

Mountain Moving Faith
Praying IN Faith
Wednesday, March 27, 2024

Mark 11:20 And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots.

21 And Peter calling to remembrance saith unto him, Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away.

22 And Jesus answering saith unto them, “**Have faith in God.**

23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive *them*, and ye shall have *them*.

25 And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

26 But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.”

- Jesus had passed by a fruitless tree hungry.
 - He then cursed the tree.
 - Jesus and His disciples are now passing by the next day and Peter saw the tree withered and commented.
 - Jesus then speaks to them of a subject that I am honestly wanted to come to a better understanding of

- I understand prayer is vital and that without faith prayer is powerless.
- I also don't believe that we can just pray something and if we want it enough we receive it,
- or a name and claim mentality with the Lord.
- So, I want to understand the purest context of this promise from our Savior
- So I studied...

- Jesus Starts with Faith

- Have faith in God
- Not faith is what you're asking
- Not faith in that you're asking correctly
- Faith IN God
 - This to me would mean that I am trusting God for daily needs
 - I am trusting God for my daily direction
 - I am trusting God for my daily desires
 - I am trusting God for my daily protection

- Jesus then speaks of the Ask

- Does a mountain need moved
 - Hebrew culture uses what we would consider hyperbole to emphasize
 - God's power is immense and not even a mountain can disobey His command
 - Yet we as humans disobey Him daily
- Do you believe that God, who takes daily care of you is able to move the mountain?
 - The mountain is something that is out of our hands

- The salvation of souls that seem unredeemable
- The protection from satanic oppression
- The things in life that we don't have to die to each day...that is our part, anything else is His
- The sea is the fathomless idea that our mountain is gone
 - This mountain is not seen
 - This mountain needs not climbed
 - This mountain does not exist
- Can your faith be doubtless?
 - This means we see God, not the mountain
 - This means we are hand in hand with God, the climb is in His strength
 - This means there is no mountain as that God is with us
- Jesus then says, "If you want it, ask and receive"
 - What do you want?
 - Here is the problem with a "name it claim it" ideology
 - God owes us nothing
 - No good thing we do merits a greater blessing from God
 - There is no prayer formula to indenture God to us
 - What we want may be a mountain sized ask, but is it about us?
 - James tells us, **4:2** Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.
 - We want God to move mountains for us as we fight everyone for the mountain
 - This is not faith in God, but faith in self
 - James tells us that we often ask but we ask amiss

- **James 4:3** Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume *it* upon your lusts.
 - This is so we can fulfill our desires, not God's
 - **Psalms** tells us in **37:4** "Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."
 - Shouldn't the Lord be our desire?
 - If my delight is Him first, He will be my first desire
 - What we want must be God...that is FAITH
 - Does this mean God doesn't want us to have great mountain size blessings?
 - God wants us to glorify Him, so if a mountain size blessing gives Him glory, He will not withhold anything that is good from His children
 - **Psalm 84:11** For the LORD God *is* a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good *thing* will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.
 - **God is our Light and Protection**
 - God does the Work and deserves the Credit
 - **God blesses those that are following Him...with HIM**
 - **If God is not enough, nothing ever will be**
- Jesus then hits us with the Context
 - Remember the tree!
 - **Mark 11:12** And on the morrow, when they were come from Bethany, he was hungry:
 - 13** And seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came, if haply he might find anything thereon: and when he came to it, he found nothing but leaves; for the time of figs was not yet.

14 And Jesus answered and said unto it, “**No man eat fruit of thee hereafter forever.**” And his disciples heard *it*.

- It bore no fruit (even though it wasn't the time for fruit Mark 11:13)
- A tree planted by the River of Life will bring forth HIS fruit in HIS season

- **Psalm 1:1** Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

2 But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that **bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.**

- When we bring forth fruit is up to God, not us

○ **Remember our Role**

- We are to bring forth fruit
 - This is a mountain sized problem
 - Our fruit is bitter and bad (*Galatians 5:19-21*)
- What Fruit? The Fruit of the Spirit (*Galatians 5:22-23*)...God is hungry for it...He eats it up
 - When we don't have faith...
 - Our lives wont' be fruitful
 - God is not glorified (think of this as God being fed)
 - Our faith is this...
 - God, I cannot be fruitful without you...move this mountain

- God, I am going to just die to self, until I don't see the mountain, I only see You
- What would be an absolute PROOF that we are fruitful?
 - Forgiveness! (love, joy, peace, patience, gentle, good, living out faith, meekness, and temperance...like Christ)
 - When we don't forgive, we are withered, fruitless, and fit for the fire
 - **Matthew 7:19** Every tree which bringeth not forth fruit is hewn down and cast in the fire.
 - Forgiving the wrongs done regardless of repentance is a **mountain sized problem**
- Our Faith is that if we ask God to move the mountain sized issue in our life...
 - We will prepare to receive His power to move it
 - This is done in dying to who we are, what we want, where we want to go
 - It's only when we let go of these things in faith (knowing God will take care of the things we think we need to take care of Matthew 6:25-34)
 - That we will cease seeing the mountain as that God will block our view!