

## **Lesson 4: Finding Rest in the Lord of the Sabbath**

Matthew 11:25-12:14; Hebrews 4:8-16

### I. **A DIVINE SECRET** (11:25-27)

A. **God's Gracious Will** (25-26; 1 Cor 1:26-29)—*It is gracious because we don't deserve it.*

1. **Hidden from the Wise**—*spiritual truth cannot be perceived by worldly wisdom.*
2. **Revealed to Little Children**—Not because we are smart or fit or deserve it

B. **Jesus' Shocking Claim** (27)—*the authority and prerogative of God*

1. **Sovereign Authority** (Dan 7:13-14)—*He possesses all the authority of God Almighty.*
2. **Unique Sonship** (Jn 1:1-3, 18)—*uncreated* and *of the same essence* as God the Father
  - a. **Intimacy with God the Father**
  - b. **Equality with God the Father**
3. **Unity of Will** (Jn 14:10)—*not independent or in opposition but complete agreement*

### II. **JESUS' GRACIOUS INVITATION** (11:28-30)

A. **The Recipients:**

1. **All**—*anyone who wants to come*
2. **Who Are Weary and Burdened**—*You must feel your need of Him*

B. **The Command**—*We must actively receive our salvation.*

1. **Come to Me**—Relationship with a **Person**
2. **Take My Yoke**—Submission to Christ's **Authority**
3. **Learn from Me**—Practice of Our **Discipleship**

C. **The Promise: Rest for Your Souls**—*Jesus, alone can save and heal us and present us to God.*

### III. THE LAW OF THE SABBATH (12:1-14)

- A. God gave it as a blessing. *A holiday of rest and gladness***
- B. The Pharisees had made it into a burden. *Full of legalism and technicalities; obsessed with correct behavior***
- C. Jesus explains the intent of the law.**
- 1. He appeals to the Scripture. (3-7)—*It's all in writing and it all points to Jesus!***
    - a. He notes exceptions. *human necessity, priestly duty, acts of mercy***
    - b. He presents more Scripture. *Scripture interprets Scripture, whole counsel***
    - c. He concludes from Scripture. *It is right to do good on the Sabbath.***
  - 2. He demonstrates the character of God. (Col 2:9; ) *Pharisees distorted the character of God.***
    - a. He desires mercy rather than sacrifice. *God is always after our hearts.***
    - b. He has compassion for people. *Pharisees thought love and human decency were secondary to the rules themselves.***

### IV. THE LORD OF THE SABBATH (12:6)

- A. Divine Identity as the Messiah—*A title that is appropriate for only God to claim***
- 1. As Creator (Ex 20:8-11; Jn 1:3)—*Jesus claims the right of Creator.***
  - 2. As Redeemer (Deut 5:12-15)—*Jesus is the Redeemer of God's people.***
- B. Sovereign Authority over the Law (Col 2:16-17; Heb 4:9)—*superior to the Sabbath***
- 1. He sits in judgment upon it. *He has the right to explain and administer the law.***
  - 2. He is the reality to which it pointed. *He fulfills the law and provides the actual rest to which the law pointed.***

**JESUS ALONE CAN PROVIDE REST FOR OUR SOULS.**