

The Spiritual Lessons of the Parable of the Budding Fig Tree

- ✘ Truth #1 ~ No one knows **WHEN** Jesus will return.
- ✘ Truth #2 ~ We must **WATCH** and **PRAY!**
- ✘ Truth #3 ~ Very few **BELIEVE** the warning and choose to do their own thing regardless of the risks.
- ✘ Truth #4 ~ The Day of Christ will come so **SUDDENLY** that many will be caught unawares, unprepared, and unexpected.

➤ Are You **READY?**



✘ MY NEXT STEP TODAY IS TO...

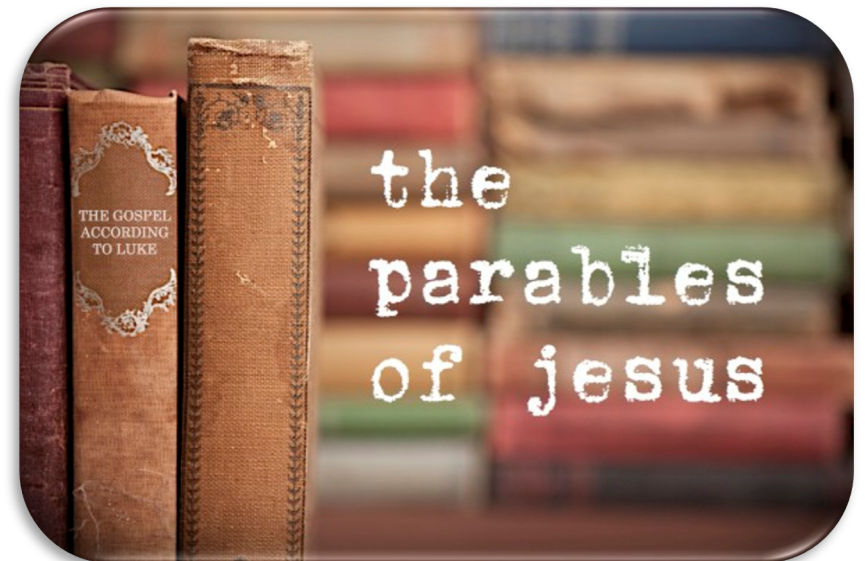
- Wake Up** ~ I've been sleeping at the wheel of my life and drifting everywhere, but going nowhere!
- Grow Up** ~ My spiritual life is barren and fruitless and it's time for me to start living in relationship with Jesus and put these flimsy excuses behind me!
- Stand Up** ~ My witness is in need of a spiritual backbone, so today I want to be filled with God's Spirit and empowered to be a witness for Christ in these last days!
- Show Up** ~ I've been noticeably absent from the things that reflect true discipleship and fruitful living, and I am determined to read God's Word, spend time in prayer, attend church and prayer gatherings, and start watching for Christ's return!
- Give Up** ~ I've been too attracted to the things of the world and my own independence from God and I need to fully surrender to His Lordship over my life!

Oak Harbor

Assembly of God

MESSAGE GUIDE

Speaker: Pastor Mark Geer
Sunday: March 22, 2020



Message Talk Sheet

Date: March 22, 2020

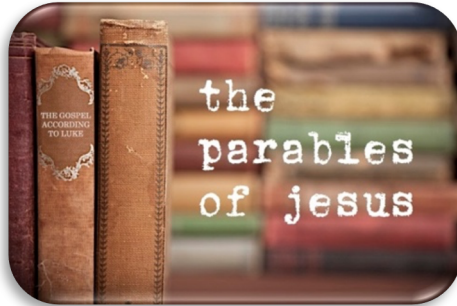
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SERIES: The Parables of Jesus

Today's Message:

Parables Regarding
Spiritual Responsibilities

"The Parables of the Barren
& Budding Fig Trees"



Text: Luke 13:1-9; 21:29-33;
Matthew 24:32-44

The Parables of Jesus **"The Parables of the Barren & Budding Fig Trees"**



The Kingdom of Heaven is Truly Near!

- ✘ Cataclysmic signs are all around us, great fear is gripping humanity, but Believers have a certain peace and even an excitement that God's Kingdom is coming soon!

Luke 13, 21 and Matthew 24 ~ Parables About the END TIMES.

- ✘ What God is looking for in Believers!
- ✘ Jesus told the Parables of the Barren and Budding Fig Trees to prompt and inspire His disciples to get READY and to live ready.
- ✘ The Problem: People get lazy, lethargic and lose interest...



Message Talk Sheet (Continued...)

1. The First Parable Deals With The BARREN Fig Tree.

- ✘ Luke 13:1-5 ~ A interesting conversation about calamity and judgment. The weight of Jesus' teaching is on REPENTANCE.
- ✘ Matthew 5:45 ~ "...for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust."
- ✘ Luke 13:6-9 ~ Jesus gives us the parable:
⁶ "A certain man had a **fig tree** planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷ Then he said to the keeper of his vineyard, 'Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none. Cut it down; why does it use up the ground?' ⁸ But he answered and said to him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it. ⁹ And if it bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down.' "

- ↪ The fig tree represents our LIVES.
- ↪ The request of the vineyard keeper is an extension of GRACE.
- ↪ The time is NOW ~ Today is the day of Salvation.
- ↪ God is looking for fruitfulness in our lives (Matthew 3:7-10; 7:15-21; Luke 8:15; John 15:1-8).



2. The Second Parable Deals With The BUDDING Fig Tree.

- ✘ This parable carries a strong emphasis on the end of time (Matthew 24:32-44; Mark 13:28-37; Luke 21:29-33)
- ✘ The parable: Luke 21:29-33
²⁹ Then He spoke to them a parable: "Look at **the fig tree**, and all the trees. ³⁰ When they are already budding, you see and know for yourselves that **summer is now near.** ³¹ So you also, when you see these things happening, know that **the kingdom of God is near.** ³² Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all things take place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.