

Series "Behold Your King"
"Promise without Performance"
Matthew 21:18-22
Part-92

1. Jesus uses a fruitless Fig Tree to illustrate the empty claims of the religious
2. Jesus curses the Fig Tree to reveal the outcome of a fruitless relationship with God

We need to note in our passage:

- The disciples alone hear the sentence upon the fig tree:
- The disciples alone note the results:
- The disciples alone hear what their master afterwards teaches on the subject:

- 1. Verses 18-19 – No Fruit**
- 2. Verses 19-20 – No Future**
- 3. Verses 21-22 – No Failure**

1. Verses 18-19 – No Fruit:

Matt 21:18

Matt 21:17

Mark 11:12-13

Matthew arranged his material in a topical order, rather than a chronological order.

Matt 21:19

Fig Tree – OT Israel is often compared to a Fig Tree, and a Vine - Jer. 8:13

Deut 8:8

Num 13:23

The Fig Tree is a picture of peace and prosperity: (1Ki 4:25; Mic 4:4; Zech 3:10)

Leaves symbolize "mere profession", "hypocrisy of religion." The foliage is that which is outward, leaves of outer religion.

Mark 11:13

1. The Savior seeks fruit -
2. Notice where Jesus expected to find fruit -

Rev 3:1

2 Tim 3:5

Gen. 3:7

2. Verses 19-20 – No Future:

Mark 5

1. Uselessness invites disaster:

Luke 13:6-9

2. Profession without practice is condemned:

Mark 11:14 And His disciples were listening

Mark 11:20

Matt 3:10

Matt 21:20

Mark 11:21

3. Verses 21-22 – No Failure:

Matt 21:21

Matt 21:13

Matt 17:19-20

Mountain - was a symbol for "a great insurmountable problem; Something that was humanly impossible."

1 Cor 13:2

The fruit of grace in one's life will be the faith to cope with insurmountable difficulties.

Matt 21:22

John 15 Jesus said fruitfulness comes when we abide in Him, and abide His Word.

1 John 5:14

1. Jesus promises that prayer gives us the ability to do
2. Prayer is the ability to accept, and in accepting, to transform

Paul - 2 Cor 12:1-10

Jesus in Gethsemane -

3. Prayer brings the ability to bear

Gal 5:22-24

Application:

1. People are infinitely more important than a fig tree.
2. Punishment falls on nations and individuals who do not fulfill their appointed function.
3. The withered tree was an illustration of the condemnation of profession without practice.
4. Uselessness invites disaster.