



SUNDAY CLASS

11/02/08

Key Verses: Matthew 12:14-21
Matthew 12:22 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

A House Divided

22 Then a demon-possessed man who was blind and unable to speak was brought to Him. He healed him, so that the man could both speak and see.

***Note, A soul under Satan's power, and led captive by him, is blind in the things of God, and dumb at the throne of grace; sees nothing, and says nothing to the purpose. Satan blinds the eye of faith, and seals up the lips of prayer.

***Note, The conquering and dispossessing of Satan is the healing of souls."

***MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE

Luke 11:14-15 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

A House Divided

14 Now He was driving out a demon that was mute. When the demon came out, the man who had been mute, spoke, and the crowds were amazed.15 But some of them said, "He drives out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons!"

Matthew 4:24 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

24 Then the news about Him spread throughout Syria. So they brought to Him all those who were afflicted, those suffering from various diseases and intense pains, the demon-possessed, the epileptics, and the paralytics. And He healed them.

Matthew 9:32-34 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

Driving Out a Demon

32 Just as they were going out, a demon-possessed man who was unable to speak was brought to Him. 33 When the demon had been driven out, the man spoke. And the crowds were amazed, saying, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel!"

34 But the Pharisees said, "He drives out demons by the ruler of the demons!"

Matthew 12:23 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

23 And all the crowds were astounded and said, "Perhaps this is the Son of David!"

Chronicles 1:1 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

Solomon's Request for Wisdom

1 Solomon son of David strengthened his hold on his kingdom. The LORD his God was with him and highly exalted him.

Matthew 1:1 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

The Genealogy of Jesus Christ

1 The historical record of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:

Romans 1:3 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

3 concerning His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who was a descendant of David according to the flesh

Matthew 12:24 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

24 When the Pharisees heard this, they said, "The man drives out demons only by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons."

****Note, The blasphemous cavil of the Pharisees, v. 24. The Pharisees were a sort of men that pretended to more knowledge in, and zeal for, the divine law, than other people; yet they were the most inveterate enemies to Christ and his doctrine. They were proud of the reputation they had among the people; that fed their pride, supported their power, and filled their purses; and when they heard the people say, Is not this the Son of David? they were extremely irritated, more at that than at the miracle itself; this made them jealous of our Lord Jesus, and apprehensive, that as his interest in the people's esteem increased, theirs must of course be eclipsed and diminished; therefore they envied him, as Saul did his father David, because of what the women sang of him, 1 Sa. 18:7, 8."*

1 Samuel 18:7-8 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

*As they celebrated, the women sang:
Saul has killed his thousands,
but David his tens of thousands.*

8 Saul was furious and resented this song. "They credited tens of thousands to David," he complained, "but they only credited me with thousands. What more can he have but the kingdom?"

***Note, Christ's mercy is directly opposite to Satan's malice; his favors, to the devil's mischiefs."

Matthew 9:34 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

34 But the Pharisees said, "He drives out demons by the ruler of the demons!"

Matthew 10:25 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

25 It is enough for a disciple to become like his teacher and a slave like his master. If they called the head of the house 'Beelzebul,' how much more the members of his household!

Mark 3:22 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

22 The scribes who had come down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul in Him!" and, "He drives out demons by the ruler of the demons!"

"How scornfully they speak of Christ, this fellow; as if that precious name of his, which is as ointment poured forth, were not worthy to be taken into their lips. It is an instance of their pride and superciliousness, and their diabolical envy, that the more people magnified Christ, the more industrious they were to vilify him. It is a bad thing to speak of good men with disdain because they are poor.

Being thus forced to grant the premises, they had no other way to avoid the conclusion, that this is the Son of David, than by suggesting that Christ cast out devils by Beelzebub; that there was a compact between Christ and the devil; pursuant to that, the devil was not cast out, but did voluntarily retire, and give back by consent and with design: or as if, by an agreement with the ruling devil, he had power to cast out the inferior devils.

***Note, Among the devils there is a prince, the ringleader of the apostasy from God and rebellion against him; but this prince is Beelzebub—the god of a fly, or a dunghill god.

How art thou fallen, O Lucifer! from an angel of light, to be a lord of flies! Yet this is the prince of the devils too, the chief of the gang of infernal spirits."

