

King and Messiah Week 18

Read Matthew 12:1-8

Why were the Pharisees unhappy and how does Jesus respond?

In verse 7, Jesus uses the same phrase (I desire mercy, and not sacrifice) as he did in Matthew 9:9-13. Using both stories, what do you think Jesus means?

Read Matthew 12:9-14

Why would the Pharisees be so upset about Jesus healing a man's hand? How does Jesus demonstrate their perspective is way off?

Read Matthew 12:15-21

In Matthew's quotation of Isaiah, what part of Jesus' person or actions or attitude stick out to you?

Give an example of a time in Scripture where Jesus loved someone who was a bruised reed or a smoldering wick (i.e. hurting, broken, without hope).

Read Matthew 12:22-32

The Pharisees charge Jesus with doing miracles by the power of Beelzebul. How does Jesus refute this charge?

(v. 31-32) What do you think Jesus means by blasphemy against the Spirit? How does it relate to what the Pharisees had accused him?

Read Matthew 12:33-37

What do our words say about us? How does our tongue act as a thermometer for our spiritual condition?

Read Matthew 12:38-42

What is the sign of Jonah and how did Jesus ultimately fulfill it?

Read Matthew 12:43-45

What does the illustration teach us about the need of being filled with Christ's Spirit?

Read Matthew 12:46-50 and Mark 3:21

Why does Jesus' family want to see him? Are Jesus' words meant to be a rebuke toward his family or an encouragement for those who identify with Him?

What application can you make from chapter 12? How can you put Jesus' teaching into action?

Other observations/questions/reflections on the text: