

Luke 6:1-16

4-2-06

“Sabbathage & Team Eclectic!”

1. **Intro:**

- 1.1. Outline: Sabbath-age; & Team Eclectic!

2. **SABBATHAGE! (1-11)**

- 2.1. **LORD OF THE SABBATH!** (1-5)
- 2.2. Keeping the Sabbath was near the top of the list of **Pharisaic** virtues. But wasn't keeping the Sabbath also important to **Christ**?
- 2.2.1. Was Jesus throwing off the 4th commandment?
- 2.2.2. **The difference?** The **Pharisees** enjoyed their own rigid definition & requirements.
Jesus kept the Sabbath as was intended.
- 2.2.2.1. Jesus was Jewish & honored the Law.
- 2.2.2.2. The **habit** of Jesus was to observe the Sabbath as a day of **worship** in the synagogues.
 2.2.2.2.1. The Sabbath/rest was principally for **worship**, not just for rests sake.
- 2.2.2.3. Jesus' failure to comply with the *minute restrictions* of the Pharisaic observance brought **conflict & confrontation**.
- 2.3. Let me unfold the problem:
- 2.3.1. About 200 yrs before Christ there arose what was known as **The Great Synagogue**. It took the 10 commandments & the whole Law of Moses & added interpretations.
- 2.3.1.1. Not by teaching the **inner spirit** of them, **but** by **adding** to them other commandments.
- 2.3.1.2. **Ex:** this Sabbath question. The Great Synagogue had given 39 prohibitions to interpret “thou shall do no manner of work”
- 2.3.1.3. Those prohibitions were called **Abhoth**(fathers).
- 2.3.1.4. Then they added **Toldoth**(descendants/i.e. descendants of Abhoth)
- 2.3.1.5. 1 of the **Abhoth** prohibitions said, “*Reaping is work*”.
- 2.3.1.6. Then the **Toldoth**(the rules to help you carry out the idea) it says, “**plucking** the ear of wheat is = to **reaping**, & **rubbing** in the hands is = to **threshing**.”
- 2.3.1.7. So, the disciples by doing this act were breaking **Toldoth**, & by breaking **Toldoth** they were breaking **Abhoth**, & by breaking **Abhoth** they were breaking **the Law**.¹
- 2.3.2. **This** is what Jesus is constantly **trampling over**...human traditions! That start off w/good intentions, but always end up missing the heart of God!

¹ G. Campbell Morgan, Luke; pg.82,83

- 2.4. He referred His critics to **the example of David**. When David was desperately hungry, he broke the law by eating the bread of the presence.
- 2.4.1. If David could do this, how much more the Son of David?
- 2.4.2. In the interest of **survival** David and his companions were allowed to be above the Law with the priest's blessing.
- 2.4.3. Christ and His companions were also above the man-made law which the Pharisees proclaimed.
- 2.5. Thus, [1] **Circumstances** justified **practice**.
 [2] **Larger** obligations overruled **lesser**.
 [3] **Ceremonial observance** is less important than meeting **human needs**
- 2.6. **HEALING ON THE SABBATH!** (6-11)
- 2.7. (6,7) They just knew that's who he would be attracted to. The one person that was hurting the most!
- 2.7.1. **Do you see it?** – They just knew He couldn't pass up compassion.
 "What an unconscious compliment to our Lord!" 😊
- 2.8. (9) **Is that fair Jesus?** To do nothing for this man was to **do him evil** or likened unto **killing him**??? [same anytime someone's hurting?]
- 2.8.1. Here God was speaking to my *lackadaisical hard-heart*.
- 2.8.2. Brian, "Can you just say I'm concerned for your hand, what happened?"
- 2.8.2.1. Is it finances? No insurance? No doctor?(Haiti)
- 2.8.2.2. I can ask, "*Eske muen kabob prie po oh?*"
 (Can I pray for you?)
- 2.8.3. I believe Jesus is saying here, "you are either acting in some way for the person's **recovery**, or you are acting for the **perpetuation of his misery**."
- 2.8.4. May it be our **new goal** to never leave anyone how you found them. When we depart from them may their soul be lifted up, encouraged, or brought before the throne of God!
- 2.9. Jesus, armed w/principles goes to the heart of the subject!
- 2.10. **Q: Which principle do you live by?**
- 2.10.1. Do you live by the **Pharisees principle "Is it lawful"**, or **Jesus' principle "Is it loving"**? (Here This!)
- 2.10.2. **Q: Does it feel like compromise to ask Is it loving?**
- 2.10.3. **Q: Does it feel more holy to ask Is it lawful?**
- 2.10.4. **Q: Does it feel wimpy to ask Is it loving?**
- 2.10.5. **Q: Do you feel more bold to ask Is it lawful?**
- 2.11. The Pharisees had transformed a day of **blessing** into a day of **bondage**. [It takes great skill to do that!]

