

Sermon Outline

“Lord of the Sabbath”

Matthew 12:1-8

- I.** The Sabbath controversy
 - A** Regarding sustenance vv. 1-5
 - B** Jesus’ authority establishes the priority vv. 6-8
 - A¹** Regarding mercy to others vv. 9-13

- II.** The meaning of the Sabbath
 - a. The word itself
 - b. God’s rest – Gen 2:1-3
 - c. The 4th Commandment
 - A. Ex 20:8-11 – rest (*cf.* Mt 11:28-30)
 - B. Dt 5:12-15 – deliverance
 - C. The eschatological rest – Heb 3:1-4:10

- III.** Jesus deals with the controversy by asserting his authority as God
 - a. The key word – “lawful”
 - b. What was prohibited in the case law?
 - A. Gathering manna – Ex 1:22-30
 - B. Gathering firewood – Num 15:32-36
 - C. Building a fire – Ex 35:3
 - D. Plowing – Ex 34:21
 - E. Harvesting – Ex 34:21
 - F. Trading – Neh 10:31; 13:15-22; Amos 8:5
 - G. Carrying a load – Jer 17:19-27

- IV.** Jesus establishes the priority (drawing on Law, Prophets and Psalms)
 - a. Quotes Hosea 6:6 (*cf.* Mt 9:13)
 - b. The priority of mercy
 - Is 1:10-17; Micah 6:6-8; Jer 7:4-11
 - c. Worship consists in obedience to mercy
 - I Sam 15:22; Ps 50:7-23; 51:15-17
 - d. Jesus is greater than the Temple
 - Jesus call us to a greater righteousness – Mt 5:20 (*cf.* Mt 8:11-12)
 - Righteousness does not put sacrifice above mercy.