



The Gospel of Mark

JESUS

The King Who
Came to Die

One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain. ²⁴ The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?” ²⁵ He answered, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? ²⁶ In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions.”

²⁷ Then he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. ²⁸ So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.”

Mark 2:23–28

984 KODAK SAFETY FILM



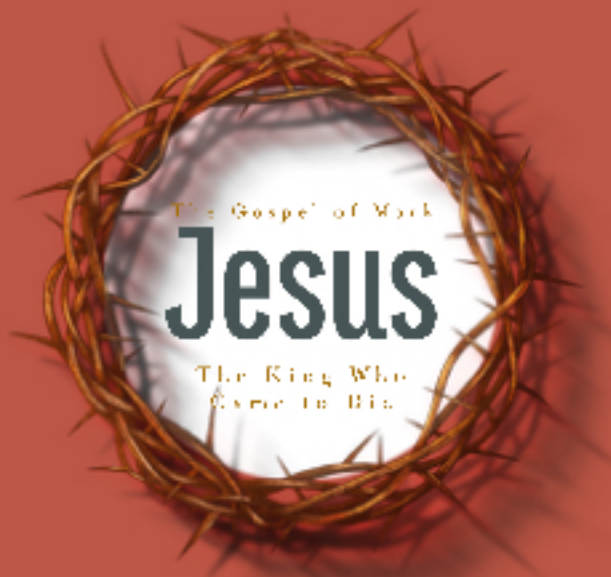
A crown of thorns, made of sharp, golden-brown branches, frames the central text. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white and light blue sky. The text is in a bold, dark grey, sans-serif font.

**Your Disciples
Are Violating
the Sabbath!**

A Sabbath Controversy

One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain. ²⁴ The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?”

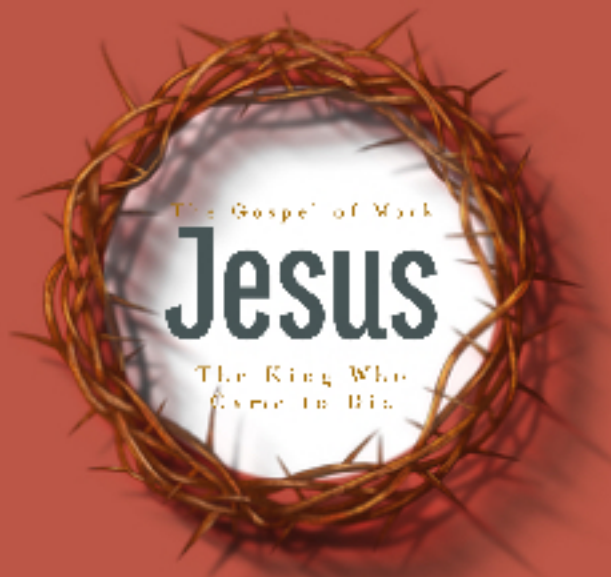
Mark 2:23–24



Picking From Your Neighbors Field

If you enter your neighbor's grainfield, you may pick kernels with your hands, but you must not put a sickle to his standing grain.

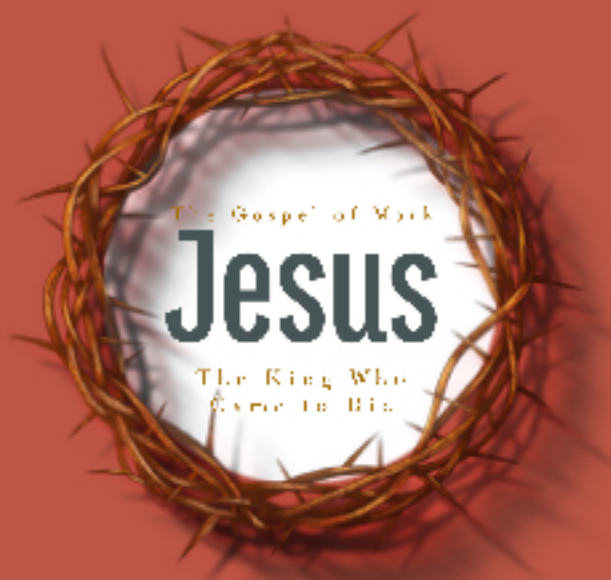
Deuteronomy 23:25



The Sabbath Is the Central Issue In This Passage

One **Sabbath** Jesus was going through the grainfields ...²⁴ The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the **Sabbath**?” ...²⁷ Then he said to them, “The **Sabbath** was made for man, not man for the **Sabbath**.²⁸ So the Son of Man is Lord even of the **Sabbath**.”

