

On a Sabbath day in Galilee, Jesus and his disciples are walking through a grainfield, and his disciples pick some heads of grain. The Jewish authorities are indignant and ask Jesus why he allows his men to “work” unlawfully on the Sabbath. Jesus’ reply is recorded in Mark 2:27-28: “Then he said to them, ‘**The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.**’” This is a simple ABC chiasmus, as shown below.

A The Sabbath
B for man
C was made
B' not man for
A' the Sabbath

Jesus goes on to say in the following verse, “**So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.**”