

The Lessons Of The Fig Tree

Matthew 21:18-22

Intro:

- A. **We learn many lessons from many things.**
 - 1. Some are easy, some are difficult.
 - 2. Some are, "the school of hard knocks."
 - 3. Life is a series of lessons and learning.

- B. **Jesus the Master Teacher.**
 - 1. He taught in the Temple at age 12.
 - 2. He taught in the synagogues.
 - 3. He taught in the meadows and fields.
 - 4. He taught as He traveled.
 - 5. Here, we learn the lesson of the fig tree.

I. The Lessons Of The Fig Tree.

- A. **That Jesus was human. V.18**
 - 1. The Bible states that, he hungered.
 - 2. We saw this in His temptation.

- B. **That Jesus took what was set before Him.**
 - 1. "...he saw a fig tree." V.19
 - 2. He did not reject its fruit.

- C. **That things aren't always what they seem.**
 - 1. "...he found nothing thereon."
 - 2. "...leaves only."
 - 3. The fig tree bloomed first, set its fruit and then put forth its leaves.
 - 4. Because it was already in full leaf, it was past putting on fruit. Mark 11:12-14

- D. **That God sometimes works quickly.**
 - 1. "...and presently the fig tree withered."
V.19
 - 2. presently = παραχρημα = "with the thing itself", "at the very moment", "directly"

- E. **That God's people are slow to learn.**
 - 1. The disciples saw it. V.20
 - 2. They marveled.

3. marveled = θαυμαζω = "to look on with amazement."

II. The Challenge Of Jesus To His Apostles.

A. **The power of faith.**

1. faith = πιστις = "firm persuasion" v.21
2. doubt not = διακρινω = "to be in strife with one's self" "to separate one's self"
3. Unwavering faith in God and His commands is necessary to doing such acts.

B. **The great promise. v.22**

1. ask in prayer = προσευχη = "speaking out in prayer", "prayer towards"
2. believing = πιστευω = "to be persuaded," "to rely upon", "to trust"
3. receive = λαμβανω = "to take", "to take hold of", "to take is given."

