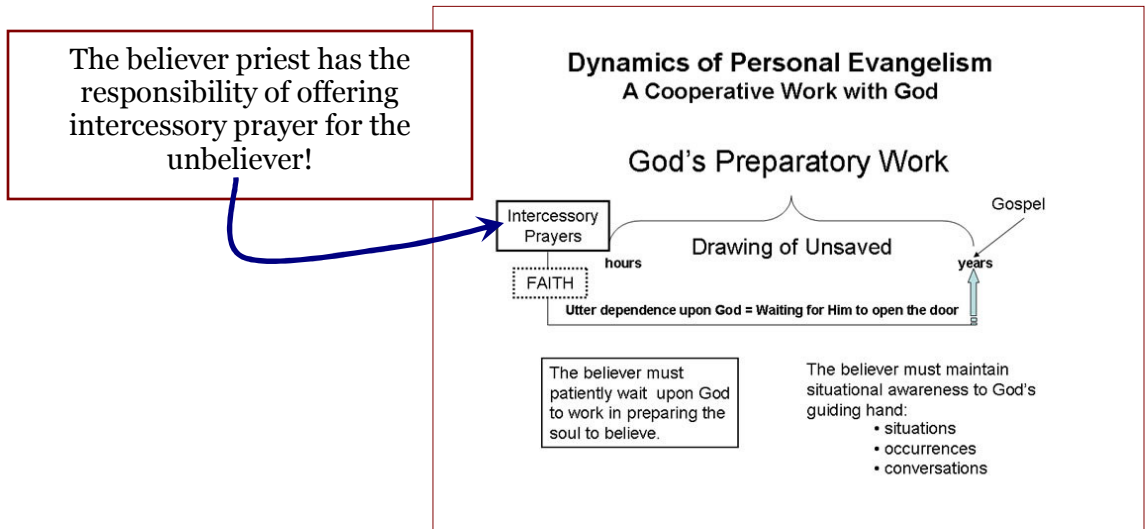


It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.
If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

Standing on the Promises of God -

1 Peter 5:6-7

Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, 7 casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.



Passage – Matthew 12:1-8

¹ At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath, and His disciples became hungry and began to pick the heads of grain and eat.

² But when the Pharisees saw this, they said to Him, "Look, Your disciples do what is not lawful to do on a Sabbath."

- The disciples have just been accused by the Pharisees of violating the Sabbath. In fact, what they violated was the Pharisees' **interpretation** of the Sabbath. (See **Deut. 23:24-25**)

POD - Arrogance blinds people to the liberty of the spiritual life.

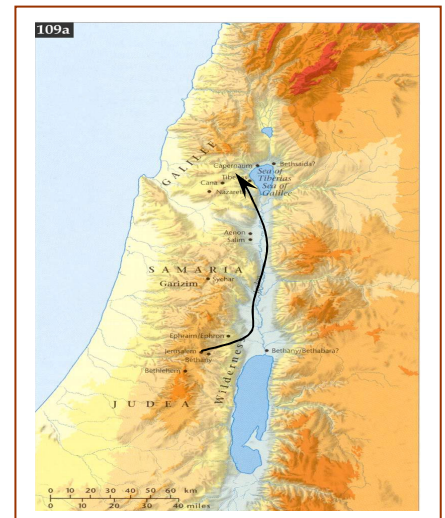
POD - Arrogance prevents people from making correct applications.

POD – (NEW) Arrogance prevents the pastor-teacher from properly interpreting the word of God.

Jesus begins a four part defense.

1st Argument -

³ But He said to them, "**Have you not read** what David did when he became hungry, he and his companions,



4 how he entered the house of God, and they ate the consecrated bread, which was not lawful for him to eat nor for those with him, but for the priests alone?"

The Lord speaks to the Pharisees using their frame of reference. . .

1 Samuel 21:1-6

1 Then David came to Nob to Ahimelech the priest; and Ahimelech came trembling to meet David and said to him, "Why are you alone and no one with you?"

The Pharisees misapply the Scriptures because of their arrogance.

2 David said to Ahimelech the priest, "The king [God] has commissioned me with a matter and has said to me, 'Let no one know anything about the matter on which I am sending you and with which I have commissioned you; and I have directed the young men to a certain place.'

3 "Now therefore, what do you have on hand? Give me five loaves of bread, or whatever can be found."

4 The priest answered David and said, "There is no ordinary bread on hand, but there is consecrated bread; if only the young men have kept themselves from women."

Sex rendered someone ceremonially unclean. To be purified, they were required: 1) to bathe, and 2) wait until the next day.

