

Is Believing Receiving?

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MARK 11: 20-26

Intro. **A.** Jesus entered the temple in Jerusalem.

1. He "looked round about upon all things."
2. He left in the late evening and went to Bethany.

B. The next morning He returned to Jerusalem.

1. As he neared Jerusalem He was hungry.
2. He saw a beautiful fig tree in the distance.
3. When He came near it was fruitless.

Vs. 14. **4.** Jesus said, "No man eat fruit of thee hereafter forever".

C. Jesus went into the temple. He did three things

1. He cast out those who bought and sold.
2. He overthrew the tables of the money changers.
3. He turned over the chairs of those who sold doves.
4. Jesus rid the house-of-prayer of "temple-trash".

I. Jesus And The Fig Tree.

A. Jesus has done many miracles and memorable deeds.

1. He has cast out devils.
2. He has defied authority.
3. Here is His first act against a plant.

B. The fig tree.

1. Jesus saw it afar off.
2. It had leaves. fig trees bloom and put on figs before they put on leaves. It promised fruit.
3. It had nothing but leaves on closer scrutiny.
4. It was "out of season", for the time of figs was not yet!

Vs. 21 **5.** Jesus cursed it. καταραμα = "to wish evil to."
"to pray against anything".

III. The Identification of This Teaching As To Its Realm. #2

A. The context is spiritual things.

1. Could we have gotten electrical power restored by, believing and receiving?
2. It does rain on the just and the unjust.

B. When you stand up to pray.

- Vs. 25
1. Make sure that you do what you are asking God to do.
 2. When you ask God to forgive you, make sure you have forgiven those who ask you.
- Vs. 26
3. It is on this basis that God forgives.

IV. All Prayers Must Pass The Theological Test.

A. Why are you asking?

1. James 4:3 "ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. κακῶς = wickedly, wrongly.
2. "consume" = καταναίω = to spend, be at expense, to spend upon a thing, to waste, exhaust,

B. According to His will.

1. I John 5:14 - And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

C. Conscience of His ways or plan.

1. There are dispensations.
2. The gifts were temporary. Something better would replace them, the Bible.