



THE KING & HIS KINGDOM

THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

A King Who Gives Us Rest

Matthew 12:1–21

What are you striving for?

Why are you trying to earn what has already
been purchased?

**Jesus came to give Sabbath rest for our
striving souls.**

Matthew 12

1 At that time Jesus passed through the grainfields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry and began to pick and eat some heads of grain. 2 When the Pharisees saw this, they said to him, “See, your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath.”

Matthew 12

3 He said to them, “Haven’t you read what David did when he and those who were with him were hungry: 4 how he entered the house of God, and they ate the bread of the Presence—which is not lawful for him or for those with him to eat, but only for the priests?”

Exodus 20

11 For the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and everything in them in six days; then he rested on the seventh day.

Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and declared it holy.

Matthew 12

5 Or haven't you read in the law that on Sabbath days the priests in the temple violate the Sabbath and are innocent? 6 I tell you that something greater than the temple is here. 7 If you had known what this means, I desire mercy and not sacrifice, you would not have condemned the innocent.

Matthew 12

8 For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.”

Colossians 2:16–17

Therefore, don't let anyone judge you in regard to food and drink or in the matter of a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of what was to come; the substance is Christ.

Matthew 12

9 Moving on from there, he entered their synagogue.

10 There he saw a man who had a shriveled hand, and in order to accuse him they asked him, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?”

Matthew 12

11 He replied to them, “Who among you, if he had a sheep that fell into a pit on the Sabbath, wouldn’t take hold of it and lift it out? 12 A person is worth far more than a sheep; so it is lawful to do what is good on the Sabbath.”

Matthew 12

13 Then he told the man, “Stretch out your hand.” So he stretched it out, and it was restored, as good as the other.

14 But the Pharisees went out and plotted against him, how they might kill him.

James 2:13

For judgment is without mercy to the one who has not shown mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

Hebrews 4:9–11

Therefore, a Sabbath rest remains for God's people. 10 For the person who has entered his rest has rested from his own works, just as God did from his. 11 Let us, then, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall into the same pattern of disobedience.

Matthew 12

15 Jesus was aware of this and withdrew. Large crowds followed him, and he healed them all. 16 He warned them not to make him known, 17 so that what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

Matthew 12

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

Matthew 12

19 He will not argue or shout,
and no one will hear his voice in the streets.

20 He will not break a bruised reed,
and he will not put out a smoldering wick,
until he has led justice to victory.

21 The nations will put their hope in his name.,

Mercy is greater than our sin

Are you bruised? Be of good comfort, He calls you.

Conceal not your wounds, open all before Him.

Go to Christ though trembling; give Him your bruises.

The more bruised we are, the more fit for the Lord's
mercy.

--Richard Sibbes

To every soul striving for worth, Jesus says, “*Rest.*”

To every hand withered by guilt, Jesus says, “*Stretch it out.*”

To every bruised reed and smoldering wick, He whispers,

“I will not break you; I will not snuff you out.”

In Christ, the Sabbath finds its purpose, the law its fulfillment,
and we find everlasting rest for our restless souls.