

Theme: The “Sabbath” is but a taste of the Kingdom of God. It reflects the rest, renewal and restoration that is now upon us in Christ. His Kingdom doesn’t come through the world’s ideas of power and strength, but through what often seems to be insignificant, weak and small.

Background:

- Healing/deliverance unique to Luke
- Last time Jesus found *teaching* in synagogue

Introduction: Sickness, disability, brokenness - is “normal” only because the world is “abnormal” - it is broken by sin!

I. Sabbath Rules! (10-17)

A. A crooked woman

1. Her physical problem
 - bent over for 18 years
 - debilitating, discouraging, destructive
2. Her spiritual problem - more than a physical infirmity
 - Result of sin, but not necessarily *her* sin
 - Bound physically – but not spiritually.

NOTE: Like Job – attacked in body, but not under spiritual control.

ASIDE: 2 instances in Old Testament: 1 Samuel 16:14 (Saul, tormented by evil spirit);

1 Kings 22:22 (lying spirit in prophets of Ahab)

Tremendous activity around Jesus

2 instances outside of gospels: (Acts 16:16; 19:13 – slave girl and sons of Sceva)

3. Our Problem, Too
 - We are all bent (deformed) under the weight of sin
 - that is “normal” in this abnormal world!

B. A compassionate Lord

1. Toward the woman
 - He sees her need
 - “Made straight” v.12
 - “You are freed” - Spiritual bondage broken. v.16
 - “Glorified God”
2. Toward us
 - Sees our need – unable to save ourselves
 - We are “made straight”
 - That we might “glorify God”

C. A critical leader - Kingdom collision #1

1. The *Rule* of the Sabbath
 - 6 days to do this – come then!

2. The hypocrisy exposed
 - They show compassion to their animals, but not to a “daughter of Abraham?”

II. Sabbath Rest

- A. Rest from labors
 - Exodus 20:11 - because the Lord rested!
- B. Rest (rescued) from oppression
 - Deuteronomy 5:15 - because the Lord rescued you!

**Jesus is doing the very work of the Sabbath day! He is fulfilling its purpose.
Point of the Sabbath is to experience – Now – what heaven will be like!**

III. Sabbath Reign – The Coming of the Kingdom of God - Kingdom Collision #2

- A. In this world
 1. A mustard seed – and one *Big* plant
 - a. Small seed – great plant!
 - b. Small beginnings – great Kingdom
 - c. Explosive growth
 2. A little leaven
 - a. Transforms the whole loaf
 - b. Transforms the whole life
- B. In the next
 - Kingdom of God won't be finished here!
 - There will be perfect rest – perfect restoration

IV. Conclusion - Sabbath Life!

1. Do you have that life?
2. Your work in the Kingdom of God is like the mustard seed. It may start small – but its branches may spread very wide.
3. Jesus is bringing – the Kingdom of God
 - Here is the *new* “normal”
 - Jesus himself is the manifestation of the Kingdom of God
 - He is “Lord of the Sabbath” Luke 6:8