

The Witnesses

K. The witnesses – John 5:31-40

1. John 5:31 – Jesus anticipated that people might object to His claim to be God, saying He based His claim solely on His own authority. (See Deuteronomy 19:15 for the Biblical rules of evidence.)
2. John 5:32a – Although Jesus' testimony is true and confirming by itself (John 8:12-18), He graciously provided a defense in line with the Mosaic Law.

The Witnesses

- a. John 5:32b – John used the word testimony (Greek: *MARTURIA*) fourteen times and testify (Greek: *MARTUREO*) 33 times, making it a fundamental theme of his Gospel.
- b. John 5:32c – Witnesses helped prove that Jesus is God and Messiah.

The Witnesses

3. John 5:33 – Jesus referred to the interrogation committee in John 1:19-28 and noted that John the Baptist was a good witness who told the truth.
4. John 5:34 – Jesus did not reject John the Baptizer's testimony, but He did not depend on it alone to legitimize His deity claim.
5. John 5:35 – As the lamp, John drew from the source of Light, Jesus Christ. John 1:8

The Witnesses

6. John 5:36a – As good as John’s testimony was, Jesus’ works gave a greater testimony.
 - a. John 5:36b – Jesus’ works gave empirical evidence of His deity. John 3:2, 5:17
 - b. John 5:36c – God the Father *gave* (Greek: *DIDOMI*) the working miracles to the Son.

The Witnesses

7. John 5:37 – The Father had testified at Jesus' baptism, making the issue one of belief in His special revelation.
8. John 5:38 – Because the religious leaders had rejected the Word of God, they had rejected John the Baptizer and Himself.

The Witnesses

9. John 5:39 – No one professed to know the Scriptures better than the religious Jews, yet Jesus declared they had missed the major testimony of the Hebrew Scriptures, Him as Messiah.
10. John 5:40 – The problem was not a lack of evidence proving Jesus' deity but refusal to believe the overwhelming evidence. Romans 1:18-20

Conclusion

L. Conclusion – John 5:41-47

1. John 5:41 – The Pharisees, who prided themselves on loving God, sought glory from men.
2. John 5:42a – Jesus Christ told the Pharisees that they did not even begin to understand or show the love of God. John 5:38

Conclusion

3. John 5:43a – Jesus came to earth in the authority of the Father, and the religious leaders did not receive Him. John 1:11
4. John 5:43b – Having rejected the truth, they believed the lie. 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12
5. John 5:44 – Because they sought man's praise, they were unwilling to believe in Jesus.

Conclusion

6. John 5:45 – The very Scripture in which they placed their confidence would testify against them on judgment day because that Scripture spoke of Christ.
7. John 5:46 – They did not believe Moses. If they had, they would have believed in the Lord Jesus Christ. They missed the very Person Moses identified in his writings.

Conclusion

8. John 5:47 – Since the Pharisees obviously did not believe Moses' writings, they would never believe Christ's teachings.
9. In conclusion, the Pharisees refused to believe the obvious witnesses to Jesus' deity: The Father's witness, John the Baptizer's witness, the witness of Jesus' works, and the witness of Scripture itself.

Identified with Christ

Romans 5:12



Colossians 3:1-4



1 Peter 1:13

**Spiritual
Death
2 Corinthians
5:17
Condemned**

Old Identity

Colossians 2:10-14

New Identity

Righteousness

Life

Priesthood

Sonship

Election

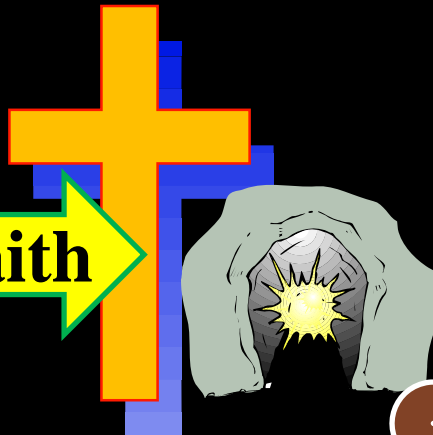
Inheritance



Eph. 6:10-18



Faith



Another Sabbath Controversy

M. Another Sabbath controversy – Matthew 12:1-8, Mark 2:23-28, Luke 6:1-5

1. In Matthew, these episodes follow topically/thematically (not chronologically) after the Lord's message about the yoke and the burden. Matthew 11:28-30
 - a. The Sabbath had become a heavy burden to the people of Israel because of the oral law (tradition).

Another Sabbath Controversy

- 1) The Word of God is reliable. The written law of Moses is reliable.
- 2) The oral law or tradition of the Pharisees was not reliable. Even though they claimed it came from Moses, religious men had written it.

Another Sabbath Controversy

- b. Man-made tradition had taken precedence over the original intent of the Sabbath, which was to rest and reflect on God, the Creator of the world.
- c. Religion had turned the Sabbath day into an idol. The Jews no longer understood God's reason for instituting that day of rest.