Matthew 12:25 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

25 Knowing their thoughts, He told them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is headed for destruction, and no city or house divided against itself will stand.

***Note, Jesus Christ knows what we are thinking at any time, knows what is in man; he understands our thoughts afar off.

It should seem that the Pharisees could not for shame speak it out, but kept it in their minds; they could not expect to satisfy the people with it; they therefore reserved it for the silencing of the convictions of their own consciences.

***Note, Many are kept off from their duty by that which they are ashamed to own, but which they cannot hide from Jesus Christ: yet it is probable that the Pharisees had whispered what they thought among themselves, to help to harden one another; but Christ's reply is said to be to their thoughts, because he knew with what mind, and from what principle, they said it; that they did not say it in their haste, but that it was the product of a rooted malignity."

***MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE

Mark 3:23-27 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

23 So He summoned them and spoke to them in parables: "How can Satan drive out Satan? 24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. 26 And if Satan rebels against himself and is divided, he cannot stand but is finished!

27 "On the other hand, no one can enter a strong man's house and rob his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man. Then he will rob his house.

Luke 11:17-22 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

17 Knowing their thoughts, He told them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is headed for destruction, and a house divided against itself falls. 18 If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say I drive out demons by Beelzebul. 19 And if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, who is it your sons drive them out by? For this reason they will be your judges. 20 If I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you. 21 When a strong man, fully armed, guards his estate, his possessions are secure. 22 But when one stronger than he attacks and overpowers him, he takes from him all his weapons he trusted in, and divides up his plunder.

Matthew 12:26 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

26 If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?

***Note, The devil has a kingdom, a common interest, in opposition to God and Christ, which, to the utmost of his power, he will make to stand, and he will never come into Christ's interests; he must be conquered and broken by Christ, and therefore cannot submit and bend to him."

***MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE

Matthew 4:1 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

The Temptation of Jesus

1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the Devil.

Matthew 4:10 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

10 Then Jesus told him, "Go away, Satan! For it is written:

Worship the Lord your God,

and serve only Him. "

Matthew 13:19 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

19 When anyone hears the word about the kingdom and doesn't understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the one sown along the path.

Acts 13:10 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

10 and said, "You son of the Devil, full of all deceit and all fraud, enemy of all righteousness! Won't you ever stop perverting the straight paths of the Lord?"

***Note, What concord or communion can there be between light and darkness, Christ and Belial, Christ and Beelzebub? Christ will destroy the devil's kingdom, but he needs not do it by any such little arts and projects as that of a secret compact with Beelzebub; no, this victory must be obtained by nobler methods. Let the prince of the devils muster up all his forces, let him make use of all his powers and politics, and keep his interests in the closest confederacy, yet Christ will be too hard for his united force, and his kingdom shall not stand."

***MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE

Matthew 12:27 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

27 And if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, who is it your sons drive them out by? For this reason they will be your judges.

*****Note, In the last judgment, not only every sin, but every aggravation of it, will be brought into the account, and some of our notions that were right and good will be brought in evidence against us, to convict us of partiality.*****

***MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE

2 Kings 2:7 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

7 Fifty men from the sons of the prophets came and stood facing them from a distance while the two of them stood by the Jordan.

Acts 19:13 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

13 Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists attempted to pronounce the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "I command you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches!"

Listen to this passage

Matthew 12:28 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

28 If I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you.

Luke 17:21 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

21 no one will say, 'Look here!' or 'There!' For you see, the kingdom of God is among you."

1 John 3:8 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

8 The one who commits sin is of the Devil, for the Devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God was revealed for this purpose: to destroy the Devil's works.

Matthew 12:29 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

29 How can someone enter a strong man's house and steal his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can rob his house.

"The comparing of Christ's miracles, particularly this of casting out devils, with his doctrine, and the design and tendency of his holy religion, evidenced that he was so far from being in league with Satan, that he was at open enmity and hostility against him (v. 29); How can one enter into a strong man's house, and plunder his goods, and carry them away, except he first bind the strong man? And then he may do what he pleases with his goods.

The world, that sat in darkness, and lay in wickedness, was in Satan's possession, and under his power, as a house in the possession and under the power of a strong man; so is every unregenerate soul; there Satan resides, there he rules."

****MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE*

Isaiah 49:24 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

*24 Can the prey be taken from the mighty,
or the captives of the righteous be delivered?*

Isaiah 53:12 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

*12 Therefore I will give Him the many as a portion,
and He will receive the mighty as spoil,
because He submitted Himself to death,
and was counted among the rebels;
yet He bore the sin of many
and interceded for the rebels.*

****Note, The design of Christ's gospel was to spoil the devil's house, which, as a strong man, he kept in the world; to turn the people from darkness to light, from sin to holiness, from this world to a better, from the power of Satan unto God (Acts 26:18); to alter the property of souls."*

****MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE*

Matthew 12:30 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

30 Anyone who is not with Me is against Me, and anyone who does not gather with Me scatters.

"It is here intimated, that this holy war, which Christ was carrying on with vigor against the devil and his kingdom, was such as would not admit of a neutrality (v. 30), He that is not with me is against me. In the little differences that may arise between the disciples of Christ among themselves, we are taught to lessen the matters in variance, and to seek peace, by accounting those who are not against us, to be with us (Lu. 9:50); but in the great quarrel between Christ and the devil, no peace is to be sought, nor any such favorable construction to be made of any indifference in the matter; he that is not hearty for Christ, will be reckoned with as really against him: he that is cold in the cause, is looked upon as an enemy."

****MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE*

Mark 9:40 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

40 For whoever is not against us is for us.

Luke 9:50 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

50 "Don't stop him," Jesus told him, "because whoever is not against you is for you."

Luke 11:23 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

23 Anyone who is not with Me is against Me, and anyone who does not gather with Me scatters.

Matthew 12:31 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

31 **Because of this, I tell you, people will be forgiven every sin and blasphemy, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.**

Mark 3:28-30 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

28 I assure you: People will be forgiven for all sins and whatever blasphemies they may blaspheme. **29** But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"—**30** because they were saying, "He has an unclean spirit."

Luke 12:10 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

10 Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but the one who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.

Hebrews 6:4-6 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

4 For it is impossible to renew to repentance those who were once enlightened, who tasted the heavenly gift, became companions with the Holy Spirit,⁵ tasted God's good word and the powers of the coming age,⁶ and who have fallen away, because, to their own harm, they are recrucifying the Son of God and holding Him up to contempt.

Hebrews 10:26 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

Warning against Willful Sin

26 For if we deliberately sin after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

1 John 5:16 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

16 If anyone sees his brother committing a sin that does not bring death, he should ask, and God will give life to him—to those who commit sin that doesn't bring death. There is sin that brings death. I am not saying he should pray about that.

Matthew 12:32 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

32 Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him. But whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the one to come.

Matthew 11:19 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

Mark 2:10 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

10 But so you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins," He told the paralytic,

John 7:12 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

12 And there was a lot of discussion about Him among the crowds. Some were saying, "He's a good man." Others were saying, "No, on the contrary, He's deceiving the people."

John 9:24 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

*24 So a second time they summoned the man who had been blind and told him, "Give glory to God. We know that **this man is a sinner!**"*

Mark 10:30 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

30 who will not receive 100 times more, now at this time—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and eternal life in the age to come.

Luke 12:10 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

10 Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but the one who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.

Luke 20:34-35 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

34 Jesus told them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage. 35 But those who are counted worthy to take part in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage.

Ephesians 1:21 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

21 far above every ruler and authority, power and dominion, and every title given, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

Titus 2:12 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

12 instructing us to deny godlessness and worldly lusts and to live in a sensible, righteous, and godly way in the present age,

Hebrews 6:5 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

5 tasted God's good word and the powers of the coming age,

Listen to this passage

Matthew 12:33 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

A Tree and Its Fruit

33 "Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by its fruit.

Matthew 7:18-19 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

18 A good tree can't produce bad fruit; neither can a bad tree produce good fruit.**19** Every tree that doesn't produce good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

Matthew 7:23 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

23 Then I will announce to them, 'I never knew you! Depart from Me, you lawbreakers!'

Luke 6:43-44 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

A Tree and Its Fruit

43 "A good tree doesn't produce bad fruit; on the other hand, a bad tree doesn't produce good fruit.**44** For each tree is known by its own fruit. Figs aren't gathered from thornbushes, or grapes picked from a bramble bush.

