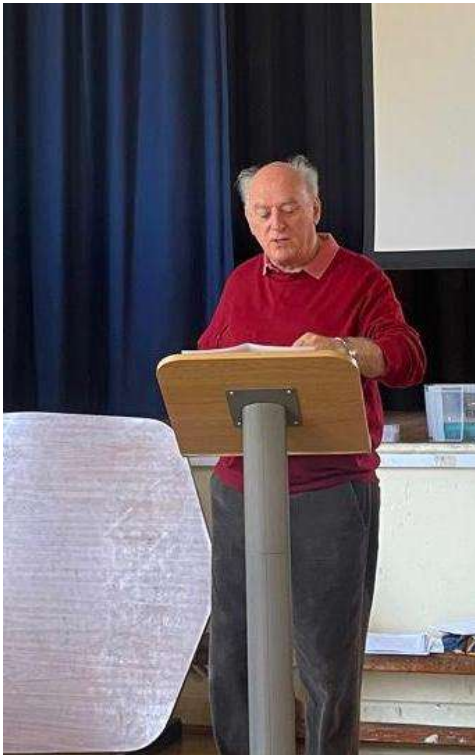


¹⁰ On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, ¹¹ and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, “Woman, you are set free from your infirmity.” ¹³ Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God.

¹⁴ Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, “There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath.”

¹⁵ The Lord answered him, “You hypocrites! Doesn’t each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? ¹⁶ Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?”

¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing.



Can you imagine being bent double for 18 years, not able to look up to the sky, peoples faces, or anything other than the ground or a side view?

Yet Jesus saw this lady and had compassion for her. He called her forward told her she was healed of her infirmity and then laid hands on her. A miracle. She was able to stand straight up and she began praising God.

How amazing. But was everyone around them happy for her? Of course not! The Synagogue leader was more concerned that rules for the Sabbath had been broken. But Jesus acted out of love.

Yes. Rules are important but so is compassion. Mark 2:27 says – the Sabbath was made for man not man for the Sabbath.