Mark 2:23–24, 27–28



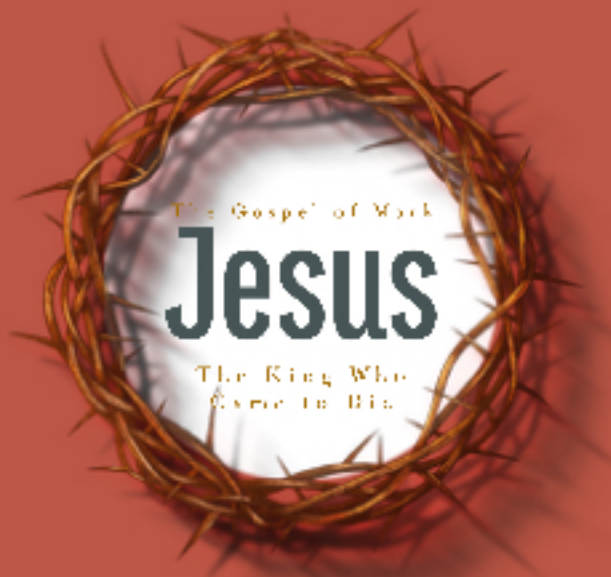
The image features a central text overlay on a light, blurred background. The text is framed by a decorative border of golden, thorny branches, likely representing the Crown of Thorns, which is visible on the left and right sides. The text is in a dark, bold, sans-serif font.

The Sabbath and Judaism

Part of God's Design In Creation

By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. ³ And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

Genesis 2:2–3

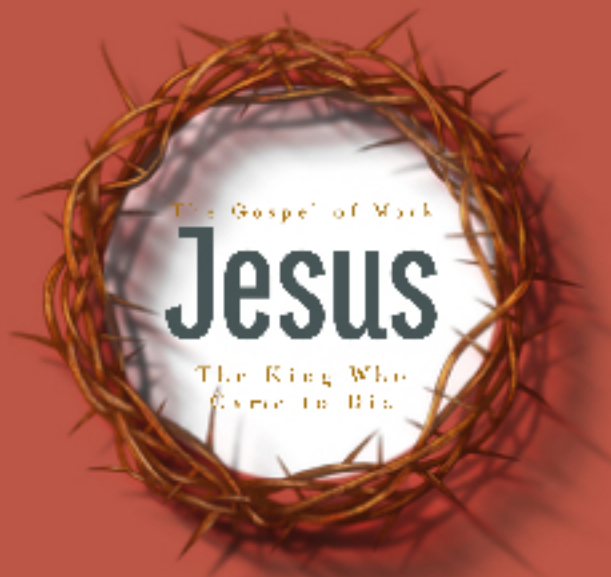


A Covenant Sign

The Israelites are to observe the Sabbath, celebrating it for the generations to come as a lasting covenant.

¹⁷It will be a sign between me and the Israelites forever, for in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day he abstained from work and rested.”

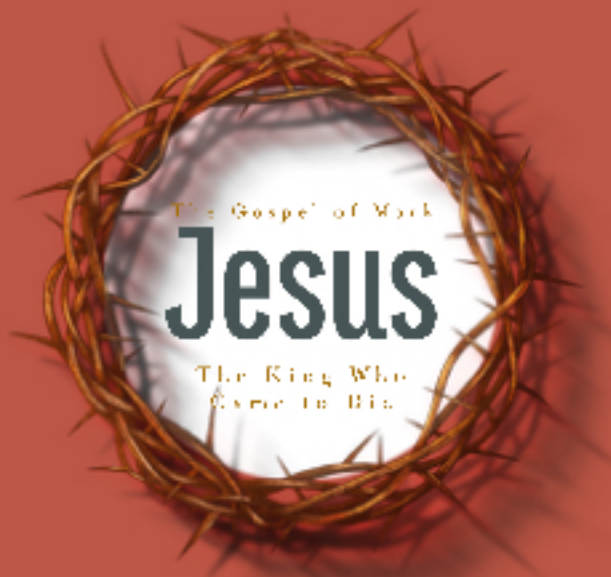
Exodus 31:16–17



A Day of Rest - No Work

For six days, work is to be done, but the seventh day shall be your holy day, a Sabbath of rest to the LORD. Whoever does any work on it must be put to death.
³Do not light a fire in any of your dwellings on the Sabbath day.”

