



# The Purpose of the Sabbath

Matthew 12:9-14



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## **Main Point:**

- Since Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath, He gets to define it



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- Since Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath, He gets to define it
- Accusation or Revelation vs. 9 & 10
- Moralizing or Mercy vs. 11 & 12
- Destruction or Restoration vs. 13 & 14



## Accusation or Revelation vs. 9 & 10

- There is a difference between asking and accusing
- When are you tempted to accuse God?



# Moralize or Mercy vs. 11 & 12

## **Legalists:**

1. Ignore exceptions to the law
2. Add to the law
3. Miss the heart of the law



## Moralize or Mercy vs. 11 & 12

- What do you value more than people who need mercy?
- The negative progression of legalism:
  - Joyless hypocrisy
  - Focused on outward appearances
  - Self-righteousness



## Moralize or Mercy vs. 11 & 12

*“Biblical orthodoxy without compassion is surely the ugliest thing in the world.”*

*- Francis Schaeffer*

**Mercy:** Compassion for the miserable and afflicted.



## Destruction or Restoration vs. 13 & 14

- Jesus proves He has the authority and the power to define the Sabbath





## Destruction or Restoration vs. 13 & 14

- Jesus proves He has the authority and the power to define the Sabbath
- We were withered: heart, soul, desires, affections...But God being rich in mercy...