



THE GOSPEL OF
MATTHEW



House of Cards

Matthew 21:12-22



In Matthew 21:12-22 we see:

- The Purpose of the Temple (21:12–14)
- The Power of Pride (21:15–17)
- The Point of the Fig Tree (21:18–19)
- The Place of Prayer (21:20–22)



Gospel of Matthew: Chapters 21–28 Overview

Chapters	Section	Subsections / Key Events
21–23	Temple Conflicts	Arrival in Jerusalem (21:1–11) First Temple Visit (21:12–17) Fruitless Fig Tree (21:18–22) Second Temple Visit—Series of Conflicts (21:23–23:39)
24–25	Olivet Discourse	Signs of the Future (Ch 24) Christ's Return (Ch 25)
26–28	The Passion of Christ	Betrayal (Ch 26) Death (Ch 27) Resurrection (Ch 28)



1) The Purpose of the Temple | Matthew 21:12-14



1) The Purpose of the Temple | Matthew 21:12-14

¹² And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. ¹³ He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you make it a den of robbers.” ¹⁴ And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them.



2) The Power of Pride | Matthew 21:15–17



2) The Power of Pride | Matthew 21:15–17

¹⁵ But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” they were indignant, ¹⁶ and they said to him, “Do you hear what these are saying?” And Jesus said to them, “Yes; have you never read,

“‘Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies
you have prepared praise’?”

¹⁷ And leaving them, he went out of the city to Bethany and lodged there.



Fruit in the Gospel of Matthew

Reference	Context	Text
Matthew 3:7–10	Pharisees & Sadducees come to John the Baptist	"You brood of vipers. . . bear fruit in keeping with repentance."
Matthew 7:15–20	Sermon on the Mount	"Beware of false prophets. . . You will know them by their fruit ."
Matthew 12:33–37	Pharisees accuse Jesus of casting out demons by Beelzebub	". . . the tree is known by its fruit . You brood of vipers!"
Matthew 21:18–22	Unfruitful Fig Tree	"May no fruit ever come from you again!"
Matthew 21:33–44	Parable of the Tenants	"He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons."



3) The Point of the Fig Tree | Matthew 21:18–19



3) The Point of the Fig Tree | Matthew 21:18–19

¹⁸In the morning, as he was returning to the city, he became hungry. ¹⁹And seeing a fig tree by the wayside, he went to it and found nothing on it but only leaves. And he said to it, “May no fruit ever come from you again!” And the fig tree withered at once.



4) The Place of Prayer | Matthew 21:20–22



4) The Place of Prayer | Matthew 21:20–22

²⁰ When the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, “How did the fig tree wither at once?” ²¹ And Jesus answered them, “Truly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ it will happen. ²² And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.”



Conclusion

A new Temple is coming. . .



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