

## THE MERCIFUL MESSIAH

### MATTHEW 12:9-21

Nothing humbles and breaks the heart of a sinner like mercy and love. Souls that converse much with sin and wrath, may be much terrified; but souls that converse much with grace and mercy, will be much humbled.

-Thomas Brooks

## I. Mercy & the Law

## II. Mercy & the Prophets

### **Getting to Know You:**

1. There is a saying that “No good deed goes unpunished.” Can you think of a time when this applied to you?

### **Into the Bible:**

2. Once again Jesus fails to meet the expectations of His countrymen regarding the Messiah, but as Matthew points out He was right in line with the prophecies in Isaiah. Read Isaiah 40 and identify the characteristics that Christ did indeed fulfill in His ministry. (Isaiah 40)

3. In verse 14 the Pharisees are now actually contemplating violence against Jesus. This seems to be a severe overreaction to a simple healing which Christ had done multiple times over by this point. What is the real reason for their hostility? (John 11:47-48)

### **Application:**

4. Jesus' comments here and in the previous section seem to clearly indite the Pharisees for legalistic attitudes towards work on the Sabbath. Does this apply to us in regard to the question of working on Sundays? Why or why not? Read the following passages to aid in thinking this through. (Romans 14:5-6, Hebrews 10:23-25, I Corinthians 8:9-12)

### **For Families:**

5. Talk with your children about why it is important for Jesus to fulfill the Old Testament prophecies.