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Wednesday Evening ONLINE Bible Study June 9, 2021

"The Wonders of the Miracles of Jesus" - Part 16 Jesus Curses a Fig Tree

Mark 11:12-14, 20-26; Matthew 21:18-22

MARK 11:12-14, 20-24 On the next day, when they had left Bethany, He became hungry. 13 Seeing at a distance a fig tree in leaf, He went to see if perhaps He would find anything on it; and when He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. 14 He said to it, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again!" And His disciples were listening.

20 As they were passing by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots up. 21 Being reminded, Peter said to Him, "Rabbi, look, the fig tree which You cursed has withered." 22 And Jesus answered saying to them, "Have faith in God.

23 Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him. 24 Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be granted you. 25 Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions. 26 [But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father who is in heaven forgive your transgressions.]"

MATTHEW 21:18-22 Now in the morning, when He was returning to the city, He became hungry. 19 Seeing a lone fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it except leaves only; and He said to it, "No longer shall there ever be any fruit from you." And at once the fig tree withered.

20 Seeing this, the disciples were amazed and asked, "How did the fig tree wither all at once?" 21 And Jesus answered and said to them, "TRULY I SAY TO YOU, IF YOU HAVE FAITH AND DO NOT DOUBT, YOU WILL NOT ONLY DO WHAT WAS DONE TO THE FIG TREE, BUT EVEN IF YOU SAY TO THIS MOUNTAIN, 'BE TAKEN UP AND CAST INTO THE SEA,' IT WILL HAPPEN. 22 And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."

<p>1. Place(s)</p>	<p><i>Leaving Bethany heading to Jerusalem</i></p>	<p>1. After Triumphal Entry, and Temple Cleansing of Money Changers, stayed at the home of Mar, Martha and Lazarus. Ministering all day.</p>
<p>2. People</p>	<p><i>Jesus, Disciples, Peter, God The Father</i></p>	<p>All 12 disciples were present.</p>
<p>4. Problem(s)</p>	<p><i>v. 12c <u>Jesus was hungry</u></i></p>	<p>1. The fact that Jesus was hungry informs us of what about Him?</p> <p>2. In what way could He have satisfied His hunger without depending on a fig tree?</p> <p>3. Why didn't He choose any another means?</p>
<p>5. Plan – Preliminaries</p>	<p><i><u>13 Seeing at a distance a fig tree in leaf, He went to see if perhaps He would find anything on it;</u></i></p>	<p>Note: A fig tree's fruit appeared first, then the leaves. Jesus was drawn to it because it should've had fruit somewhere in the foliage.</p>
<p>5. Impossibility!</p>	<p><i><u>He found nothing but leaves, 12d for it was not the season for figs.</u></i></p>	<p>When Jesus saw nothing but leaves, and the bible says "it was not the season for figs," shouldn't Jesus have known this beforehand?</p>
<p>7. Performance</p>	<p><i><u>v.14 He said to it, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again!" And His disciples were listening.</u></i></p> <p><i><u>Matthew 21:19c And at once the fig tree withered.</u></i></p> <p><i><u>v. 20 As they were passing by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots up.</u></i></p>	<p>1. Jesus placed a curse on the fig tree, treating it as if it had done something morally wrong!</p> <p>2. How long did it take for the tree to wither?</p> <p>3. The next morning the tree was withered from the roots up</p> <p>4. All the other miracles Jesus perform restored life and health. This was the only miracle which was a curse that produced death. Why? (Parables vs. Miracles)</p>
<p>8. People's Reaction?</p>	<p><i><u>v. 21 Being reminded, Peter said to Him, "Rabbi, look, the fig tree which You cursed has withered."</u></i></p>	<p>1. Peter was the first to point out the following day that the tree had actually withered.</p>

	<p><u>Matthew 18:20 Seeing this, the disciples were amazed and asked, “How did the fig tree wither all at once?”</u></p> <p><u>v. 22 And Jesus answered saying to them, “Have faith in God.</u></p> <p><u>23 Truly I say to YOU, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him.</u></p> <p><u>24 Therefore I say to YOU, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be granted you.</u></p> <p><u>(Matthew 21:21b-22“Truly I say to YOU, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ it will happen. 22 And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.”)</u></p> <p>Mark 11:25-26</p>	<p>2. The disciples wondered how was Jesus able to speak and cause death all at once?</p> <p>3. What did Jesus mean by this in reference to the fig tree?</p> <p>4. Is Jesus giving the disciples and us a blank check to speak, believe, expect and receive?</p> <p>5. Is Jesus giving the disciples and us the power to pray, ask, believe ahead of time and we can receive “all things” we ask for?</p> <p>6. Why is forgiving others factored into our praying to God?</p>
9. Purpose	Ezekiel 17:22-24	A Parable of Israel
10. Principles	Produce what is expected!	Fruitfulness vs. Hypocrisy

Ezekiel 17: 22-24 Thus says the Lord GOD, “I will also take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and set it out; I will pluck from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one and I will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. 23 On the high mountain of Israel I will plant it, that it may bring forth boughs and bear fruit and become a stately cedar. And birds of every kind will nest under it; they will nest in the shade of its branches. 24 All the trees of the field will know that I am the LORD; I bring down the high tree, exalt the low tree, dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will perform it.”

Lockyer – “ All The Miracles of the Bible”

At that period of the year, March through April, neither leaves nor fruit were naturally expected but this tree, by putting forth leaves made pretension to be something more than others, to have fruit up on it, since fruit appears before he leaves. The tree, therefore, was punished not for being without fruit, but for proclaiming by the voice of those leaves that it had fruit; not for being barren, but for being false. This was the guilt of Israel, a guilt so much deeper than the guilt of the nations.