

## Chapter Twelve

### *Jesus Expands His Ministry*

#### I. Introduction

- A. Now back into a major section of More Teaching and Miracles (12:1 – 20:34)
- B. But this time, Hesus' work will be on a larger scale – to tens of thousands (14:21)

#### II. Lesson

##### A. Jesus Teaches About the Sabbath (12:1-8)

1. The “corn” is probably a literal “corn field” – but in the Bible, a “corn” meant a “\_\_\_\_\_” so could mean \_\_\_\_\_ as well
2. Notice how that even though the disciples took of the corn, Jesus did NOT (had to abstain from even the appearance of evil)
3. The Pharisees were always around, nearby, watching, trying to find a fault with Jesus and His disciples
4. What was not lawful here?
  - a. “\_\_\_\_\_” was the issue
  - b. Making of bread - which was supposed to be done the day before, enough for two days
5. Jesus uses two Scriptures to teach a right understanding of the Sabbath
  - a. David and his men in 1 Samuel 21 eating the \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. The priests and Levites themselves cooking and eating bread and meats (Num 28:9,10)
  - c. Jesus is greater than the \_\_\_\_\_!!! And greater than \_\_\_\_\_!
  - d. The idea is that the owner of a store, who has set rules for all his employees, can come in and break his own rules – the same is true with Jesus!
6. The problem with the Pharisees was that they had all the sacrifices down right, but not the goal of mercy and compassion
  - a. This was not about a business man making money, or someone working flippantly on the Sabbath day
  - b. It was about hunger, and that the Sabbath was not meant to KILL people by its rules, but protect them from ignoring God, and from ignoring constraints that are normally good
7. Jesus calls Himself the “\_\_\_\_\_” again
  - a. Normally just refers to the son of Adam (Ps 8:4) – just a human
  - b. But Ezekiel points to a special prophetic role of the Messiah (Ezek 2:1; and 92 times thereafter)
  - c. Daniel names the \_\_\_\_\_ as “the Son of man” (Dan 7:13)

##### B. Jesus Heals on the Sabbath Day (12:9-14)

1. Jesus and His disciples were headed to the local Synagogue
2. There was a man with a withered hand Jesus was challenged about His “Sabbath” Doctrine:
3. Jesus teaches using a common illustration of compassion that was well accepted:
  - a. If a sheep falls into a pit and is stuck, people without question pull it back out
  - b. How much BETTER is a man than a sheep?
  - c. So, the idea is to do WELL, good, compassionately on the Sabbath
4. Jesus then without hesitation looked over at the man and said “stretch forth your hand” and it was healed!
5. And BOY did that make the Pharisees mad!

##### C. Jesus was Hated and Loved at the Same Time (12:14-21)

1. Hated by the Religious zealots who had everything figured out
2. Yet great multitudes followed Him
3. And Jesus healed ALL their diseases - \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 103:3)
4. Uniquely charged them to not expose Him as the Messiah, at least not yet – a mark of humility
5. Jesus was the fulfilment of the \_\_\_\_\_ of Isaiah 42 and onward:

- a. Listen to how God describes His Son
  - 1) “Behold MY servant” (Phil 2:7)
  - 2) Chosen, anointed, Messiah
  - 3) My beloved
  - 4) “In whom my soul is well pleased”
  - 5) No one has ever been described this way!!! Especially by God Himself
- b. Jesus has God’s spirit – John had Elijah’s spirit
- c. Jesus will present justice to the GENTILES, not just the Jews
- d. Without striving, or fighting, or yelling
- e. He won’t break things, or quench things, until He is victorious
- f. And “IN HIS NAME” shall the Gentiles trust! AMEN!

**D. Jesus Heals a Blind and Dumb Man (12:22-23)**

- 1. Here is a man not just sick, but “possessed by a devil” – demon-possessed
- 2. All the people can plainly see that Jesus MUST be the Messiah – the promised SON of David (Ps 132:11; 89:20,29,35,36)
- 3. This was the reason for all the healing and miracles – so that people could SEE for themselves that Jesus is the Messiah – not for personal benefit!

