

Mark 2:23-28 **Eating in the Grain Field on Sabbath – Lord of the Sabbath**

23 Now it happened that He went through the grainfields on the Sabbath; and as they went His disciples began to pluck the heads of grain. 24 And the Pharisees said to Him, "Look, why do they do what is not lawful on the Sabbath?"

25 But He said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he was in need and hungry, he and those with him: 26 how he went into the house of God in the days of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the showbread, which is not lawful to eat, except for the priests, and also gave some to those who were with him?" 27 And He said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. 28 Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath." NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- ✚ Now it happened that He went through the grainfields on the Sabbath; and as they went His disciples began to pluck the heads of grain. [Mark 2:23-28, Matthew 12:1-8, Luke 6:1-5]
- ✚ The Law is quite specific on this situation.
 - ✧ When you come into your neighbor's standing grain, you may pluck the heads with your hand, but you shall not use a sickle on your neighbor's standing grain. [Deuteronomy 23:25]
- ✚ The Pharisees challenged them for doing what they considered unlawful on the Sabbath. [Matthew 12:2, Mark 2:24, Luke 6:2]
 - ✧ It was the Pharisees who made the law that forbid this action, as work on the Sabbath, as part of their "Oral Law."
 - ✧ Jesus rebuked them for their oral law as teaching the commandments of men as doctrine and thus making the Word of God ineffective. [Matthew 15:1-20, Mark 7:1-23]
- ✚ Jesus used the example of David as he fled from king Saul who ate the show-bread and give it to his men. [1 Samuel 21:1-6, Matthew 12:3-4, Mark 2:25-26, Luke 6:3-4]
- ✚ Jesus also used the example of the priests who offer sacrifices which is very hard work on the Sabbath and they are not condemned for working on the Sabbath. [Matthew 12:5]
- ✚ Then Jesus went beyond all that and declared, "Yet I say to you that in this place there is **One greater than the temple.**" [Matthew 12:6]
 - ✧ Thus Jesus declared Himself as greater than the Temple.
- ✚ But if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless. [Matthew 12:7, Hosea 6:6]
 - ✧ The Pharisees, like so many today, condemn people for doing things based simply on their own traditions when it is not even mentioned in the Law of God, just because they do not know or understand the heart and spirit of the Law.
 - ✧ Thus they freely condemn the guiltless.
 - ✧ "Mercy triumphs over Judgment." [James 2:13]
- ✚ For the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath. [Matthew 12:8, Mark 2:28, Luke 6:5]
 - ✧ The authority of Jesus over-rides the authority of the Law.
 - ✧ **All authority** has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. [Matthew 28:18, John 5:26-27, 17:1-2]
 - ✧ Thus Jesus is able to reveal the heart and spirit of the Law, as given by God His Father.

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