

Matthew 12

Sabbath Conflicts - Lord of the Sabbath

End of an important section. Chapter 8-12 is regarded as a major section in the gospel of Matthew.

There is a view that suggests that Chapter 12 ends a presentation of the kingdom to Israel. In a practical sense the rejection of Jesus Christ did not happen at the cross, but in Chapter 12.

One will note that Jesus shifts gear dramatically, in Chapter 13 Jesus alters His style and approach amazingly.

The Pharisees condemn Jesus' disciples for "harvesting" grain on the Sabbath

A definite turning point. He is now through with the Jew as a nation, not individually. As a nation He has had it. They have rejected John's ministry. The transition definitely occurs. He mentions Gentiles twice in chapter 12. Dispensationally, the thing pictures what's going to take place and prophetically too.

Dispensationally, verses 1-15 picture the 1st coming with the kingdom signs offered to Israel.

14-21 shows rejection of the signs and the Messiah and a turning to the Gentiles. 'till' - up to a certain point, till the fulness of the Gentiles come in and judgment comes on Israel after the fulness of the gentiles.

Romans 15:25 But now I go unto Jerusalem to minister unto the saints.

Matthew 12:20 A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory.

Matthew 12:21 And in his name shall the Gentiles trust.

Matthew 12:22 Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw.

Matthew 12:23 And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the son of David?

The chapter. prophetically speaks immediately of Israel's rejection, then turns to the Gentiles till the judgment on Israel takes place in the second advent. the time of Daniel's troubles and Jacob's 70th week is God judging the nation of Israel for their rejection and getting them right through the refiner's fire.

Chapter 12 is a chapter of condemnation on Israel. 12 is Israel, they can either have it or lose it.

After this chapter the kingdom is not mentioned again.

[[Matthew 12:1]] At that time Jesus went on the sabbath day through the corn; and his disciples were an hungred, and began to pluck the ears of corn, and to eat.

He is going out of His way to upset Israel now. The disciples are picking corn on the sabbath day. He knows they reverence the sabbath day. They put more emphasis on the sabbath than on helping poeple. They are more hung up on the legality of the law than having mercy. When somebody turns against Him, He will do everything to harden that person. The way He hardened pharoah. Now to the Jews, who have rejected. He is out to hartden them now. Rough speech and parables. In

Exodus 16:23 And he said unto them, This [is that] which the LORD hath said, To morrow [is] the rest of the holy sabbath unto the LORD: bake [that] which ye will bake [to day], and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning.

Adam knew nothing of the sabbath or any of the patriarcs. Its a sign for Israel about the kingdom -

Genesis 2:3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and madeday.

Its connected with Israel's separation and sanctification. He sanctified it igen 2:3. Get exo 31 down. Its a sign between God and Israel of their peculiarity amongst the nations and as a sign of a day when the whole earth will be at rest. The millennial sabbath of the KOH.

Exodus 31:13 Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it [is] a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that [ye] may know that I [am] the LORD that doth sanctify you.

* It was never meant to be kept by a Gentile or anybody else. It was to be kept by them while they are in the land. They were being called out.

* It is a sign to picture the mellenial rest
Isaiah 14:7 The whole earth is at rest, [and] is quiet: they break forth into singing.

On the 7th day of creation God rested.
'corn' - there was no ear of corn in Egypt - mistranslation? -

John 12:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

The word 'corn' is used as a kernel of ANY crop. A corn of wheat. 'Corn' is a general term sometimes in the Bible.

Genesis 41:5 And he slept and dreamed the second time: and, behold, seven ears of corn came up upon one stalk, rank and good.

Genesis 41:6 And, behold, seven thin ears and blasted with the east wind sprung up after them.

Genesis 41:7 And the seven thin ears devoured the seven rank and full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and, behold, [it was] a dream.

Mark 4:26 And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground;

Mark 4:27 And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how.

Mark 4:28 For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear.

Mark 4:29 But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.

[[Matthew 12:2]] But when the Pharisees saw [it], they said unto him, Behold, thy disciples do that which is not lawful to do upon the sabbath day.

There is no law against doing what they are doing. No levitical or Exodus law against it. The law they are talking about is part of their tacked on traditions, such as the babylonian talmud.

To the Pharisees, the issue was the keeping of the Sabbath, not theft; the law of Israel allowed people traveling through an area to "glean" enough grain for a small meal from fields in the area.

Sabbath day - see Exodus 20:10, 11.

Instituted in Genesis Chapter 1, Yet, legally installed in the ten commandments. The Sabbath day is tied to the concept of creation. The Sabbath here is referring to the Sabbath for man, there is also, however, a Sabbath for the land.

Deuteronomy 5:14, 15. Here the Sabbath day is linked not only to creation, but also to the redemption.

The Sabbath is set apart by Jehovah. It cost the Lord a lot more to redeem you, than to create you in the first place. The Pharisees added more rules to the Sabbath.