5 David answered the priest and said to him, "Surely women have been kept from us as previously when I set out and the vessels of the young men were holy, though it was an ordinary journey; how much more then today will their vessels be holy?"

6 So the priest gave him consecrated bread; for there was no bread there but the bread of the Presence which was removed from before the LORD, in order to put hot bread in its place when it was taken away.

The principle of necessity supersedes ceremonial law or ritual in the service of the Lord.

Make note of the parallel circumstances that were occurring between Matthew 12:1-4 and 1 Samuel 21:1-6

**2nd Argument –
Matthew 12**

5 "Or **have you not read** in the Law, that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple break the Sabbath and are innocent?"

6 "But I say to you that something greater than the temple is here."

The Lord speaks to Moses regarding the protocol of sacrifices -

Numbers 28:1-19

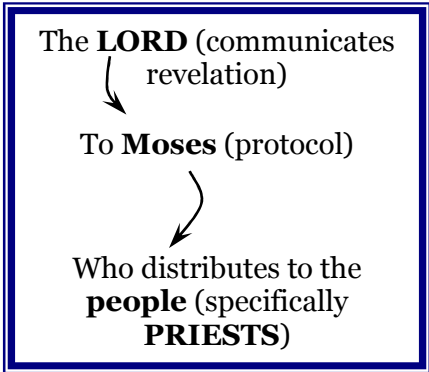
1 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

2 "Command the sons of Israel and say to them, 'You shall be careful to present My offering, My food for My offerings by fire, of a soothing aroma to Me, at their appointed time.'

Vv. 3-8 the times and the sacrifices. . .

9 'Then on the Sabbath day two male lambs one year old without defect, and two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil as a grain offering, and its drink offering;

10 'This is the burnt offering of every Sabbath in addition to the continual burnt offering and its drink offering.



¹¹ 'Then at the beginning of each of your months you shall present a burnt offering to the LORD: two bulls and one ram, seven male lambs one year old without defect;
¹² and three-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering, for each bull; and two-tenths of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering, for the one ram;
¹³ and a tenth of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering for each lamb, for a burnt offering of a soothing aroma, an offering by fire to the LORD.
¹⁴ 'Their drink offerings shall be half a hin of wine for a bull and a third of a hin for the ram and a fourth of a hin for a lamb; this is the burnt offering of each month throughout the months of the year.
¹⁵ 'And one male goat for a sin offering to the LORD; it shall be offered with its drink offering in addition to the continual burnt offering.
¹⁶ 'Then on the fourteenth day of the first month shall be the LORD'S Passover.
¹⁷ 'On the fifteenth day of this month shall be a feast, unleavened bread shall be eaten for seven days.
¹⁸ 'On the first day shall be a holy convocation; you shall do no laborious work.
¹⁹ 'You shall present an offering by fire, a burnt offering to the LORD: two bulls and one ram and seven male lambs one year old, having them without defect.

Note how the priests were actually directed to work on the Sabbath!

*Whose service are they in when they work on the Sabbath? **The Lord's***

The principle – work required in the service and worship of the Lord was permitted on the Sabbath.

Matthew 12:5-8

⁵ "Or **have you not read** in the Law, that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple break the Sabbath and are innocent?"

⁶ "But I say to you that **something greater than the temple is here.**

Jesus Christ is something greater than the temple - and He is here!

The disciples were permitted to eat out of necessity, because they were serving the Lord and the temple of His body, facilitating the Father's will for the Son.

3rd Argument -

⁷ "**But if you had known** what this means, 'I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT A SACRIFICE,' you would not have condemned the innocent. Quoting Hosea 6:6

The Lord desires compassion but the Pharisees had anything but compassion!

POD – The self-righteous are guilty prior to hurling their accusations. (They are out of fellowship even before the accusation comes out of their mouth.)

Sins of the tongue begin as mental attitude sins!

4th Argument -

⁸ "**For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.**"

Son of Man

1. The title was one ascribed to the prophet (Ezekiel 2:1; 36:1; Daniel 8:17).
2. The title emphasizes the genuine humanity of the person to which it is ascribed (Ezek 40:4; Psalm 144:3; Dan. 7:13).
3. Jesus Christ referred to Himself as the Son of Man (Matt 8:20; 20:28).
4. Therefore, the term signified that Jesus Christ was God's appointed representative for man.

5. As such, He will judge all men (John 5:30; Revelation 19:11).
 - ✓ Believers at the Judgment Seat of Christ or the BEMA (2 Corinthians 5:10)
 - ✓ Unbelievers at the Great White Throne (Revelation 20:11-15)
6. He is the last word on what people are permitted to do on the Sabbath.

God does not command people to do things that violate His laws.

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.