

Mercy, Not Sacrifice

חֶסֶד (*chesed*; mercy, love, compassion, grace)

The Sabbath Was Made for Man: CONTEXT, CONTEXT, CONTEXT!

בעל השבת (*ba'al HaShabbat*; “Lord of the Sabbath” or “Husband of the Sabbath”)

A Summary of Jesus' Argument in Matthew 12:1-8:

1. Compassion for human need and human suffering (*chesed*) takes priority over the Temple service (example from 1 Samuel of David and his men in the field)
2. The Temple service takes priority over the Sabbath (example from the Torah of the priests serving even on the Sabbath)
3. Therefore, compassion for human need takes priority over the Sabbath
4. After all, the Sabbath was made for human beings, not humans beings for the Sabbath
5. Human beings are thus lord of the Sabbath, and take priority over it

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