

Trees, Mountains, and Fruitful Faith

Actual Jesus (Gospel of Matthew) – Part 186

Matthew 21:20-22

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¹⁸ And in the early morning, while He was going back into the city, He got hungry.

¹⁹ And when He saw *this* one fig tree by the way, He came over to it, and nothing did He find in it except leaves only. And He says to it, “No longer from you let fruit come, ever!” And right away, the fig tree dried up!

²⁰ And when the disciples saw, they marveled, saying, “How did that fig tree dry up right away?”

²¹ And in answer Jesus said to them, “Amen , I say to you, if you have faith, and do not doubt, not only *what was done* to the fig tree will you do, but *instead* even if to this mountain you say, ‘Be picked up and thrown into the sea,’ it will happen!

²² “And all things, as many as you may ask in prayer, believing, you will receive!”

[Pastor Phillips’ ad hoc translation of the Greek text]

Introduction:

I. _____ing What Jesus Taught (vv. 20-22)

A. The Apostles’ Question (v. 20)

1. What they *saw*
2. What they *asked*

B. Jesus’ Answer (vv. 21-22)

1. _____ (= the *key*)
 - a. The _____
 - b. The _____
 - c. The _____
2. _____
3. Commentary
 - a. Faith, doubt, action (v. 21)
 - i. Faith and doubt
 - ii. Fig trees and mountains
 - iii. **Focal point:** Why does Jesus say “*you do*,” “*you say*”?

- b. Faith, prayer (v. 22)

II. _____ing What Jesus Taught

A. About _____

1. What faith *never* _____

2. What faith *always* ____: our _____ of a _____ from _____
 - a. The **prototype**: Genesis ____:1-6

 - b. The **product**: Hebrews ____:1

 - c. The **practice**: John ____:31-32

 - d. The **precis** (summary): our idea vs. Biblical concept

3. What faith *always* _____: _____
 - a. Jesus **clearly says** this: John ____:1-17

 - b. Jesus _____ly _____ this

B. About _____

1. Prayer is us approaching God by faith in His word (Hebrews ____:6)

2. What about the “all things” in v 22?

3. **Principle**: pray from faith in a _____, a _____, or a _____
4. **Example**: how could I pray about my _____?