March 27 People Question Rather Than Trust and Obey

Therefore you shall keep my commandments, and do them. I am Yahweh.

— Leviticus 22:31

Blessed are those

who hear the word

of God, and keep it.

[Luke 11:14-28, Judea] He was casting out a demon, and it was mute. It happened,

when the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke; and the multitudes marveled. But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the

prince of the demons." Others, testing him, sought from him a sign from heaven. But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation. A house divided against itself falls. If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. But if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your children cast them out? Therefore will they be your judges. But if I by the finger of God cast out demons, then the Kingdom of God has come to you.

"When the strong man, fully armed, guards his own dwelling, his goods are safe. But when someone stronger attacks him and overcomes him, he takes from him his whole armor in which he trusted, and divides his spoils.

"He that is not with me is against me. He who doesn't gather with me scatters. The unclean spirit, when he has gone out of the man, passes through dry places, seeking rest, and

finding none, he says, 'I will turn back to my house from which I came out.' When he returns, he finds it swept and put in order. Then he goes, and takes seven other spirits more evil than himself, and they enter in and dwell there. The last state of that man becomes worse than the first."

It came to pass, as he said these things, a certain woman out of the multitude lifted up her voice, and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts which nursed you!"

But he said, "On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God, and keep it."

- 1. A year earlier Jesus dealt with this issue (Capernaum, Feb. 18); does he respond the same?
- 2. What is the relation between sign-seeking, this accusation, and keeping God's word?
- 3. Jesus, forgive me for questioning your power, today I will simply trust and obey...