
THE GOSPEL OF

MARK

SUFFERING SERVANT & SON OF GOD

MEN'S MORNING STUDY

Thursdays, Sep 4 - Dec 4 @ 6:30 - 7:30a

BAND OF
BROTHERS
MEN'S MINISTRY

HFBCMen.org

Israel's Broken Condition

Mark 11:12-26 CSB - Men's Morning Study

November 6th, 2025

A Fruitless Apple Tree



Mark 11:12-26



Jesus Curses the Fig Tree

¹² On the following day, when they came from Bethany, he was hungry. ¹³ And seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to see if he could find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. ¹⁴ And he said to it, **"May no one ever eat fruit from you again."** And his disciples heard it.

Jesus Cleanses the Temple

¹⁵ And they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold and those who bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. ¹⁶ And he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. ¹⁷ And he was teaching them and saying to them, **"Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'? But you have made it a den of robbers."** ¹⁸ And the chief priests and the scribes heard it and were seeking a way to destroy him, for they feared him, because all the crowd was astonished at his teaching. ¹⁹ And when evening came they^b went out of the city.

Mark 11:12-26



The Lesson from the Withered Fig Tree

²⁰ As they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots. ²¹ And Peter remembered and said to him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered." ²² And Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God. ²³ Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. ²⁴ Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received^c it, and it will be yours. ²⁵ And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses."^d

Mark 11:12-26

Israel Was All Leaves, No Fruit

- Jesus Constantly Pointed Out Israel's Hypocrisy.
- The most poignant example of this was the condition of the temple.
- Like Israel, we also can have a lot of "religious activity" that covers up a decayed heart.

Mark 11:12-26

Be Zealous In Your Faith!

- Referencing this scene, John calls to mind Psalm 69:9.
- Instead of fruitless fig trees, let's be an extremely zealous people.
- Let's purify and cleanse ourselves.

Mark 11:12-26

Run Diagnostics On Your Heart.

- Take your heart to Autozone.
- Pray the prayer of David: “Create in me a clean heart, Oh God”



Discussion



1. What are some ways that you often see Christians engaging in fruitless religious activity?
2. What are some ways in which you may have some “decay” in your own heart?
3. How can you work on “purifying” your heart before God?
4. What does it look like to cultivate zeal for the Gospel-centered living in your own life?
5. What does it look like to regularly run diagnostics on your own heart??