

## Melbourne Community Church (MCC)

Sunday Service — July 3, 2022

**Sermon Notes:** “The Messiah Strikes Back,” [Matthew 12:22-37](#),  
by Brandon Harris.

Old Testament Reading: [Isaiah 42:1-2](#)

New Testament Reading: [Hebrews 6:4-6](#)

**What we will learned last week:** ([Matthew 12:1-21](#), [46-50](#))

- Jesus’ opposition by religious leaders
- Mercy over mere religious observance
- Jesus’ identity affirmed
- The Kingdom is bigger than our families and demands our allegiance/obedience.

**What we will learn this week:** ([Matthew 12:22-37](#))

- Jesus wields authority over evil spirits.
- Jesus knew their thoughts.
- Divided kingdoms don’t last.
- There is no neutrality.
- Words matter.

Jesus heals a blind, mute, demon-possessed man. What was the people’s response to this miraculous act? ([Matthew 12:22-23](#))

What was the Pharisees’ response? ([Matthew 12:24](#))

Who is Beelzebul or Baal-Zebub and what is the meaning of this name?

([Smith’s Bible Dictionary: BEELZEBUB](#))

say here about himself? ([Matthew 12:8](#))

(Over)

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What happens to a divided kingdom? ([Matthew 12:25-29](#))

Is it possible to take a neutral position with respect to the person and mission of Jesus? ([Matthew 12:30](#))

What is the consequence of heart-felt slander against the Holy Spirit? ([Matthew 12:31-32](#))

What does this sin include:

- 1) Clear knowledge of who Jesus is and that God's Holy Spirit is working through Him,
- 2) Willfully rejecting that knowledge, and
- 3) Falsely attributing the power behind Jesus as being Evil (Satan) rather than God.

How can you recognize that something or someone has a regenerated heart from God? ([Matthew 12:33](#))

How important are the words we speak to one another? ([Matthew 12:34-37](#); [Proverbs 18:21](#))

As each of us examines our own heart and actions, how would you answer each of these questions:

- 1) Do I care enough for people's souls to stand up against falsehoods like Jesus?
- 2) Do I trust the Holy Spirit enough to help me correct opponents with sound reason and gentleness like Jesus?
- 3) Do I take Jesus' warning serious enough to watch my words with care?

**Additional Notes:**

**Internet Resources:** [The Bible Project: Matthew 1-13](#); [Matthew Overview Poster](#)

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