

GOSPEL OF MARK

What Is It With The Fig Tree?

Mark 11:12-26

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1. Jesus cursed the fig tree as part of His _____ ministry.

- a. Jesus pronounced judgment on _____ whose outward appearance concealed the reality that there was no righteous fruit.
- b. By implication this is also a _____ to those who would profess Christianity but their doctrine and their life do not reflect a genuine faith in Christ.

2. Jesus cursed the fig tree to highlight the importance of _____ and prayer.

- a. Believers should be encouraged to live by faith in the faithfulness of _____.

"Faith is a quiet confidence in the power and goodness of God who accomplishes everything. The corollary to faith is miracle, and in this immediate context faith is unwavering _____ in miraculous divine help." - William Lane

- b. In prayer, believers should humbly bring their _____ to God--no matter how overwhelming the situation seems to be.

"The man who bows his head before the hidden glory of God in the fulness of faith does so in the certainty that God can deal with every situation and any difficulty and that with Him _____ is impossible." - William Lane

- c. The sacredness of prayer requires that proper attention be given to the glory of God and the sinfulness of _____.

"Our prayers must not only be earnest, fervent, and sincere, and in the name of Christ. They must contain one more ingredient besides. They must come from a _____ heart. We have no right to look for mercy, if we are not ready to extend mercy to our brethren." - J.C. Ryle