

THE MATTHEW STUDY: WHAT IT MEANS TO FOLLOW JESUS  
 SERIES: JESUS: SAVIOR & JUDGE  
 PART 5 - "WHAT'S IN YOUR HEART COMES OUT OF YOUR MOUTH"  
 Matthew 12:22-37

<sup>22</sup>Then a demon-possessed man, who was both blind and unable to talk, was brought to Jesus. He healed the man so that he could both speak and see. <sup>23</sup>The crowd was amazed. 'Could it be that Jesus is the Son of David, the Messiah?' they wondered out loud. <sup>24</sup>But when the Pharisees heard about the miracle, they said, 'No wonder He can cast out demons. He gets His power from Satan, the prince of demons.' <sup>25</sup>Jesus knew their thoughts and replied, 'Any kingdom at war with itself is doomed. A city or home divided against itself is doomed. <sup>26</sup>And if Satan is casting out Satan, he is fighting against himself. His own kingdom will not survive. <sup>27</sup>And if I am empowered by the prince of demons, what about your own followers? They cast out demons, too, so they will judge you for what you have said. <sup>28</sup>But if I am casting out demons by the Spirit of God, then the Kingdom of God has arrived among you. <sup>29</sup>Let Me illustrate this. You can't enter a strong man's house and rob him without first tying him up. Only then can his house be robbed! <sup>30</sup>Anyone who isn't helping Me opposes Me, and anyone who isn't working with Me is actually working against Me. <sup>31</sup>Every sin or blasphemy can be forgiven – except blasphemy against the Holy Spirit, which can never be forgiven. <sup>32</sup>Anyone who blasphemes against Me, the Son of Man, can be forgiven, but blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven, either in this world or in the world to come. <sup>33</sup>A tree is identified by its fruit. Make a tree good, and its fruit will be good. Make a tree bad, and its fruit will be bad. <sup>34</sup>You brood of snakes! How could evil men like you speak what is good and right? For whatever is in your heart determines what you say. <sup>35</sup>A good person produces good words from a good heart, and an evil person produces evil words from an evil heart. <sup>36</sup>And I tell you this, that you must give an account on judgment day of every idle word you speak. <sup>37</sup>The words you say now reflect your fate then; either you will be justified by them or you will be condemned."

What does God's rule and reign look like  
 in a person's heart?

- I. **Honors** Jesus Christ as **God**. Matthew 12:22-24
  
- II. **Embraces** God's rule and reign through **submission** to Jesus Christ. Matthew 12:25-29
  
- III. **Accepts** Jesus Christ as their **Lord** and **Savior**.  
 Matthew 12: 30
  
- IV. **Responds** to the **convicting** work of the Holy Spirit.  
 Matthew 12:31-32
  
- V. **Thrives** on **demonstrating** Christ-like **character**.  
 Matthew 12:33-37