- 2.11.1. **Original intent?** To provide a **day of rest** for the children of Israel that would free the people from the tyranny of a life of unending toil.²
- 2.11.2. **God gave it for the good of humanity!** – How mean of God to not want man to work 24/7's???
- 2.11.3. It was a principle that is far older than **Judaism**. It goes back to Genesis, to the 7th day in the creative process.
- 2.11.4. **But notice this...it was the 1st day of human existence!**
 - 2.11.4.1. Thus man's 1st day was his Sabbath day!³
- 2.12. **It is always right to do good, & to meet human need, for loves fulfills the law!**
 - 2.12.1. Rom.13:8 “Owe no one anything except to **love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.**”
 - 2.12.2. Micah 6:8 “He has shown you, O man, what is **good**; And what does the Lord require of you **But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?**”
- 2.13. **Christ makes their intention public & whets expectation.**
 - 2.13.1. Thus He **heals** him! (a) **Relieving the man's suffering &**
(b) **exposing the enemies nastiness!**
- 2.14. (11) Now they were more than **critics**...they were **enemies!**
- 2.15. **Ps:** Jesus did 7 such miracles on the Sabbath so they'd get the point!
 - 2.15.1. In short, Sabbath is for man, & Christ is Lord of both!

3. **TEAM ECLECTIC! (12-16)**

- 3.1. Jesus while on earth had **3 methods of work:** [1] Performing miracles [2] Teaching [3] Raising up his successors.
 - 3.1.1. **Now, another landmark in Jesus' earthly ministry.**
 - 3.1.2. Jesus in the limitations of His humanity, was unable to do it alone.
 - 3.1.3. **The work was extending & pressing.**
 - 3.1.4. His Vision was so far-reaching that it was essential to provide not only for the present, but for the future.
- 3.2. Out of His many disciples He picks only 12.
 - 3.2.1. **Q: I wonder what were the issues that went along with those not picked?**
 - 3.2.2. He didn't pick the influential, the powerful, the learned or the wise. **But** good men, simple men, impressionable men(open/easy to mold).