This was not a breaking of the Mosaic Law, but of scribal traditions, which had precisely determined that to pluck the heads of grain was to "harvest"; to rub them between your hands to separate the chaff was "milling";

to blow away the chaff from your hand was "winnowing" - and these were forbidden on the Sabbath.



This tradition of legalism goes on today.

This way of rigorously extending the Sabbath law didn't die out with Jesus' time; in April of 1992, tenants let three apartments in an Orthodox neighborhood in Israel burn to the ground while they asked a rabbi whether a telephone call to the fire department on the Sabbath would violate Jewish law.

Observant Jews are forbidden to use the phone on the Sabbath, because doing so would break an electrical current, which is considered a form of work. In the half hour it took the rabbi to decide "yes," the fire spread to two neighboring apartments.

Kosher oven –

Sabbath-friendly appliances from Star-K

Posted Nov 2, 2004, 8:47 AM ET by Joshua Fruhlinger

How do modern Jews survive after sun-down on Friday given they can't use electricity? They buy Star-K-approved devices. These devices include a "sabbath mode" in which they won't turn on as a direct result of human intervention. Flip a switch, the light doesn't turn on. However, it may turn on randomly 10 second later, not as a direct result of the switch flipping. Open the fridge, the light doesn't come on and the compressor doesn't immediately compensate. So if you're looking for a kosher oven, look for the Star-K.

Talmudisms

Sanhedrin 59a: "Murdering Goyim is like killing a wild animal."

Abodah Zara 26b: "Even the best of the Gentiles should be killed."

Sanhedrin 59a: "A Goy (Gentile) who pries into the law (Talmud) is guilty of death."

Libbre David 37: "To communicate anything with a Goy about our religious relations would be equal to the killing of all Jews, for if the Goyim knew what we teach about them, they would kill us openly.

" Yebhamoth 11b: "Sexual intercourse with a little girl is permitted if she is of three years of age.

" Sanhedrin 105ab: "Jesus fornicated with his jackass.

" Gittin 57a: "Jesus is in hell and is being punished by being boiled in semen. Christians are boiled in dung.

" Schabouth Hag. 6b: "Jews may swear falsely by use of subterfuge wording.

" Zohar 1,160a: "Jews must always try to deceive Christians." Hilkkoth Akum Z1: "Do not save Goyim in danger of death.

" Choschen Ham 388, 15: "If it be proven that someone has given the money of israelites to the Goyim, a way must be found after prudent consideration to wipe him off the face of this earth."

Choschen Ham 266, 1: "A Jew may keep anything he finds which belongs to the Akum (Gentile). For he who returns lost property (to Gentiles) sins against the law by increasing the power of the transgressors of the law. It is praiseworthy, however, to return lost property if it is done to honor the name of God, namely if by so doing Christians will praise the Jews and look upon them as honorable people."

Jesus defends His disciples

[[Matthew 12:3]] But he said unto them, Have ye not read what David did, when he was an hungered, and they that were with him; He rebukes them.

[[Matthew 12:4]] How he entered into the house of God, and did eat the shewbread, which was not lawful for him to eat, neither for them which were with him, but only for the priests?

1Samuel 21:1 Then came David to Nob to Ahimelech the priest: and Ahimelech was afraid at the meeting of David, and said unto him, Why [art] thou alone, and no man with thee?

1Samuel 21:2 And David said unto Ahimelech the priest, The king hath commanded me a business, and hath said unto me, Let no man know any thing of the business whereabout I send thee, and what I have commanded thee: and I have appointed [my] servants to such and such a place.

2sa 21:1-5

He entered into the house of God, the tabernacle and he ate the shewbread of the tabernacle, that was not lawful for them to eat, neither for them that were with him, but only for the priests. And God didn't do anything about it because at the time he did that David was a king rejected of Israel.

David was a type of Jesus Christ, a preist who offered sacrifices. He was the only king in the OT that was a prophet and a priest. He made oferings. He had rights to the priesthood even though he wasn't a levite so God allowed it.

Now here is this king, who is also in rejection of Israel, doing something they say is unlawful and God isn't doing anything about it.

- If Israel had accepted David he wouldn't have been in there eating the shewbread. So evidently when Israel is in rejection God doesn't hold anything. They weren't doing anything wrong anyway.

- Christ wasn't breaking the law, He wasn't eating. It's a picture of Christ as a rejected king and there is a usurper sitting on the throne by the name of Caesar, a type of the antichrist, just as David was a rejected king with a usurper on the throne, also a type of the AC). This is the same thing as what happened to David. He is being rejected as David was rejecting and that's what this thing is all about.

priests eating the shewbread -

Leviticus 24:8 Every sabbath he shall set it in order before the LORD continually, [being taken] from the children of Israel by an everlasting covenant.

[[Matthew 12:5]] Or have ye not read in the law, how that on the sabbath days the priests in the temple profane the sabbath, and are blameless?

The second rebuke.

How did they profane the sabbath and yet are not to be blamed? On the sabbath they must rest, however the priests worked on the sabbath.

[[Matthew 12:6]] But I say unto you, That in this place is [one] greater than the temple.

Hebrews 3:3 For this [man] was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house.

