

# John 5:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And therefore did the Jews persecute Jesus, and sought to slay him, because he had done these things on the sabbath day.

## Analysis

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The Jews' persecution of Jesus 'because he had done these things on the sabbath day' reveals the conflict between Christ's redemptive mission and religious traditionalism. Their focus on 'these things' (healing, commanding to carry a bed) rather than the miracle's compassionate purpose shows how externalism corrupts true religion. Christ came to fulfill, not abolish, the Sabbath's purpose.

## Historical Context

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This persecution marks escalating opposition that will climax in crucifixion. The Pharisaic interpretation of Sabbath law had expanded God's command into elaborate restrictions that undermined the Sabbath's redemptive purpose (rest, restoration, worship).

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How do human additions to God's law sometimes contradict His gracious purposes?
2. What does Jesus' Sabbath healing teach about the Sabbath's true meaning and purpose?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ	διὰ	τοῦτο	ἐδίωκον	τὸν	Ἰησοῦν	οἱ	Ἰουδαῖοι	καὶ
<b>And</b>	<b>therefore</b>	G5124	<b>did</b>	G3588	<b>Jesus</b>	G3588	<b>the Jews</b>	<b>And</b>
G2532	G1223		G1377		G2424		G2453	G2532
ἐζήτουν	αὐτὸν	ἀποκτεῖναι,	ὅτι	ταῦτα	ἐποίησεν	ἐν		
<b>sought</b>	<b>him</b>	<b>to slay</b>	<b>because</b>	<b>these things</b>	<b>he had done</b>	<b>on</b>		
G2212	G846	G615	G3754	G5023	G4160	G1722		
σαββάτῳ								
<b>the sabbath day</b>								
G4521								

## Additional Cross-References

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**John 15:20** (Parallel theme): Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep your's also.

**John 10:39** (Parallel theme): Therefore they sought again to take him: but he escaped out of their hand,