

Luke 6:6-11

⁶ On another Sabbath He entered the synagogue and was teaching; and there was a man there whose right hand was withered. ⁷ The scribes and the Pharisees were watching Him closely *to see* if He healed on the Sabbath, so that they might find *reason* to accuse Him. ⁸ But He knew what they were thinking, and He said to the man with the withered hand, “Get up and come forward!” And he got up and came forward. ⁹ And Jesus said to them, “I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save a life or to destroy it?” ¹⁰ After looking around at them all, He said to him, “Stretch out your hand!” And he did *so*; and his hand was restored. ¹¹ But they themselves were filled with rage, and discussed together what they might do to Jesus.

1. The split between Jesus and the Pharisees begins
 - a. Notice that the Pharisees’ attitude towards Jesus has changed.
 - b. In their hearts they are looking for an excuse to accuse Him.
 - c. The previous Sabbath controversy probably led to this change in opinion.
2. Jesus purposefully provokes the Pharisees and brings the controversy to center stage.
 - a. Jesus knows the inner thoughts of their hearts.
 - b. He brings the sinfulness of their hearts out for all to see.
 - c. Jesus asks a key question: Is it lawful to do good or harm on the Sabbath?
 - i. Here Jesus is asking about the fundamental purpose of the Sabbath.
3. What is our relationship with the Sabbath as Christians?
 - a. The Lord’s Day:
 - i. The Jewish Sabbath is from Friday night till Saturday night.
 - ii. Why do we celebrate on Sunday?
 1. Because it is the day Christ arose from the dead.
 2. The Apostles worshiped on Sunday:
 - a. **Revelation 1:9-11**
 - b. **Acts 20:7**
 - c. **1 Corinthians 16:1-2**
 3. The Early Church Fathers attest that Christians worshipped on the Lord’s Day.
 - a. Justin Martyr:
 - i. "And on the day called Sunday, all who live in cities or in the country gather together to one place, and the memoirs of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read, as long as time permits; then, when the reader has ceased, the president verbally instructs, and exhorts to the imitation of these good things.

- b. Should we observe the Sabbath Laws of the Old Testament?
 - i. No.
 - ii. We are never commanded to keep the Sabbath in the New Testament.
 - iii. We are not under the Old Testament Law.
 - 1. But didn't Jesus say he was not abolishing the Law?
 - a. **Matthew 5:17-19**
 - b. Jesus came to fulfill the Law in 2 ways:
 - i. 1- Perfectly obey the Law
 - ii. 2- Fulfill the requirements of the Law in his death.
 - c. Jesus took the spirit of the Law and applied it rather than the letter of the Law.
 - iv. The Sabbath was a sign to the Jews, just like circumcision
 - 1. **Exodus 31:13-14**
 - v. If we try to take on part of the Law we have to take it all on.
 - 1. **Galatians 3:10-14**
4. Jesus' teaching on the Sabbath.
 - a. The Pharisees taught that it was legal to save a life on the Sabbath.
 - b. Their objection was that this man's life was not in danger.
 - c. The Pharisees had a negative view of the Sabbath
 - i. "What can't we do on the Sabbath in order to please God?"
 - d. Jesus has a positive view of the Sabbath
 - i. "What can we do on the Sabbath to please God?"
 - e. Jesus heals the man's hand as an act of worship to God the Father on the Sabbath.
 - i. **Luke 6:5**
5. Conclusions:
 - a. Jesus' rejected the traditions of the Pharisees in relation to the Sabbath.
 - b. Jesus perfectly fulfilled the Law, he perfectly fulfilled the Sabbath.
 - i. Because Christ fulfilled the Law we are no longer under any obligation to keep the Sabbath.
 - 1. However, each one must be convinced in his own mind.
 - a. **Romans 14:5-6**
 - c. We celebrate on the 1st day of the week, the Lord's Day in recognition of Christ's resurrection.
 - d. We should focus on the positive aspects of God's commands; not what can't we do, but instead what can we do?

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