

## Matthew 12:15-21 **Jesus Withdrew**

15 But when Jesus knew it, He withdrew from there. And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them all. 16 Yet He warned them not to make Him known, 17 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:

18 "Behold, My Servant whom I have chosen,  
My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased!  
I will put My Spirit upon Him,  
And He will declare justice to the Gentiles.  
19 He will not quarrel nor cry out,  
Nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets.  
20 A bruised reed He will not break,  
And smoking flax He will not quench,  
Till He sends forth justice to victory;  
21 And in His name Gentiles will trust." NKJV

### Facts Revealed:

- ✚ Jesus knew that the Pharisees were plotting to destroy Him.
- ✚ It was not the time for Jesus to be arrested and crucified, so Jesus simply withdrew from the scene of confrontation.
- ✚ Because of the compelling evidence of the presence of God in His life, the multitudes followed Him.
  - ✧ He was not very well hidden, but the Pharisees could not do much about it because of the crowd. [\[Mark 11:18\]](#)
- ✚ Jesus healed them all, but warned them not to make Him known.
- ✚ Matthew pointed out that this action fulfilled the message of the prophet Isaiah.
  - 1 "Behold! My Servant whom I uphold,  
My Elect One in whom My soul delights!  
I have put My Spirit upon Him;  
He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles.  
2 He will not cry out, nor raise His voice,  
Nor cause His voice to be heard in the street.  
3 A bruised reed He will not break,  
And smoking flax He will not quench;  
He will bring forth justice for truth.  
4 He will not fail nor be discouraged,  
Till He has established justice in the earth;  
And the coastlands shall wait for His law."  
[\[Isaiah 42:1-4\]](#)
- ✚ Jesus was gentle in all situations concerning Himself.
- ✚ There are times when it is best just to withdraw from a confrontation, when the evil one has his day. Jesus did not compromise, but just withdrew.
- ✚ This was not a case of appeasement, or capitulation toward evil. It was removing oneself from a situation that could potentially become explosive.
  - ✧ The time was to come, when the multitude would not be endangered, and Jesus was to be arrested and crucified. This was not that time.