He is the builder of the house and has rights no one else has. He also instituted the sabbath and all the laws He institutes are subject to Him. He can break the laws He instituted. He isn't a lawbreaker but all the laws are subject to Him. The temple service and the sabbath day are all subject to Him. He is greater than the temple.

[[Matthew 12:7]] But if ye had known what [this] meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice, ye would not have condemned the guiltless.

Hosea 6:6 For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.

They didn't understand the difference between mercy and judgment. They were more interested in nit-picking. If they would have fed the hungry men, they wouldn't be out in the field picking corn. They weren't feeding His disciples because they didn't want to hear the message. If they would have accepted the message, they would have been out there feeding the disciples. God wants to have mercy, not judgment. Don't reject mercy and seek only judgment.

Matthew 7:1 Judge not, that ye be not judged. (see also James 2)

God wants to have mercy but when you reject His mercy and righteousness you get His judgment.

[[Matthew 12:8]] For the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day.

Now He is really claiming deity.

The Son of Man is His humanity, Lord is His deity. He is Lord of the sabbath, so the sabbath is in subjection to Him. And He had

They had broken the law of righteousness by not accepting the message.

The sabbath is not a moral law, but a ceremonial law. There is nothing in the law that says that you can't eat on the sabbath. They know that.

The first principle Jesus presents is simple, and illustrated by David's experience with the priests and the showbread: human need is more important than observing ceremonial rituals.

The second principle Jesus presents is also simple: the priests themselves break the Sabbath all the time; perhaps the Pharisees don't understand as much about Sabbath observance as they thought they did. The reference to I desire mercy and not sacrifice, and the Pharisees' lack of understanding of this principle is also a way Jesus calls into question the confidence the Pharisees have in their traditions of man.

The third principle is the most dramatic: He is greater than the temple; He is Lord even of the Sabbath. This is a direct claim to Deity; Jesus is saying that He knows enough to know if His disciples are breaking the Sabbath law - He is the Lord of the Sabbath!

The Tabernacle was a secure area for the priests only, from the tribe of Levi. David, although anointed King, was of the tribe of Judah.

David had no place in the Tabernacle at all, first he was not of the right tribe, nor was he ordained to be a priest. The showbread was inside on a table: 12 loaves specially baked unleavened bread, with frankincense inside, set aside specifically for the priests, ceremonially and practically.

In 1 Samuel 21, David is in flight from Saul. They are fugitives, they are running for their lives and David helps himself to the showbread in the Tabernacle to give them provisions.

First, Jesus calls this incident to their attention, and by implication, condones it. Yes, it was a violation of the ceremonial procedure, but that is all it was a violation of. Jesus contrasts man's need with ceremonial legalistic restrictions. David is an anointed King. Jesus is even more.

"One greater than the Temple": This is important because it comes up in His trial, and is what they ultimately accuse Him of.

A controversy regarding healing on the Sabbath

[[Matthew 12:9]] And when he was departed thence, he went into their synagogue:

[[Matthew 12:10]] And, behold, there was a man which had [his] hand withered. And they asked him, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath days? that they might accuse him

He is forcing their hand.

They know He's gonna heal that man. AND they are accusing Him of unrighteousness.

They are accusing God of sin to justify their own wretched condition.

They know He is going to heal and they still try and find fault with Him. That's depravity.

[[Matthew 12:11]] And he said unto them, What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift [it] out?

Good question. They never answer His. He always answers theirs. They care more about the law and animals than helping a man. Its about money. More money is spent on pet food than on missionaries who will lead people to Christ.

[[Matthew 12:12]] How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days.

The illustration in 11 the precept is in 12. God thinks of a man as more important than a sheep. They don't do what Christians ought to do.

[[Matthew 12:13]] Then saith he to the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched [it] forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other.

God never said they weren't to do well on the sabbath day, just that they weren't to work jobs or their servants work. They were just trying to get what they needed to eat.

'stretch' - Messianic sign, like Moses healed his leperous hand. A mosaic sign to Israel. He restored his hand to wellness, just like the other one.

[[Matthew 12:14]] Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him.

'council' - always bad

complete rejection of the sign.

He has spoken to them from the word of the Lord (3-5)

He has given them a Mosaic sign that only God Almighty could have.

They have rejected John's ministry.

They have rejected Christ's ministry.

they have rejected the ministry of the apostles (who wouldnt sit down with publicans and sinners).

Total rejection.

The religious leaders saw the man with the withered hand as a test case as best; it is more likely that they saw the man as bait for a Sabbath controversy trap for Jesus.

Jesus exposes their hypocrisy by showing their greater concern for their own possessions than for a man in need, arguing persuasively that it can't be wrong to do good on the Sabbath - then He compassionately heals the man.

When Jesus commanded the man to stretch out your hand, He commanded the man to do something impossible in his current condition - but Jesus never gives a command without giving the ability to fulfill it, and the man put forth the effort and was healed.

In response to this display of compassion, power, and wisdom, the Pharisees, in the hardness of their hearts, respond not in reverent worship and submission, but in hardened, murderous rejection.

