

There is one particular conflict story between Jesus and the religious leaders that is mentioned in three Gospel accounts. The conflict in question arises out of an incident where the Disciples took some grain to eat as they were passing through the grainfields. As the day was the Sabbath, the Pharisees, who were closely following along, began to accuse them of violating the Law!

Jesus addressed their accusations by appealing to two occurrences in the Old Testament, one of which was King David and his men eating of the Holy Bread that was lawful only for the ordained priests to eat.

One common interpretation suggests the inference here is that no Laws of God should take precedence over any serious human need. Another is that the Lord is not specifically expressing approval of David's conduct, but is simply using the story as an illustration.

Jesus was being attacked about observance of the strict letter of the Law, so He reminded the Jews that their great king, whom they so highly exalted, had done the very same thing!

The key to understanding which of these two views is more accurate can be found in the story that directly followed. We are told that while in the synagogue, Jesus' opponents were there looking for occasion to "accuse him."