**E. The Unpardonable Sin (22:24-37)**

- 1. The Pharisees accused Jesus of being possessed by \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. They could not deny the miracles – like we can the Charismatic’s “miracles”
  - b. Yet, they HAD to avoid admitting Jesus was the Messiah
  - c. So, they used the devil – who ALSO does indeed have power to do miracles (Rev 13:13-15)
  - d. Like a compact between this “fellow” and Beelzebub – to put on a “show” for everyone to see that was only an act
  - e. There are many layers to the demonic hierarchy (Eph 6:12)
- 2. But Jesus plainly corrects the Pharisees
- 3. The Illustration of a Protected Home
  - a. Can’t break in if it is being defended and protected by an armed guard
  - b. UNLESS, the strong man is first bound – our bondage must become bound!!!
  - c. The strong man is \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_ is the STRONGER man
- 4. If you are not with Jesus whole-heartedly, you are against Jesus, and against His kingdom. If you are not gathering with Him, then you actually are scattering. You cannot be on the sidelines!!! Jesus said, I wish you were HOT or COLD (Rev 3:15,16)
- 5. Blasphemy of the Holy Ghost (12:31-32)
  - a. All manner of sin is forgivable, Except this sin!
  - b. Say anything you want against Jesus and you can be forgiven
  - c. But say what the Pharisees say, and you are damned – why?
  - d. It requires you to not only reject Jesus as a false Messiah
  - e. But also to accept the Antichrist as THE Messiah
  - f. Once you do that, you are damned (2Thes 2:10-12)
  - g. These Pharisees had NOT committed this sin, but only the first half
- 6. Decide Who Jesus Is (12:33-37)

**F. The Sign of Jonah is Proof Jesus is Messiah (22:38-42)**

- 1. Still wanting “proof”
- 2. Jesus responds that only an \_\_\_\_\_ people want signs – not good for charismatics!
- 3. Jesus only offered the sign of the prophet Jonah

4. Three days and Three nights – Wednesday evening to Saturday night
  - a. How long was Jesus in the Tomb? In other words, was he buried on Wednesday evening, or Friday evening?
  - b. Compare two simple Scriptures and apply the resulting principle to the 3 days and 3 nights dilemma that some of you are encountering (See, 1 Kings 18:1 and James 5:17):
    - 1) 1Kgs 18:1 *And it came to pass after many days, that the word of the LORD came to Elijah in the third year, saying, Go, shew thyself unto Ahab; and I will send rain upon the earth.*
    - 2) Note the words, “\_\_\_\_\_”
    - 3) James 5:17 *Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.*
  - c. Evidently, God thinks that IN THE THIRD YEAR means anything between the beginning of the forth year, and the end of the forth year, and yet God calls it IN the third year - simply because it is AFTER three years have passed, but the FORTH year has not completed yet. So, when God recorded Elijah going to meet Ahab “in the third year”, God thought it included actually 3 and a HALF years.
 

[YEAR ONE] [YEAR TWO] [YEAR THREE] [YEAR FOUR]

-----1-----2-----3-----1/2
  - d. 3 and 1/2 years is said to be the same as being "in the third year", at least according to God. Doesn't matter what anyone of us think!
  - e. Applied to the three days and three nights Scripture (Mt 12:40), when compared with other Scriptures that say, “IN three days...”, etc., evidently, according to the way GOD seems to see time, three days and three nights can actually include the time all the way up to just before the ending of the FOURTH day!
  - f. So, finally, Wednesday is the most logical day to begin our time reckoning for the Crucifixion, with Thursday being the Passover (High Sabbath), and VERY early on Sunday (sometime after Sunset on Saturday night is the actual beginning of the First Day of the week in the Jewish system) Jesus rising from the dead and leaving the tomb waiting for someone to come looking for His dead body!
5. Wicked Nineveh (Gentiles) shall condemn that generation because they believed and these didn't! Jesus was greater than Jonah!
6. Sheba (a Gentile woman) believed in the God of Solomon (wisest man who ever lived). A greater than Solomon is here!

**G. Replacement Theology (12:43-45)**

1. The idea is that demon possession is bad – but exorcism without the new birth is seven times worse for a person!!!
2. You MUST replace things that kept you in bondage with the Spirit of Life and Liberty!

**H. Jesus Teaches Who is in His Family (12:46-50) Here is a practical, kind of “family” experience**

1. Mary, the “Mother of God” to catholics, approaches Jesus, and you would think if she was as important as the catholics make her out to be, that Jesus would bolt up and say “Excuse me please, my MOTHER IS here, and I MUST obey her!” But He DOESN'T!
2. Mary is with the brethren of Jesus
  - a. Catholics say they are Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. But these are Jesus' half brothers and sisters (13:55,56)
3. Someone informs Jesus His family is wanting to speak with Him, probably fully expecting Him to stop everything and go talk to them – which is what normally everyone else would have done
4. BUT, Jesus taught about who HE was as well as His mother and brethren!
5. A disciple is defined as whosoever \_\_\_\_\_ (lives) the will of God the Father (12:50)