Sabbath Day - Keep it?

Sabbath day issue: There are those who are really hung up on this issue. We need to realize that we are not saved by the days we keep; we are saved by the Lord we keep. That which we do is done as an act of worship, not as a prerequisite to our access to the throne of

Grace. Our access is through the completed work of Jesus Christ who did keep the Sabbath day for you and I. (Despite some of these amusing episodes) This doesn't mean that God won't honor you if you choose to honor the Sabbath day as a day of worship. Just recognize why you are doing it, don't make it a legalistic thing.

In spite of the rejection of the religious leaders, Jesus is still beloved of the people and God's chosen servant.

God's Chosen Servant

[[Matthew 12:15]] But when Jesus knew [it], he withdrew himself from thence: and great multitudes followed him, and he healed them all;

Everything is on an INDIVIDUAL basis now. He isn't withdrawing because they are out to destroy him. They can't destroy Him.

John 10:18 No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

Luke 4:30 But he passing through the midst of them went his way,

John 8:59 Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

He always escapes their plots.

[[Matthew 12:16]] And charged them that they should not make him known:

He wont show them anything anymore unless they accept Him.

John 8:4 They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act.

John 9:30 The man answered and said unto them, Why herein is a marvellous thing, that ye know not from whence he is, and [yet] he hath opened mine eyes.

He doesnt want the Jews to know Him anymore.

[[Matthew 12:17]] That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying,

[[Matthew 12:18]] 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 shall shew judgment to the Gentiles.

18-21 you have the whole thing summed up.

quotes -

Isaiah 42:1 Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, [in whom] my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.

Isaiah 42:2 He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street.

Isaiah 42:3 A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth.

Isaiah 42:4 He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.

'servant' - Christ

'chosen' - elect

'spirit' - at His baptism

A spirit in the sense of His ministry. He was God in the flesh and the Holy Spirit came upon Him for His ministry just like it did all the prophets in the OT. Everyone

here is a Son of God but there will be times when the Spirit will be upon you for a work that's not evident there at other times.

'gentiles' - in verse 16 He said don't make Him known to Israel anymore. There is a clue in the OT that God will go to the Gentiles. In the OT the only thing you could have gotten out of it is that no Gentiles would be blessed. He mystery, hidden from the foundation of the world, if the Jew rejected then it would go to the Gentiles before the millennium.

[[Matthew 12:19]] He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets.

1st coming - He submitted meekly.

1Peter 2:20 For what glory [is it], if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer [for it], ye take it patiently, this [is] acceptable with God.

He kept His mouth shut. He's talking about the fulfillment of isa 42:1-4 which shows the ministry of the Messiah to Israel. Involved in it is the 1st and 2nd coming. The 1st coming His servants would be His beloved, His chosen one in which God would be well pleased. He will show judgment to the Gentiles between the 1st and second coming. His voice hasn't been mentioned in Jerusalem since His rejection. It was controlled all through the dark ages.

5 things He will not do until He sends forth judgment under victory
'strive' - he submitted to His enemies
'streets' - the streets of Israel

[[Matthew 12:20]] A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory.

1Kings 14:15 For the LORD shall smite Israel, as a reed is shaken in the water, and he shall root up Israel out of this good land, which he gave to their fathers, and shall scatter them beyond the river, because they have made their groves, provoking the LORD to anger.

Israel is called a bruised reed. When He showed up the first time, Israel was a bruised reed, a broken nation. They broke Him. Next time it's the other way around.

'quench' - He is not going to quench the Holy Spirit calling out Gentiles. If the reed is Israel during this age, He personally isn't going to break it, they've broken themselves. They've rejected and they've reaped the wages of sin. He won't strive or cry with them. Jerusalem has been under the control of the Moslem heathen ever since the first coming.

1Thessalonians 5:19 Quench not the Spirit.

There will come a time when it comes to showing judgment to the Gentiles He quenches the Spirit.

'judgement' - trib

'victory' - advent

If the Jew wouldn't have rejected, those advents would have been close together.

They rejected, the Gentiles are in there twice.

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[[Matthew 12:21]] And in his name shall the Gentiles trust.

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

- says they will

Romans 9:11 (For [the children] being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) apply it literally

For a time, Jesus withdraws Himself somewhat from public ministry as the opposition rises against Him; not out of cowardice, but in respect to the Father's timing for the culmination of His ministry.

The quotation from Isaiah 42 also speaks of the gentle character of the Messiah; if a reed is broken, He will not break it; and if He sees even the smallest spark in a man, he will not quench it, but gently fan it into flame.

Finally, the quotation from Isaiah 42 also speaks of the ultimate ministry of Jesus to the Gentiles - something surprising (perhaps offensive) to Matthew's Jewish readers, but obviously Scriptural!

Continuing rejection by the religious leaders

Jesus delivers a demon possessed man

[[Matthew 12:22]] Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw.

[[Matthew 12:23]] And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the son of David?

[[Matthew 12:24]] But when the Pharisees heard [it], they said, This [fellow] doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils.

