

Mark 2:23–3:6 | *Lord of the Sabbath*

Mark 2:23-28

²³ One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain. ²⁴ The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?”

²⁵ He answered, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? ²⁶ In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions.”

²⁷ Then he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. ²⁸ So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.”

Mark 3:1-6

¹ Another time Jesus went into the synagogue, and a man with a shriveled hand was there. ² Some of them were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal him on the Sabbath. ³ Jesus said to the man with the shriveled hand, “Stand up in front of everyone.”

⁴ Then Jesus asked them, “Which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?” But they remained silent.

⁵ He looked around at them in anger and, deeply distressed at their stubborn hearts, said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” He stretched it out, and his hand was completely restored. ⁶ Then the Pharisees went out and began to plot with the Herodians how they might kill Jesus.

QUESTIONS

1. Today’s sermon passage contain two events in which Jesus was accused of wrongdoing. Describe what Jesus was accused of, and the main points Mark is trying to convey?
2. V. 27 states “the Sabbath was made for man’ and ‘man was made for the Sabbath’. What is the difference between the Pharisees’ and Jesus’ understanding of the Sabbath?

3. In your own words, share what it means to you that Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath?

4. Based on the study of this passage, share an area of your life where you struggle to trust Jesus as Lord of the Sabbath.

5. What are your key takeaways from this passage? How can your CG pray for you?