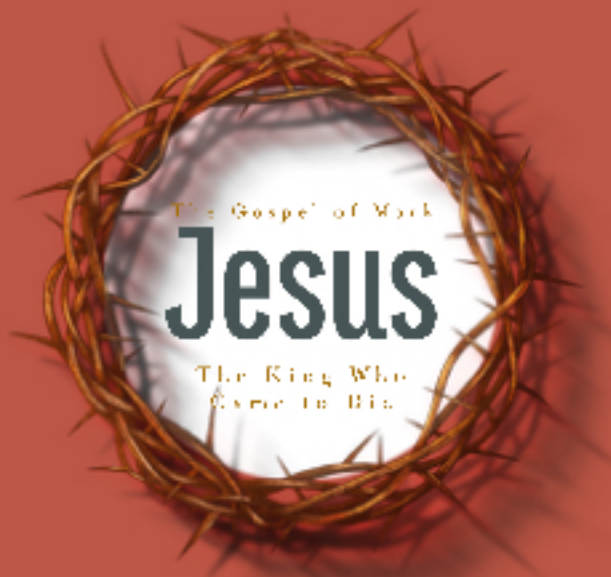
Exodus 35:2–3



Violating Sabbath Led to the Exile

The land enjoyed its sabbath rests; all the time of its desolation it rested, until the seventy years were completed in fulfillment of the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah.

2 Chronicles 36:21

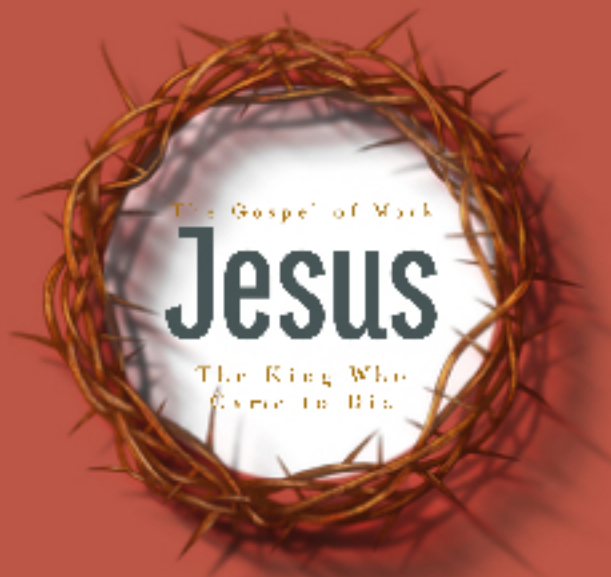


Sabbath Is To Be Celebrated and Enjoyed

The Israelites are to observe the Sabbath, celebrating it for the generations to come as a lasting covenant. Exodus 31:16

If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and the LORD's holy day honorable, and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words, ¹⁴ then you will find your joy in the LORD...

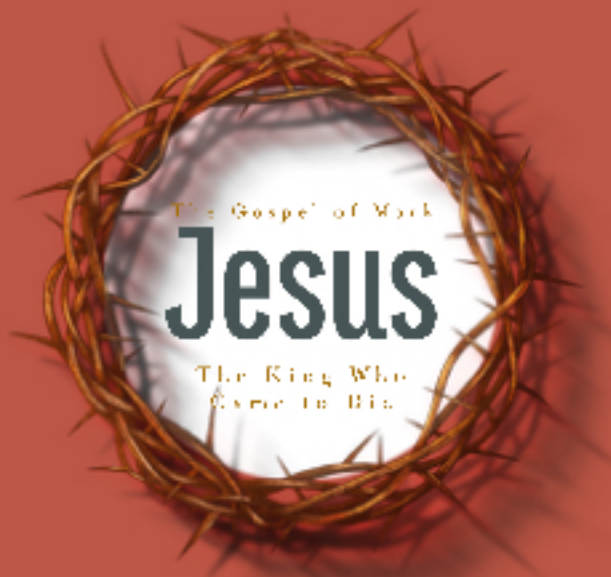
Isaiah 58:13–14



A Lot of Extra-Biblical Laws!

The rules about the sabbath, festal offerings and sacrilege are as mountains hanging by a hair, for Scripture is scanty and the rules many.