Again, Jesus displays His complete power and authority over demons, casting out demons that the traditions of the day considered impossible.

The crowds react with Messianic expectation, but the religious leaders respond by attributing Jesus' power to the prince of demons.

Demon Possession - Blind and Dumb

In Judaism, there were procedures for exorcism, but in the procedures they required the demon to identify himself. Thus, if it was the type of demon that had struck this guy dumb, there was no way to exorcize him (as one could not get him to identify himself). In this case, this exorcism was recognized as unusual.

Jesus answers the accusation that He operates by Satan's power

[[Matthew 12:25]] And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand:

[[Matthew 12:26]] And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand?

[[Matthew 12:27]] And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your children cast [them] out? therefore they shall be your judges.

[[Matthew 12:28]] But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

Jesus is casting out devils by the power of the Spirit of God.

[[Matthew 12:29]] Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house.

Jesus, quite logically observes that it makes no sense for Satan to cast out Satan; the Pharisees need to explain how Satan benefits in the work Jesus has just done.

As well, Jesus asks how, if He operates by Satan's power in the casting out of demons, do the Jewish exorcists cast out demons?

Jesus declares His authority to bind Satan's power, and in so doing, He presents a valuable principle in spiritual warfare, remembering that Jesus gives us the permission to use His name and blood (authority), giving us the "strength" we may need in binding the strong man.

Jesus reveals the desperate place of those who could be hardened enough to attribute His workings to satanic power

[[Matthew 12:30]] He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.

[[Matthew 12:31]] Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy [against] the [Holy] Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.

'wherefore' - because of their rejection

'sin' - under the crucifixion his is true

Acts 13:39 And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses. under the crucifixion this is true, you can be forgiven for all things under Christ's blood that you could not be forgiven for under the OT.

Mark 3:29 But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:

They were saying the power came from the devil and that's blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. They were saying Christ had an unclean spirit. You can't commit that unpardonable sin today, you can probably do it in the trib. There Moses and Elijah will

be performing miracles and signs and if you attribute them to the devil you will wind up taking the mark of the beast and be forever damned. Today the closest thing is attributing demonic and healing powers to the Holy Spirit. Tongues today.

[[Matthew 12:32]] And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the [world] to come.

That's the humanity. What we once spoke against Christ is now forgiven.

'this world - this particular dispensation, the world is not the earth, but the system on the earth.

Matthew 24:3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what [shall be] the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?

This dispensation will come to an end in the trib. this world began in Genesis 1:3. Since the recreation this world runs through and stops at the second coming. Then the world to come shows up. A new system, a new age. Since Genesis 1,2 and 3 we have had nothing but wars and trouble.

3 world systems

the world that then was - 2 pe 3 - a world system was on this earth before Genesis 1:3 - the Sons of God, Satan as Lucifer -

2Peter 3:6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

Not Noah's flood, but a different heavens and earth that then was. When the world perished in Noah's flood it wasn't standing out of the water. Noah wasn't even submerged in water, it was just that water covered the face of the Earth. The situation back here was you had the Earth sitting in the deeps and was sitting up there in the third heaven and the size of the mirth? and the great deeps and the world was sitting in the water and out of the water, in other words it was floating on top of that great deeps. Doesn't a ship stand in the water and out of the water? And that's the way the Earth was when Satan ruled over it and that world system was on this Earth. Then after the fall of Satan, this thing sinks down into the deeps. Then during the recreation He separates the firmament from the firmament. When you take water and separate it from water you create a vacuum in between.

Genesis 1:6 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

Genesis 1:7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which [were] under the firmament from the waters which [were] above the firmament: and it was so.

Genesis 1:8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

Right in the middle of the vacuum was our planet. Then He creates an atmosphere around our planet. The Earth was floating around Then he divided the deeps and created the universe. The Earth was without form and null and void. The spirit moved upon the face of the deep, the face of the waters, that's when the earth was overflowed with water. It sunk right into the great deeps and the God divided the deeps and created the universe, it's all in the KJB, not in the original greek. 2 pe3 is the key.

God does everything in threes.

a world here falls under Satan

a world falls under man

a world falls under God - its not His fault, its mans

All 3 demise then a new heavens and Earth is set up.

In the millenium Satan will be bound and it still all will come to an end.

'come' - not necessarily this dispensation, but the age that we live in which has been this way since the recreation. The same system that's here is the same one as before Noah. The flood didn't change the world system. That's how you know 2 pe 3 isn't referring to Noah's flood. He's talking about 2 different worlds and 2 different heavens and Earths. It has to be a flood that took place before Adam and Eve were created. When the Earth was overflowed with water.

During the millenium they can blaspheme against the Holy Spirit. Christ is only on the Earth during His ministry and in the millenium. During His 3 1/2 year ministry you could blaspheme the Holy Ghost and it wouldn't be forgiven. When He comes back when He comes back you can blaspheme against the Holy Ghost and it won't be forgiven.

First, Jesus removes illusions about any "neutral ground" in regard to His ministry; if you aren't for Him, you are against Him.

