

Figs

Matthew 21:12-22

- **vs. 12:** Jesus entered the temple courts
 - Drove out all who were **buying and selling**
 - Strong reaction – **indignant**
- **vs 13:** House of prayer
 - *Isaiah 56:7b “for My House will be called a House of prayer **for all the nations.**”*
 - Den of robbers -
 - *Jeremiah 7:9-11 “Will you steal and murder, commit adultery... and follow other gods... and then come and stand before Me in this house, which bears my Name, and say, “We are safe”—safe to do all these detestable things? Has this house, which bears my Name, become a **den of robbers** to you? But I have been watching! Declares the Lord.”*
- **vs. 14:** Blind and lame
 - *Luke 14:21b “Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.”*
- **vs. 15:** Priests and teachers saw
 - Children shouting – **Hosanna** meaning *Save us, Please!*
 - Strong reaction – **indignant**
- **vs. 16:** From the lips of children
 - *Psalms 8:2 “Through the praise of children and infants You have established a stronghold against Your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.”*
- **vs. 17:** Jesus left, went outside the city to Bethany and spent the night
- **vs. 18-19:** Jesus hungry and seeing a fig tree
 - *John 4:34 “My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of Him who sent me and to finish His work.”*
 - Fig tree from a distance - full of leaves
 - Curse? Or proclaimed what the tree was already doing
- **vs. 20:** Disciples amazed
 - The fig tree succumbed to it’s action
- **vs. 21:** Deeper meaning – Have faith
 - Alive faith – Righteousness
 - *James 2:21-22 “Was not our father Abraham considered righteous... You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did.”*
 - Alive faith – Active
 - *James 2:24-25 “In the same way, was not even Rahab... righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies... As the body without the spirit is dead, so **faith without deeds** is dead.”*
 - Fig tree fruit
 - Beautiful Temple and People – Fruit?
 - *Galatians 5:22-23a “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (temperance).”*
 - Move mountains
 - Mount of Olives and the Temple Mount
- **vs. 22:** Believe and pray
 - *1 John 5:14-15 “This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything **according to His will**, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of Him.”*

Faith that is made Alive through our Actions
Actions that are Apparent by our Fruit
Fruit that is a Gift of the Spirit