

Studies in the Life of Christ

NT Survey Lesson 11--Matthew 12

Introduction: The conflict between Jesus and the Jews was not only centered in Jerusalem. It seems the Pharisees began to stalk Jesus from the place to place, following Him even to Galilee where they looked for occasions to find fault and discredit His work. Matthew twelve records a number of the these instances after Jesus' return to Galilee from Jerusalem.

Lesson aim: To show how Jesus answered those who accused Him of wrong-doing.

The disciples accused of working on the Sabbath--Matthew 12:1-8

1. What charge did the Pharisees level against the disciples? (v. 1-2) Upon what basis did they do so?
2. To what O.T. examples did Jesus appeal in showing the innocence of His disciples' actions? (v. 3-5)
3. What did Jesus claim to be greater than? (v. 6)
4. What principle of the prophet Hosea did Jesus remind them? (v. 7) What is the point of this statement?
5. Did Jesus defend His disciples as innocent in what they were doing? (v. 7)
6. What claim did Jesus make about the Sabbath? (v. 8) Would this qualify Him to say what was a violation of it and what was not?

A man with a withered hand is healed on the Sabbath--Matthew 12:9-21

1. What question did Jesus' enemies ask Him in order to accuse Him? (v. 9-10)
2. What question did Jesus ask His accusers in return? (v. 11) What was the purpose of asking this question? (v. 12)
3. What did Jesus affirm that it was lawful to do on the Sabbath? (v. 12)

4. What did the Pharisees plan to do to Jesus based on these events? (v 13-14)
5. How did Jesus react when He knew the Pharisees sought His life? (v. 15)
6. Did Jesus cease to teach people? (v. 15-16) What command did He give them?
7. What prophecy was Jesus fulfilling in these events? (v. 17-21) How?

The Pharisees seek to discredit Jesus' miracles--Matthew 12:22-37

1. How did the multitudes react to Jesus' healing of the demon-possessed man? (v. 22-23)
2. How did the Pharisees seek to turn the multitudes away from Jesus? (v. 24)
3. What arguments did Jesus make to the Pharisees in answering their charge that He cast out demons by Beelzebub? (v. 25-29)
4. To say that Jesus' miracles were performed by the power of Beelzebub was to blaspheme whom? (v. 30-32) What warning did Jesus issue concerning those who blasphemed the Spirit?
5. What did Jesus say the words of the Pharisees revealed about their hearts? (v. 33-35)
6. What warning did Jesus give about what we say? (v. 36-37)

The scribes and Pharisees seek for a sign--Matthew 12:38-45

1. What did the scribes and Pharisees seek from Jesus? (v. 38)
2. What did this request indicate about them? (v. 39)
3. What sign did Jesus give to the scribes? (v. 39)
4. What two groups would rise up in judgment against the Jews of Jesus' day? (v. 41-42) Why?
5. What is the point of Jesus' story about the demon possessed man? (v. 43-45)

Jesus defines His true family--Matthew 12:46-50

1. Who did Jesus say His family was? (v. 46-50)