Jesus solemnly warns the religious leaders against rejecting Him; their rejection of Christ - in regard to the revelation received of Him - betrays a nearness to completely rejecting the Holy Spirit's ministry testifying to Jesus, hence the warning of committing the "unforgivable sin". The Holy Spirit's main ministry is to testify of Jesus.

How can one know if they have in fact blasphemed the Holy Spirit? The fact that one desires Jesus at all shows that they are not guilty of this sin - yet, but continued rejection of Jesus makes us more hardened against Him.

The Unpardonable Sin

The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to convict you of sin, and your need for a savior. While Satan tries to condemn you for your sins. Remember Romans 8:1. How does one tell if it is conviction from the Holy Spirit or condemnation from Satan? Is what is happening drawing you closer to or away from God? If your feeling of remorse for your sin is drawing you into God's Word, than that is the Holy Spirit. If the feelings, attitudes, thoughts and doubts over the issue, cause you to shun the Word, that is Satan trying to get you on a guilt trip.

If you are worried about having committed the unpardonable sin, you haven't done it!

Their words betray the depravity of their hearts

[[Matthew 12:33]] Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by [his] fruit.

33-37 is a blast to make things consistent, and they are hypocrites so its inconsistent.

they say He is evil but His works are good - thats inconsistency

dont say a fellow is good if he is evil.

If a man has good works then He is a good tree.

If his works are evil he couldnt be good.

'else' - if He is not doing good works His works are bad. They werent speaking evil of His works, but of Him. That's inconsistency. Ruckman obeys the bible but his talk is rough.

Isaiah 5:20 Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Other countries dispense justice more fairly.

[[Matthew 12:34]] O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

These people have fully rejected the truth over and over again.

John 8:44 Ye are of [your] father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him.

When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Matthew 8:24 And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep.

Matthew 8:25 And his disciples came to [him], and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us: we perish.

Matthew 8:26 And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.

Matthew 8:27 But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!

Romans 9:11 (For [the children] being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)

An evil man can't say a good thing.

[[Matthew 12:35]] A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.

If the heart of the tree is good, a person the fruit, or what a person says, will be good.

Matthew 7:17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

Romans 8:8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

What He is saying here is justifying Himself and condemning them.

[[Matthew 12:36]] But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

'idle' - diconnected from evil

All will be brought back. If a man can produce a tape recorder, God can retain all. He produced the man that produced the tape recorder.

Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep Ecclesiastes 12:14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether [it be] good, or whether [it be] evil.

his commandments: for this [is] the whole [duty] of man.

Every idle word and work will be brought up. Every secret thing, whether good or evil.

Romans 2:16 In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

If He judges the heart, He's got their words and works.
Matthew 12:34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

[[Matthew 12:37]] For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

If they would have had the right words, God could have justified them. You doon't even have to speaks words for words to condemn you.

Romans 3:14 Whose mouth [is] full of cursing and bitterness:

Even though they don't curse, its in there.

Romans 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

Romans 10:10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

The bad fruit of their words (condemning Jesus) betrays the bad fruit in their hearts; if they got their hearts right with God, their words would get right also.

Is Jesus making too much of mere words? No; it is by our words that we will be judged.

Blasphemy against the Son of Man is not the problem (while it is still a sin). It's blasphemy against the Holy Spirit that is unforgivable.

The scribes and Pharisees request a sign from Jesus

Jesus responds to the request from the scribes and Pharisees

[[Matthew 12:38]] Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee.

'master' - what Judas calls Him. You want to call Hum Lord like Peter called Him.

They just did. He doent rebuke them for seeking sings, just for their wickedness in rejecting them.

'sign' - they have just seen many signs from Him and they atributted it to the devil's power. The Jews seek for a sign.

1Corinthians 1:22 For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: (also exo 4)

He doesn't condemn them for seeking signs but for their wickedness and rejection of the signs.

[[Matthew 12:39]] But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas:

Verse 35, 30. If you are not with God youv'e committed spiritual adultery. This bunch is evil in the heart.

Only Jews could seek after signs.

[[Matthew 12:40]] For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

If all the miracles in the OT He picked out the most debated one of all. Its the most ridiculed, He picks out the hardest thing and sees if people will believe it, most bible scholars don't. There have been cases where man were swallowed by whales and coughed up days later. They are not carnivorous.

Jonah 2:2 And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, [and] thou heardest my voice.

He died and went to hell. Christ did the same -

Acts 2:32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

Matthew 12:40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

The Earth is under a curse because the heart of it is evil.

A fish is a mammal. Created seperate from a fish back in Genesis where he is created separately.

The Earth can't bring forth anything good, so GHod is going to have to change it.

Jonah 2:2 proves hell is in the heart of the Earth.