Another Sabbath Controversy

2. Matthew 12:1 – The Law allowed picking grain on the Sabbath to sustain oneself on a journey (Deuteronomy 23:25), but harvesting crops was prohibited (Leviticus 23:3).
3. Matthew 12:2a – The Pharisees used their own distorted interpretation of the Law (the oral law) to judge the disciples.

Another Sabbath Controversy

- a. According to the Pharisees' interpretation of the law, the disciples violated four Sabbath regulations.
 - 1) By taking wheat from the stalk, they were guilty of reaping on the Sabbath.
 - 2) By rubbing the wheat to separate the wheat from the chaff, they were guilty of threshing on the Sabbath.

Another Sabbath Controversy

- 3) When the wind blew the chaff away, they became guilty of winnowing on the Sabbath.
- 4) Eating the wheat made them guilty of storing it on the Sabbath.

Another Sabbath Controversy

- b. Matthew 12:2b – The Pharisees accused Jesus and His disciples of breaking the Law of Moses.

Another Sabbath Controversy

4. Matthew 12:3 – Jesus wisely showed them an example from Old Testament Scriptures. 1 Samuel 21
5. Matthew 12:4a – The Pharisees interpreted the Law to say that a Levite priest could not give the showbread to a non-Levite.
 - a. Matthew 12:4b – If the Pharisees were right, King David and his men broke the Law. The Pharisees were wrong.

Another Sabbath Controversy

- b. Matthew 12:4c – Jesus understood the Pharisees' arrogant, legalistic thinking and caught them in their own religious system.
- c. Matthew 12:4d – If David could break their oral tradition and not be condemned by them, they had no right to condemn the actions of the disciples of the greater Son of David, Jesus Christ.

Another Sabbath Controversy

6. Matthew 12:5 – The Law permitted men (priests) to work on the Sabbath in the Temple in serving God and fulfilling His plan. Numbers 28:9-10
7. Matthew 12:6 – If the temple priests could perform relatively unimportant work on the Sabbath, how much more should the important work of the Lord of the Sabbath take precedence over the Sabbath!

Another Sabbath Controversy

8. Matthew 12:7a – Quoting from Hosea 6:6, Jesus indicated that God delights in a righteous mental attitude more than in mindless adherence to ritual.
9. Matthew 12:7b – Jesus confirmed the innocence of His disciples in harvesting grain on the Sabbath.
10. Mark 2:27 – God in grace gave the Sabbath as a day of restful reflection on Him.

Another Sabbath Controversy

11. Matthew 12:8 – The *Son of Man* was the Lord's favorite Messianic title for Himself. He used it here to assert His authority over the Sabbath.

Another Sabbath Controversy

N. Another Sabbath controversy – Matthew 12:9-13, Mark 3:1-5, Luke 6:6-11

1. Luke 6:6 – Jesus continued focusing on teaching the truth.
2. Luke 6:7 – The religious leaders were determined to make a case against Jesus and may have planted the man with the withered hand to trap Him.
3. Luke 6:8 – The Lord knew their thoughts and confronted them by calling the man forward.

Another Sabbath Controversy

4. Matthew 12:11-12 – Jesus argued that people are more important than animals. If the religious leaders permitted caring for an animal on the Sabbath, then they must also permit caring for a man.
5. Luke 6:9 – Ironically, Jesus was trying to save a life while the religious leaders were seeking to destroy His life.
6. Mark 3:5 – The Lord was angered and disturbed by their *calloused* (Greek: *POROSIS*) hearts.

Another Sabbath Controversy

7. Luke 6:10 – Jesus did not touch the man but simply spoke, and he was healed.
8. Luke 6:11 – Jesus had publicly humiliated the religious leaders with His devastating arguments.
9. Mark 3:6 – The Pharisees sought to murder Jesus because He did not approve of their oral traditions. Their hatred of Jesus allied them with their Herodian enemies.

Choosing the Twelve

O. Choosing the Twelve – Mark 3:13-19, Luke 6:12-16

1. Luke 6:12 – Jesus spent all night in prayer about which twelve to choose.
2. Mark 3:13 – From the many disciples who followed Him, Jesus hand-picked twelve to be in His inner circle.

Choosing the Twelve

3. Mark 3:14 – The Greek word *APOSTELLO*, meaning to send or delegate, explains Christ's purpose in choosing the twelve. They were to *preach* (Greek: *KERUSSO*, to make a public proclamation) the message of the Kingdom throughout Israel.

Choosing the Twelve

4. Luke 6:13 – These twelve served as apostles to the nation Israel.
5. Mark 3:15 – With the sending out, Jesus gave them authority to verify His message.
6. Mark 3:16-19 and Luke 6:14-15 give the names of the twelve disciples.