

Jesus, God's Chosen Servant

Matthew 12:1-21

Key Verse: 12:18

“Here is my servant whom I have chosen, the one I love, in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will proclaim justice to the nations.”

1. Read verses 1-2. Why did the disciples pick heads of grain on the Sabbath? Why did the Pharisee criticize them to Jesus? How did the Pharisees use the law for their own purpose?
2. Read verses 3-5. Why did Jesus refute their view of the law? What two examples did Jesus give to show that God is not legalistic? What did David do? Why wasn't he condemned for this? How did priests violate the Sabbath laws? What does this show about the proper view of the law?
3. Read verses 6-8. Why is Jesus greater than the temple? What does God consider most important in serving him? How did the Pharisees condemn the innocent? How did Jesus view the Law? (Mt 9:9-13) What did he teach about himself? (6, 8)
4. Read verses 9-10. When Jesus went into the synagogue, who was there? What did the Pharisees ask Jesus? What was their motive in asking this? What was their attitude toward the man with the shriveled hand?
5. Read verses 11-15. How did Jesus answer them? What did he teach? What did he do? What reveals his compassion for this man? (Think about this man's agony.) How did the Pharisees respond? How did the people respond? What does this show about real shepherds and false shepherds?
6. Read verses 15-17. Of what was Jesus aware? (14, 15) Why did he withdraw and tell the people not to advertize his healing ministry? (19) Read verses 18-21. How did Jesus fit Isaiah's description of the Lord's chosen servant? (Isa 42:1-4) What are bruised reeds? How does Jesus show mercy? In what way is Jesus the hope of the nations?