He never metions Jonah's resurrection. Thats the real sign. The sign was that he came up alive. (jon 2,3)

They are evil by the words (37). This generation was to be condemned because of what they said about His signs and wonders. 'adultrous' - says she's somebody else's husband, yet has relations with another. They say they were with God but rejected Jesus, who IS GOD. (30) In th OT the worst sin a man could commit was SPIRITUAL adultery. Israel committed adulytry with the idols of the heathen. They were doing what the heathen

gods asked them to do. David and Solomon - David's sins were carnal, not spiritual like Solomon's, who went whoring after other gods. God viewed them both as sinners, but David's heart was never estranged from the Lord. He committed murder and adultery, but that's not as bad as Solomon, who didn't kill or commit adultery, but committed spiritual fornication in God's sight, he rent the kingdom because of that. God promised to David that he would reap Solomon's throne. Today the worst sin a guy could commit is divorcing his wife and remarrying somebody else and committing physical adultery. Many times the people who accuse him have committed spiritual adultery and that's never brought up. In the NT idolatry is defined in col 3. It's covetousness. You wanting something more than what God wants for you. When you miss church because you've got something else to do. That's spiritual idolatry, that's idolatry.

James 4:4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

'friendship of the world' - to a Christian that's adultery. Israel became a friend of the world. James tells you to get out of the camp of the world. For a person in Israel or a child of God that's spiritual adultery. That's what the Pharisees were doing. They had a form of godliness, but were denying the power thereof.

Mark 7:6 He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with [their] lips, but their heart is far from me.

They talk one thing but do something else. Fooling around with the world instead of going to church. That's spiritual adultery. A Christian is supposed to be married to Jesus Christ. (rom 7) He is the head and you should be in subjection to him and go to church. Hosea was told to marry a woman of whoredom as an illustration to Israel that's what they had done to Him. He was married to a harlot who had given herself to another. That's a picture of what Israel had done.

Matthew 12:39 But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas:

There have been other signs given to this generation so He must mean it in the sense that the only sign that you're going to get that will tell you the truth is the sign of the prophet Jonas. The other signs are for - signs and wonders are given for 2 purposes - either enlighten the people or to blind them. From here in out this is the only sign that will ever enlighten them.

There are other signs given -

He walks on the water in 14.

He heals, feeds 4000 in 15.

From here on out the signs are to blind Israel as a whole.

John 3:19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

To somebody who rejects light, like Pharoah, the signs are to harden him against God and Israel.

After the death, burial and resurrection many of the people that were against Him now believe. (act 2) Still there are those who reject. In the trib the AC will have great signs and wonders to deceive the world. The AC will wipe out Russia when it moves against Israel. The devil has no power except what comes from God.

'as' - when the bible wants to teach something

3 days and three nights - He could have possibly been crucified on Good Friday, but on a Wednesday. Not if He comes up on Saturday evening. He must be off the cross before that high sabbath. Jonah was in hell -

Jonah 2:2 And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, [and] thou heardest my voice.

matches

Acts 2:31 He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption.

Jonah and Christ were in hell.

Their desire to see a sign expresses really another way in which they hope to reject Him; if Jesus did provide a sign, they would find some way to speak against it, thus "proving" to themselves that Jesus is who they already think He is - an emissary of Satan ([Matthew 12:24](#)).

Jesus condemns their seeking after a sign, especially when countless signs are happening right in front of their faces; unfortunately, many today want to cater to our own evil and adulterous generation and their desire for "a sign"

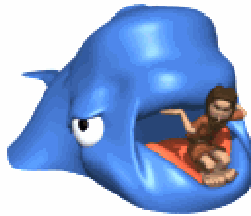
Jesus assures them of a sign, but the only sign they will get is the sign of a resurrected Jesus.

Jesus announces the condemnation of the religious leaders at the hands of the Ninevites and the Queen of the South.

Sign of the Prophet Jonah

They have just seen a leper healed, two blind men, a demoniac, etc. all healed! And they still want a sign!

Authentication of the Book of Jonah! The prophet Jonah wrote the book, and not just a myth, a real story.



“Heart of the earth” - where is Hades, Sheol, ghenna? Jesus points out that Jonah spent three days and three nights in the belly of the whale, so shall Jesus spend three days and three nights in the belly of the earth. He is referring to the grave, from Hades, in the center of the earth. While Ghenna is in the outer darkness, permanent. Hades was temporary place. The Abusso was probably the center of Hades, there is a gulf between the good half and bad half of Hades (Luke 16 - Abraham’s bosom is the good side of Hades). The Abusso has no bottom: and the only place on earth with no bottom is the center of the earth.

[[Matthew 12:41]] The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas [is] here.

He's really blpheming them now with judgment. in chapter 11 He's saying the people of Tyre and Sidon are goig to judge them in the sense the they would have repented if they saw the things people lie Sodom and Ghomrrah ahd seen. Its all over for Israel in chapter 12. Jonah was given 40 days to preach to Niniveh, the number of testing. They don't repent in a 3 1/2 perod. Nineveh didn't even take its full period. In Niiveh they repented at a preacher who had only one sign, the fish. Christ showed Israel many signs and they didn't believe. They believed a sinner who preached to tem, these Jews wouldn't even believe God.