² Shepherd's Notes; pg.23

³ G. Campbell Morgan, Luke; pg.84

- 3.3. Jesus chose **12 apostles** to: Serve w/Him during His ministry & to provide leadership for the church.
- 3.3.1. **Maybe 12, to correspond w/the 12 tribes of OT Israel.**
- 3.3.2. These were picked from those Jesus **knew personally** (Acts 1:21,22)
- 3.4. This big decision, only after He **prayed all night**.
- 3.4.1. If there was One who might have lived w/o prayer it would have been our spotless Lord!
- 3.4.2. But He sought communion with His Father.
- 3.4.3. It was right after enemies had been enraged.
- 3.4.4. It was for intercession for those He was choosing.
- 3.4.5. It was an example for us.
- 3.4.6. He refreshed Himself in prayer.
- 3.4.7. Prayer was the gate of His new enterprise.
- 3.5. The term **disciple & apostle** are often used interchangeably in referring to these men.
- 3.5.1. But a **Disciple** is a **learner** or **follower**.
- 3.5.2. An **Apostle** generally refers to a person who is **sent** w/a special message or commission.
- 3.6. **“also Named apostles”** – they are still disciples(**learners**); they are still ministers(**servants**); & **now** apostles(**sent/missionaries**).
- 3.7. **I wonder how much they understood?**
- 3.7.1. **Q: Did they realize they would be inheriting His work?**
- 3.7.2. **Q: That they would be possessing His Spirit?**
- 3.7.3. **Q: That they were called to transmit His character to others?**
- 3.7.3.1. **Q: Have we comprehended these 3?**
- 3.8. **Q: Does it encourage you that Jesus had so much patience with them, educating them, bearing with their worldly hopes, & clumsy mistakes?**
- 3.8.1. **Their training was His constant care. And so is ours! 😊**
- 3.9. Jesus uses every sort of individuality!⁴
- 3.9.1. Are you determined, adventurous, original, a born leader type... He will chasten you & make you steadfast...**like Peter**.
- 3.9.2. Are you a keen observer, a deep thinker, maybe leadership isn't your #1 gift...He will use you for insight & teaching others-**like John**
- 3.9.3. Are you full of questions, even doubt, & move forward w/hesitation, Jesus can train intellectual questioners & use them to bless others...**like Thomas or Nathanael**.
- 3.9.4. Are you a practical man/woman, familiar w/public affairs?... Christ will avail Himself of your administrative ability...**like Matthew & Judas** (sorry to link you w/Judas, but he was the Treasure for the group).

⁴ Adapted from “Luke” Thomas Griffith; pg.119.

- 3.9.5. Do you have directness, straightforwardness, a self-reliance about you?...Jesus will take these & enable you to give assurance & confidence to others...like James & Andrew.
- 3.9.6. Do you have an unimaginative, ordinary, & sluggish temperament?...Christ will utilize your good points & energize you in His service...like Philip.
- 3.9.7. Are you unknown, inconspicuous, unimportant?...Christ can use you also, “*you in your small corner, me in mine*”...like “*the other James, the other Simon, & the other Judas*”. [They didn’t even bear an exclusive name]
- 3.9.8. **Team Eclectic!**
- 3.10. Therefore, let each be himself & do his/her best.
- 3.10.1. Not desire to be someone else!
- 3.10.2. But **be** all he/she is, & **do** all he/she can.
- 3.10.3. Christ’s **grace** was necessary for each, giving them power to **think, to go, to do, or to speak.**
- 3.10.4. When I get to heaven I’m not going to be asked, “why were you not Moses?” But I hope not to hear, “why weren’t you Brian? The Brian I meant you to be!”
- 3.11. I’ve seen 1st hand how God has used this in our own church staff:
- 3.11.1. We have a very diverse staff: we have the deep thinkers, those who keep us sane with humor, some especially gifted to deal with so much hurting, some w/analytical minds, some that even love numbers?, some w/strong personalities, some with soft.
- 3.11.2. Q: Are you being all that God designed you to be? – Use your **gifts**, utilize your **imagination**, apply your **passions!**
- 3.12. **Individuality:**
 In the **Reader’s Digest** was published the following item:
 Label found in the pocket of a new suit jacket:
 Inspected by No.28-you can trust me, I’m under 30.
 Readers have brought to our attention a number of other No. 28 inspection tickets found in the pockets of slacks purchased in various parts of the country. **Samples:**
 Inspected by No.28. If you don’t find this slip, please inform us immed.
 Inspected by No.28, who was inspected by No. 27.
 Inspected by No.28. Numbers 1-27 are on vacation.
 Inspected by No.28. This is strictly a moonlighting job.
 Inspected by No.28. If you meet somebody suspicious, swallow this.
- 3.13. **Don’t forget:**
- 3.13.1. He worked **inward**, rather than **outward!**
- 3.13.2. He worked **Intensively**, not **extensively.**
- 3.13.3. He **stamped Himself** on a few, then sent them out to reach **many.**
- 3.13.4. He **wrote not a line** that endured, but much on **human hearts.**