

# MATTHEW 12

## THE LORD OF THE SABBATH HEALS ON THE SABBATH (12:1-14)

Blessed Theophylact on Christ as Lord of the Sabbath:

“I, the Son of Man, am Lord of the Sabbath for I am the Creator of all things, including the days. Hence it is I as Master Who sets aside the Sabbath.”

## CHRIST IS GOD’S SERVANT, NOT SATAN’S (12:15-30)

An anonymous early Christian, speaking as Christ, says:

“The will of the devil—what is it? Only evil. And My will—what is it? Only good. Notice, then, since I am not with the devil, I am against the devil... Since I build, if anyone does not help Me, even if he does not destroy, he is not with me but against Me, for though he is able to help Me, he does not.”

## THE UNPARDONABLE SIN (12:31-37)

Blessed Theophylact on blaspheming the Holy Spirit:

“He who blasphemes the Holy Spirit, that is, the spiritual deeds of Christ, and calls them demonic, unless he repents, he will not be forgiven.”

## A SIGN AND AN UNCLEAN SPIRIT (12:38-45)

St. Cyril of Alexandria on why the Pharisees requested a sign from Christ:

“They said this, blinded in their minds, as though Jesus were unable to do anything befitting God. For to open the eyes of the blind and to raise the dead and to rebuke the winds and the sea—all these miracles could be accomplished only by a divine power.”

## THE FAMILY OF CHRIST (12:46-50)

Blessed Theophylact on why Christ said that she who does His will is His mother:

“He does not deny the relationship by birth, but He adds to it the relationship by virtue. For no unworthy person derives benefit from a relationship by birth. When He had corrected the sickness of vainglory, He once again obeyed His mother who was calling Him.”

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Quote Sources: Manlio Simonetti, editor. *Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture: Matthew 1a and 1b* (IVP)  
Blessed Theophylact. *The Explanation by Blessed Theophylact of the Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew* (Chrysostom Press)

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