There is something that gives a key that Israel isnt going to accept the first time. God spoke to Jonah several times. Jonah 3:1 And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the second time, saying,

'second time' - There will be rejection the first time. He wanted someone He had to speak to twice and would experience the death, burial and resurrection like Christ experienced and also Israel will experience before they get right. Jonah is the perfect picture of the messiah, who was rejected and also of Israel, who rejects and then gets righted the second time. And they will be killed as a nation and resurrected as a nation.

The Ninevites repented at the preaching of Jonah and one greater than Jonah is here.

Matthew 12:6 But I say unto you, That in this place is [one] greater than the temple.

Christ is greater than the temple. (6)

They were more interested in their building than they were the Saviour. Christ is outside the temple in the Laodicean church, outside knocking. The churches today are called temples.

He is greater than Jonah. (41)

He is greater than Solomon. (42)

good 3 point outline

At the end of 40 days Nineveh would have been destroyed. Israel hears the message for the first time in 30 A.D. 40 years later they are leveled. If they believed the preaching in Acts they wouldn't have been leveled. They rejected all the preaching plus the gospel of the Grace of God in Acts and they are wiped out.

[[Matthew 12:42]] The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon [is] here.

'queen of the south' - Sheba

'outmost' - she came from the waters edge, the south tip of Arabia

'uninvited' - she came to judge them

They were invited. They have rejected and she accepted.

'invited' -

Matthew 11:28 Come unto me, all [ye] that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

She came out of gossip of Christ's power. He came to them. God will use a wise man from the east. They believed more about the Bible than any Jew in Palestine. God will use the testimony regarding the queen of Sheba against those who rejected Christ. A woman came that far to hear the wisdom of Solomon and who was Solomon compared to Jesus Christ? She spent a lot to make the

trip to see Solomon and they don't have to spend anything to see Christ.

Simply put, greater light requires greater judgment; these groups responded in repentance to lesser light; how can these religious leaders defend their rejection of a greater light?

The dangerous consequences of their rejection of Jesus

[[Matthew 12:43]] When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none.

Illustration. Likens it to the evil generation of Israel.

In

Luke 11:24 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return unto my house whence I came out.

Can be to an individual (as well as a nation).

'unclean spirit' -

Ephesians 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

- every unsaved man has an unclean spirit in him

'he' - the spirit - they find rest near water - an unclean spirit seeks water - the devil is in the deep right now - their end is the lake of fire - they seek liquid. Your flesh is demonic and if it wasn't for God it would wind up in the lake of fire. Your body is made up of liquid.

[[Matthew 12:44]] Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth [it] empty, swept, and garnished.

The house is the man. Where the soul lives temporarily.

3 things

'empty' - no Holy Spirit - the guy backed out of getting right

'swept' - that's a reformation, resolution - he's cleaned his life up

'garnished' - wearing religious decorations

[[Matthew 12:45]] Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last [state] of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

WHen a righteous influence comes into a man or a nation's life it has a tendency to make the nation a little more cleaner. But if the nation doesn't subject itself to total righteousness, when that righteous influence is gone then the final state of that thing will be worse than the first. That lost man may temporarily stentien out but if he rejects Christ and after the Christian influence is gone that man will be a lot worse because he's rejected light. AFter Israel recieves light God's judgement will fall. This is a samck at the pharasees, they are garnished and swept.

Some deamon possessed people arent as bad as others. The last days of a man are worse than the first. America has been exposed to the gospel, in the 1890's a resoloution was passed that this is a Christian country.

'wicked generation' - this is an illustration of Israel.

Jesus grants us an important insight into the world of demons; apparently, they (or some of them) desire a human host, and look for such among those who have "unfilled houses".

How important it is that we be filled with Jesus; as He fills us, we cannot be filled with any unclean spirit.

Jesus identifies His true family

Jesus' Mother and Brothers

[[Matthew 12:46]] While he yet talked to the people, behold, [his] mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him.

Matthew 1:25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

His personal family.

[[Matthew 12:47]] Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee.

Catholics are told they must pray to Mary because Jesus is in subjection to her.

[[Matthew 12:48]] But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren?

Here she is desiring something from Him and He doesn't give it to her. On this text many people were converted. Also the repititious praying to Mary can be addressed -

Matthew 6:7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen [do]: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

A text to give to a Catholic. Jump on his church if he rejects the gospel.

Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Peter is not a rock he is a stone. 5 verses later Christ says to Peter -

Matthew 6:23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great [is] that darkness!

If Christ built His church on Peter than He built it on the devil. Show a Catholic that. Also:

Matthew 23:9 And call no [man] your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.

[[Matthew 12:49]] And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren!

[[Matthew 12:50]] For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

Mary had no special favors with Jesus, then or now; she stands as a wonderful example of someone who was privileged by God and stood by Jesus, but is not on a higher level of anyone who does the will of My Father in heaven.

Jesus had brothers and sisters.

Jesus was saying that His circle, His allegiance, was to His family of faith.

These beloved ones who do the will of God stand in contrast to the evil and adulterous generation represented by the Pharisees.