

# Lord over All

Luke 6:1-16

## What is a fanatic?

Someone who cannot change their mind and will not change the subject

## Sabbath Rest

### Sabbath: a day of rest and not work

For the Jewish people: Saturday

For most Christians: Sunday (day of Jesus' resurrection)

### Ongoing question: What is 'rest' and what is 'work'?

## Why did the Jewish people make such a big deal about it??

### Reasoning of the Jewish Leaders about the Sabbath

1. Resting (not working) on the Sabbath is one of the top 10 requirements of God [Exodus 20]
2. It is rooted in creation (It is not because of sin) [Exodus 31:12-17]
3. It is punishable by death [Exodus 31:12-17]
4. God promises country-wide blessing for keeping it [Isaiah 58:13-14]

They were right to take it seriously!

So they wrestled with this question:

What is "work" that we shouldn't do?

→ It is better to do too little than too much

## Background

Consecrated bread: Leviticus 24:9

David (not a priest) ate consecrated bread: 1 Samuel 21:1-6

## Luke 6:1-16

### 1-5: Pharisees upset that disciples harvested on the Sabbath

Legal to eat neighbor's grain, but not harvest it

"Have you not read..."

Perhaps: "Have you not been willing to see this?"

Direct attack on their pride: knowing Scriptures

David broke a religious law to obey a higher law

Food when he was fleeing for his life

Pharisees knew of this and approved of David

Jesus' point: Jesus ("Son of Man") has higher authority than Moses or David or priest or Pharisees

→ Jesus has the authority of God over this most important command

### 6-11: Pharisees furious that Jesus healed on the Sabbath

Pharisees: "Hostile observation"

Okay to help people on the Sabbath, but only if waiting until the next day would mean their death

Jesus knew (knows) what was in the heart of people

Silent confrontation of each person

Jesus' skill: neither He nor the man did any "work"

Miracle proved Jesus' authority → He is God!

Jesus proved His authority over the Sabbath!

Jesus led them to repent, in public, & they refused

### 12-16: Jesus picks 'nobodies' to be foundation of Christianity

Whom would the Messiah choose?

Certainly the most religious and highly trained

Certainly those who had already earned key positions

Jesus knew there would be a battle with powerful religious people: who could handle that?

Prayed...all night!

12 “nobodies” in the religious establishment

And worse: tax collector, perhaps political zealot

Those who would not repent lost out

## The Big Idea

**Jesus, being God,  
alone has absolute authority over the Kingdom:  
right and wrong and priorities and people and life**

Jesus calls us to repent: to turn **FROM** other things and turn **TO** Him

Luke 9:23-25

Acts 20:22-24

Galatians 2:20

Jesus challenged the people He met at their highest value

and demanded to be higher than that

Because He alone is God

## Sabbath for Christians Today

A wide range of views for acceptable practices on which days

Rhythms of life are important

Stopping work is an acceptance that we are limited and the value of our work is limited [we are not God!]

It is good to do good on the Sabbath!

Most important → Jesus is our Sabbath rest

God did the work of creation then stopped that work

We don't work to bring creation. We live out that creation, with rest

Jesus did the work of salvation then sat down

In Jesus, we don't work to bring salvation. We live out our salvation, with rest

## Application

**Worship Jesus as Lord over all**

“You shall have no other gods before me.” Exodus 20:3

Jesus leads us to joyful repentance by helping us see what “gods” are coming before God for each of us

Values, even super important values

People, even super important people

Identity, fulfillment, a future, my past, ...

The question is not **If** but **Where** is this true in me?

Anything that is more important to us than Jesus, has become a god to us in place of Jesus

So why is it “joyful” to face this reality??

What do we put our hope in?

Everything else will fail us

Everyone else will fail us

It is an amazingly good thing to give up a lesser god!

The other things may not be bad things, and may be so good, and even godly things

But they can never do what only God can do

Jesus is God. He is also entirely good and all powerful!

There is nothing or no one better we could trust!

There is no other purpose or place or person where we could put our time, our money, our hearts, or our lives that would give us a better ‘return’

The best thing we could ever do is to entrust to Jesus all that we are!

Joyful repentance = To turn to Jesus completely, with all that we have and are, with full confidence in His overwhelming goodness

In His love, Jesus leads us to this joyful repentance!

So... in joy, put Jesus above everything else in our lives

**When called by Jesus, leave everything and follow Jesus**

**Leave everything**

Sometimes: Get rid of what we have

Philippians 3:8

Luke 18:22

Always: Changed relationship with what we have

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Similar to the ideal of marriage: everything you have is shared with someone who fully loves you

Yet with God, we were purchased, so our lives belong to the One who loved us enough to die for us

**Follow Jesus with determination and courage**

Head: make the thoughts of God be our thoughts

Listen, watch, read God's Word and the Holy Spirit

With an open, eager, and humble mind

Heart: make the heart of God be our heart

Colossians 3:1

Colossians 3:12-13

What moves the heart of Jesus?

What is His purpose in the world?

Hands: make the work of God be our work

John 5:19

What did Jesus do? What is God doing?

## **Conclusion**

**Since Jesus is God, He alone is worthy of all that we are and have**

**What is it in your life and my life that does not want to give up that place of first importance?**

**In love, Jesus leads us to joyfully turn to Him instead**

## **Reflection Questions**

1. What are you tempted to 'hold back' from Jesus? That is, where are you tempted not to let go or to entrust that thing or relationship or identity entirely to Him.
2. "It is a good thing to give up a lesser god." What does that mean? What is an example of that in our lives?
3. What is a story of someone (maybe you, or someone you know) of literally getting rid of something in order to follow Jesus?
4. What is an example of a changed relationship with what is ours in order to follow Jesus?