

CLG

JESUS CURSES THE FIG TREE

MATTHEW 21:18-22

PS CATHY TRIPNEY

18 Early in the morning, as Jesus was on his way back to the city, he was hungry.

19 Seeing a fig tree by the road, he went up to it but found nothing on it except leaves. Then he said to it, “May you never bear fruit again!” Immediately the tree withered.

20 When the disciples saw this, they were amazed. “How did the fig tree wither so quickly?” they asked.



Matthew 21:18-22

21 Jesus replied, “Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and it will be done.

22 If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.”

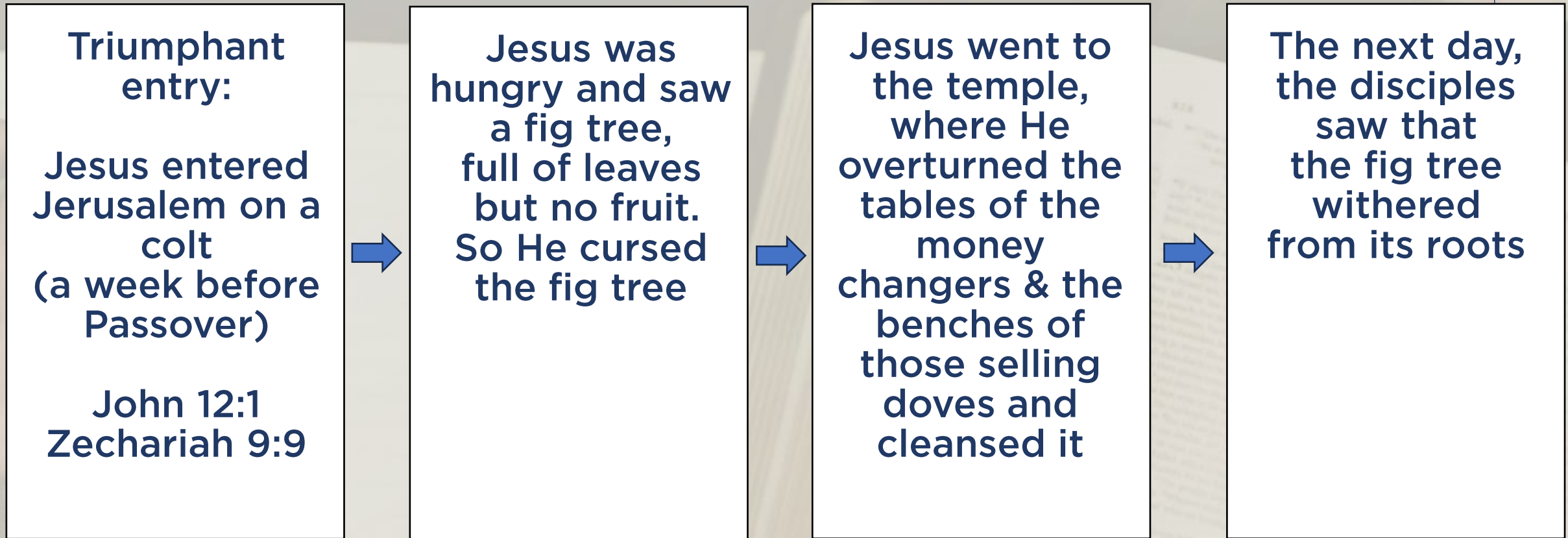


Matthew 21:18-22

Jesus' Triumphant Entry - as King



This story is also found in Mark 11:20-25



The Fig Tree



**A symbol for Israel
- Jeremiah 24:1-10**



Fruitless Tree



Jeremiah 7:23-24

**“...Obey me, and I will be your God and you will be my people. Walk in obedience to all I command you, that it may go well with you.
24 But they did not listen or pay attention...”**





**‘For three years now
I’ve been coming to
look for fruit on this fig
tree and haven’t found
any. Cut it down!...’**

Luke 13:1-9

A mark of a true follower of Christ is always in the FRUIT

5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

6 If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

8 This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples...”



**John
15:5-8**

A mark of a true follower of Christ is always in the FRUIT



16 “By their fruit you will recognize them...

17 Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.

18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit.

