



“Lord of the Sabbath”

Mark 2:23-3:6 ♦ Pastor Jim Lennon
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Introduction – *Today in the Gospel of Mark we focus on two “Sabbath incidents” that escalated the religious leader’s opposition to Jesus.*

I. The Purpose of the Sabbath. (2:23-28)

- A. God gave us His moral law for our benefit.
Example: The fifth commandment.

- B. How is the fourth commandment (the “Sabbath” law), for our good?
 - 1. The word “sabbath” means “to cease.”
 - 2. One day in seven, stop working.

- C. Why did God give us the sabbath?
 - 1. First, because God took a sabbath, when He finished His work.
 - 2. But God doesn’t get tired, so why did He take a sabbath?

- D. Jesus said that the Sabbath was made for man.

II. The Broader Purpose of God’s Law. (3:1-6)

- A. Legalism and moralism are contrary to the Gospel of Jesus.

- B. Several times in the Gospels, Jesus spells out the broader purpose of God’s Law. (Matt. 22:36-40)

- C. In the “Sabbath incidents” we see two different views of why we obey God’s Law.
 - 1. The Pharisees:

 - 2. The Gospel of Jesus:

III. Lord of the Sabbath.

- A. Jesus declared Himself to be “Lord of the Sabbath.”

- B. By that statement, He is declaring Himself to be God!

- C. By that statement, He is declaring Himself to be Rest!

- D. What He said made the Pharisees and Herodians mad enough to want to kill Him.

Conclusion