



The King and His Kingdom *Matthew 12*

"Jesus Proves He's THE ONE!"

12:1-14 Conflict with the Pharisees about the Sabbath

Some Helpful Background

Ex 34:21 *"Six days you shall labor, but on the seventh day you shall rest; even during the plowing season and harvest you must rest."*

Deut. 23:24-25 *If you enter your neighbor's vineyard, you may eat all the grapes you want, but do not put any in your basket. If you enter your neighbor's grain field, you may pick kernels with your hands, but you must not put a sickle to his standing grain.*

Consecrated bread: Each Sabbath, 12 fresh loaves of bread were set on a table of pure gold in the temple's Holy Place. The old loaves were to be eaten by the priests. (1 Sam 21)

"At five years of age, one is ready for the study of the Scripture, at ten years of age one is fit for the study of the Mishnah, at the age of thirteen for bar mitzvah, at the age of fifteen for the study of Talmud, at the age of eighteen for marriage, at the age of twenty for pursuing a vocation, **at the age of thirty for entering into one's full vigor...**" (Avot 5:21).

In standard print there are about 1,250 pages in the Old Testament; the Talmud has 6,200. Jesus studied!

Luke 2:46-48, 52 *They found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was **amazed at his understanding and his answers.** And Jesus **grew in wisdom and stature (maturity), and in favor with God and men.***

12:5-21 (15 "He is my servant whom I have chosen... "He will not quarrel or cry out, no one will hear his voice in the streets...21 "In his name the nations will put their hope.")

12:22-37 The Miracles of Jesus: Are they proof of Satan's power or the power of the Holy Spirit? The Pharisees say Jesus is evil and Satan is behind the miracles. Their argument is absurd, illogical, inconsistent and unpardonable. It is why

The King and His Kingdom

Jesus says that this accusation is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. God the Holy Spirit is the source of the miracles and to reject Him is to reject Jesus as Savior! Every other sin can be forgiven, except rejecting the Holy Spirit's gift of faith in Christ.

12:38-45 The Sign of Jonah.

Simply put, the sign of Jonah is Jesus crucified, buried and on the third day rising from the dead! This proves Jesus is the ONE! For the heard-hearted Pharisees and all who completely reject Jesus their hearts will only grow harder!

12:46-50 Who is Jesus' real family?

1 John 3:23-24 *And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. 24 Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.*

Heb 2:11 *So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters.*

John 20:17 *Go...to my brothers and tell them, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'*

Eph 3:14-15 *For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name.*

Questions:

1. What does it mean to you that Jesus studied and learned and grew in wisdom?
2. How is this an example for all of us.
3. What does it mean to be part of God's family and how does this impact your view of yourself? (Next Wednesday: Matthew 13, Jesus teaches through parables)