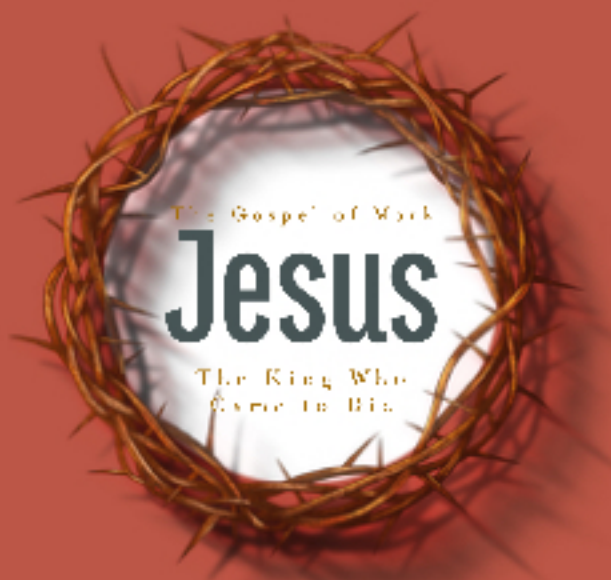
Mishnah Hagiga 1:8



The Tradition About Reaping

Six days you shall labor, but on the seventh day you shall rest; even during the plowing season and harvest you must rest.

Exodus 34:21



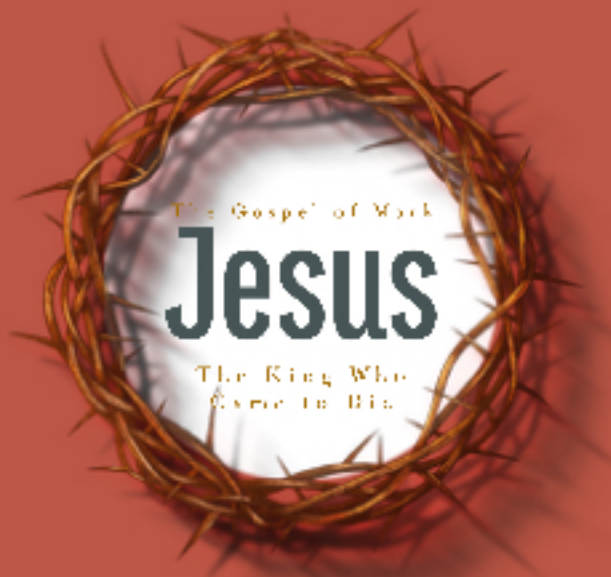
A crown of thorns, made of golden-brown, sharp thorns, is positioned around the central text. Behind the thorns is a bright, glowing light, possibly representing the sun or a divine presence, which creates a halo effect. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white and light blue.

The Son of Man and the Sabbath

Jesus Goes To Scripture

He answered, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? ²⁶ In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions.”

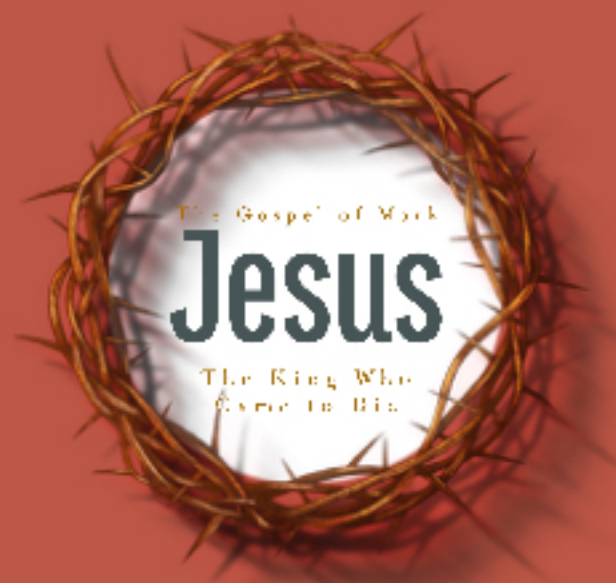
Mark 2:25–26



Jesus Goes To To the Original Intent of Sabbath

Then he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.”