John 15:4-7 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

4 Remain in Me, and I in you. Just as a branch is unable to produce fruit by itself unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in Me.

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in Me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without Me. **6** If anyone does not remain in Me, he is thrown aside like a branch and he withers. They gather them, throw them into the fire, and they are burned.**7** If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you want and it will be done for you.

Matthew 12:34 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

34 Brood of vipers! How can you speak good things when you are evil? For the mouth speaks from the overflow of the heart.

***Note, Unless the heart be transformed, the life will never be thoroughly reformed.

***MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE

2 Corinthians 5:17 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

17 Therefore if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come.

Galatians 6:15 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

15 For both circumcision and uncircumcision mean nothing; [what matters] instead is a new creation.

1 Samuel 24:13 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

13 As the old proverb says, 'Wickedness comes from wicked people.' My hand will never be against you.

Matthew 3:7 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

7 When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to the place of his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?"

Matthew 23:33 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

33 "Snakes! Brood of vipers! How can you escape being condemned to hell?"

Luke 6:45 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

45 A good man produces good out of the good storeroom of his heart. An evil man produces evil out of the evil storeroom, for his mouth speaks from the overflow of the heart.

Ephesians 4:29 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

29 No rotten talk should come from your mouth, but only what is good for the building up of someone in need, in order to give grace to those who hear.

*****Note, A wicked heart is said to send forth wickedness, as a fountain casts forth her waters, Jeremiah 6:7.**

***MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE

Jeremiah 6:7 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

7 As a well gushes out its water,
so she pours forth her evil.
Violence and destruction resound in her.
Sickness and wounds keep coming to My attention.

“***Note, A troubled fountain, and a corrupt spring, such as Solomon speaks of (Prov. 25:26), must needs send forth muddy and unpleasant streams. Evil words are the natural, genuine product of an evil heart. Nothing but the salt of grace, cast into the spring, will heal the waters, season the speech, and purify the corrupt communications.”

“This they wanted, they were evil; and how can ye, being evil, speak good things? They were a generation of vipers; John the Baptist had called them so (ch. 3:7), and they were still the same; for can the Ethiopian change his skin? The people looked upon the Pharisees as a generation of saints, but Christ calls them a generation of vipers, the seed of the serpent, that had an enmity to Christ and his gospel.”

***MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE

Matthew 12:35 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

35 A good man produces good things from his storeroom of good, and an evil man produces evil things from his storeroom of evil.

“It is the character of a good man, that he has a good treasure in his heart, and from thence brings forth good things, as there is occasion. Graces, comforts, experiences, good knowledge, good affections, good resolutions, these are a good treasure in the heart; the word of God hidden there, the law of God written there, divine truths dwelling and ruling thee, are a treasure there, valuable and suitable, kept safe and kept secret, as the stores of the good householder, but ready for use upon all occasions.”

***MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE

Matthew 13:52 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

52 "Therefore," He said to them, "every student of Scripture instructed in the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who brings out of his storeroom what is new and what is old."

Colossians 4:6 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

6 Your speech should always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you should answer each person.

Matthew 12:36 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

36 I tell you that on the day of judgment people will have to account for every careless word they speak.

Matthew 12:41 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

41 *The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at Jonah's proclamation; and look—something greater than Jonah is here!*

John 5:29 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

29 *and come out—those who have done good things, to the resurrection of life, but those who have done wicked things, to the resurrection of judgment.*

1 John 4:17 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

17 *In this, love is perfected with us so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; for we are as He is in this world.*

Luke 16:2 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

2 *So he called the manager in and asked, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you can no longer be [my] manager.'*

Acts 19:40 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

40 *In fact, we run a risk of being charged with rioting for what happened today, since there is no justification that we can give as a reason for this disorderly gathering."*

Romans 14:12 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

12 *So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.*

Hebrews 13:17 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

17 *Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account, so that they can do this with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.*

1 Peter 4:5 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

5 *They will give an account to the One who stands ready to judge the living and the dead.*

Matthew 12:37 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

37 *For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned."*