

Matthew 12:22-32
Conflict of Kingdoms

- I. What do the facts teach?
 - A. A blind and mute demon-possessed man is healed.
 - B. The crowd wonders if Jesus could be the Messiah. [Matt 7:28; 9:8, 36; 2Sam 7:12-14.]
 - C. The Pharisees conclude the devil is at work.
 - D. Jesus says the kingdom of God has come upon them. [Matt 9:35; Isaiah 9:6,7; Psalm 103:19; Psalm 2:6.]
- II. The conflict of the two kingdoms.
 - A. This is an old, old story. [Genesis 3:15]
 - B. This is central to human experience. [Gen 6:5; Job 15:15-16; Psalm 53:2; Titus 3:3]
 - C. The King has now come to assert his rule. [John 18:37]
- III. Jesus says that there is no neutrality.
 - A. It is irrational to impute Christ's works of healing to the devil.
 - B. It is inconsistent of the Pharisees to impute Christ's works to the devil.
 - C. The Pharisees obscure the truth of what is taking place.
 - D. It is unpardonable for them to attribute Christ's works to the devil. [Isaiah 5:20]
 - E. Jesus says there is no neutrality in this conflict.
 1. The kingdom of God has come upon you. [Titus 3:3-6; Mark 1:15]
 2. He who is not with me is against me.
 3. Forgiveness is offered to all who repent and believe.
 4. The victory of Christ is complete and eternal.