

Series: The Gospel of Luke

Sermon: Sabbath Showdown

Passage: Luke 6:1-11 (ESV)

Illustration:

Need: Jesus is the Son of man, the fully authoritative Son of God, to whom all man's tradition must submit.

I. Man's tradition calls out Jesus (6:1-5)

- Pulling and eating grain on the Sabbath was an unbiblical violation of the Pharisee's tradition.
- These actions were not a violation of God's law; in fact, God provided for it (see Deut. 23:25).
- Jesus used a familiar OT passage to make the point that the law was never intended to harm.
- Jesus then declares that He, the Son of Man, is lord (has authority to moderate) the Sabbath.

II. Jesus calls out man's tradition (6:6-11)

- According to Matthew's account the Pharisees set up this scene in an effort to trap Jesus.
- According to their tradition, if Jesus healed the man it would violate the Sabbath labor law.
- Jesus reveals their complete misunderstanding of the Sabbath and the heart of God who established it.
- Rather than rejoicing in the man's restoration the Pharisees become overwhelmed by irrational anger and begin seeking, according to the Matthew and Mark, a way to destroy Jesus.

III. Application

- Walking with Jesus by faith and empty religious ritual keeping aren't the same things.
- You can have non-essential preferences but you can't expect to hold others to those same standards.
- If you stand with Jesus then your stand will be on Truth.
- If you stand with Jesus on Truth it will require drawing unpopular lines in the sand. (Just make sure they are His lines and not your own legalism)
- If you stand with Jesus on Truth behind unpopular lines you will face open and hostile opposition.
- If you will stand with Jesus openly opposed, let it be in ministry to others and not in self defense.