19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

20 Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

**Matthew
7:16-20**

Jesus cleanses the temple - addressing their religious spirit



a. Worship the Lord with your heart, and not just with your lips

Matthew 15:8 - “These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me”

b. Obedience is better than sacrifice

1 Samuel 15:22 - “But Samuel replied: “Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams”

c. Spiritual blindness - John 9

Jesus' track record gives us reason to believe

Miracle	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
1 Jesus Turns Water to Wine at Wedding / Cana				2:1-11
2 Jesus Heals an Official's Son / Capernaum in Galilee				4:43-54
3 Jesus Drives Out Evil Spirit from a Man / Capernaum		1:21-27	4:31-36	
4 Jesus Heals Peter's Mother-in-Law's Fever	8:14-15	1:29-31	4:38-39	
5 Jesus Heals Many Sick and Oppressed in Evening	8:16-17	1:32-34	4:40-41	
6 First Miraculous Catch of Fish / Lake of Gennesaret			5:1-11	
7 Jesus Cleanses Man with Leprosy	8:1-4	1:40-45	5:12-14	
8 Jesus Heals a Centurion's Paralyzed Servant / Capernaum	8:5-13		7:1-10	
9 Jesus Heals a Paralytic, Let Down Through Roof	9:1-8	2:1-12	5:17-26	
10 Jesus Heals Man's Withered Hand on the Sabbath	12:9-14	3:1-6	6:6-11	
11 Jesus Raises a Widow's Boy from Dead / Nain			7:11-17	
12 Jesus Calms the Storm	8:23-27	4:35-41	8:22-25	

13	Jesus Casts Legion of Demons into Pig Herd	8:28-33	5:1-20	8:26-39	
14	Jesus Heals a Woman in the Crowd, Issue of Blood	9:20-22	5:25-34	8:42-48	
15	Jesus Raises Jairus' Daughter from Dead	9:18-26	5:21-43	8:40-56	
16	Jesus Heals Two Blind Men	9:27-31			
17	Jesus Heals Man Who Was Mute	9:32-34			
18	Jesus Heals an Invalid / Bethesda				5:1-15
19	Jesus Feeds 5,000 Men, Plus Women & Children	14:13-21	6:30-44	9:10-17	6:1-15
20	Jesus Walks on Water	14:22-33	6:45-52		6:16-21
21	Jesus Heals Many Who Touch His Garment / Gennesaret	14:34-36	6:53-56		
22	Jesus Heals Gentile Woman's Possessed Daughter	15:21-28	7:24-30		
23	Jesus Heals Deaf & Dumb Man		7:31-37		
24	Jesus Feeds 4,000 Men, Plus Women & Children	15:32-39	8:1-13		
25	Jesus Heals Blind Man / Bethsaida		8:22-26		
26	Jesus Heals with His Spit, Man Born Blind				9:1-12

27	Jesus Heals Boy with Unclean Spirit	17:14-20	9:14-29	9:37-43	
28	Temple Tax Paid with Coins Found in Fish's Mouth	17:24-27			
29	Jesus Heals Blind, Mute Demoniac	12:22-23		11:14-23	
30	Jesus Heals Woman Crippled for 18 Years			13:10-17	
31	Jesus Heals Man with Dropsy on the Sabbath			14:1-6	
32	Jesus Cleanses 10 Lepers / Outside of Jerusalem			17:11-19	
33	Jesus Raises Lazarus from Dead / Bethany				11:1-45
34	Jesus Restores Sight to Bartimaeus / Jericho	20:29-34	10:46-52	18:35-43	
35	Jesus Withers Fig Tree / Outside Bethany	21:18:22	11:12-14		
36	Jesus Heals Malchus' Severed Ear / Gethsemane			22:50-51	
37	Second Miraculous Catch of Fish / Sea of Tiberias				21:4-11

Judgement over Israel



a. Jeremiah 8:4-9, 12-13

**b. God's promise to Israel has not failed. -
Romans 9:1-7**

**What is your zeal for God based on?
Romans 10:1-3**

**c. Israel had a problem with believing, and
rejected Jesus Christ as Messiah (Matthew
21:43-45)**

True Faith



- a. Misuse and misunderstanding of Matthew 21:21-22
- b. True faith and answered prayers are always aligned with HIS will
- c. Prayer that is submissive – 1 John 3:21-22
- d. In His name and for His glory – John 14:12-13
- e. Daniel 11:32 – “but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits”

God's calling you today: Hebrews 3:7-15



So, as the Holy Spirit says:

“Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your heart as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the wilderness where your ancestors tested and tried me, though for forty years they saw what I did. That is why I was angry with that generation. I said, ‘Their hearts are always going astray, and they have not known my ways.



See to it, brothers and sisters,
that none of you has a sinful,
unbelieving heart that turns
away from the living God.

**“Today, if you hear his
voice, do not harden your
hearts...”**



Pray with us

For “whoever calls on
the name of the Lord
shall be saved.”

ROMANS 10:13

Connect with us!



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