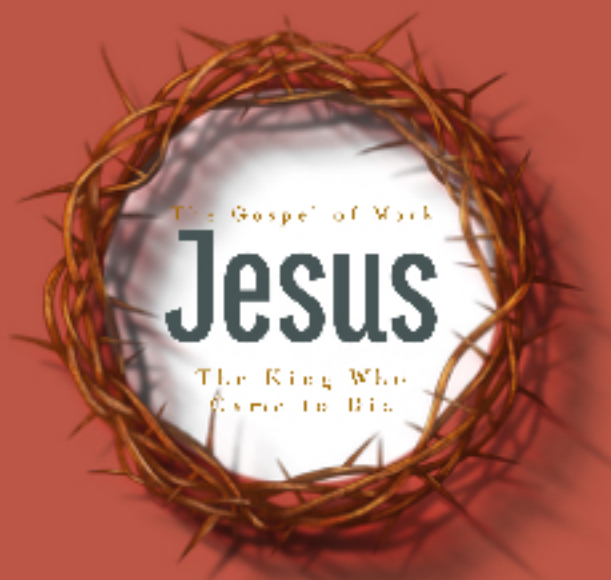
Mark 2:27



Jesus Is the Lord of the Sabbath

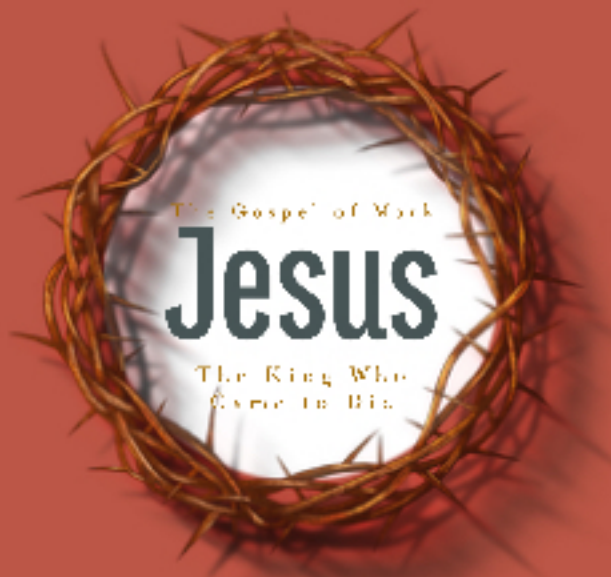
So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.

Mark 2:28



The Authority of Jesus

This statement boldly affirms that as Lord the Son of Man is the one who decrees what is lawful and unlawful, permissible and impermissible, and any customs ordained by the Pharisees or their traditions are thereby rendered null and void. It is Jesus who makes plain the humanitarian purpose of the Sabbath, and his word is final. - David Garland





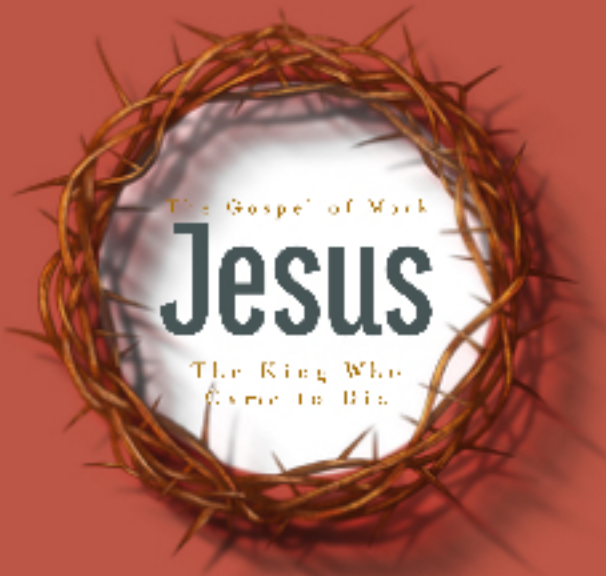
The Gospel of Mark

Applying

The Word

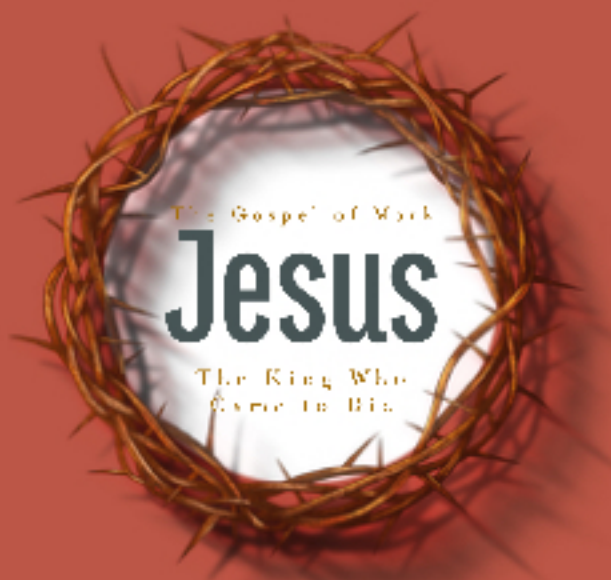
The End Result of Adding To God's Word

- It caused them to forget the real purpose of the gift of Sabbath!
- It turned a gift into a legalistic obligation, a blessing into a curse, and a joy into a burden!
- They were more committed to the rules not in Scripture than they were to God's Word!
- Their hearts actually were drawn far away from God!



So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with ‘unclean’ hands?”⁶ He replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: “‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.⁷ They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.’⁸ You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men.”

Mark 7:5–8





The Gospel of Mark

Applying

The Word

The Table of
Sabbath Rest

