Family Needs, News and Notes**

#### Missions & Outreach

Contact Nate Ingoldstad for more info @ 760-315-5536

Stock David and Cindy Gettis's Pantry: More info at <http://mealtrain.com/2qwg97>

David and Cindy arrive October 16th, Donations can be dropped off Sunday mornings or at the church during regular business hours (M-TH, 9-3)

#### Men's Ministry

Contact Al Lerma for more info @ 619-889-6892

Men's Conference At Pine Valley : October 4-6th : Sign up at kiosk on the patio

#### Voice of the Martyrs

Contact Beth Prinz for more info @ (760)788-8991

September Action Pack Donations: Money for shipping, boxes, and packing tape

#### Family Info

Contact Grace Office for more info @ 760-789-0562

Baptism Class : Sunday, 10/13 @ 8:30 ( 1st service) In Room 2