

## Bible Study: Gospel of Mark

August 10, 2022 // Life Church Smyrna

P. Christian Salzillo // Mark 11:1-25

The entire opening episode, especially vv. 7-10, is a classic royal entrance. Jesus fulfills prophecy; he arrives as king and as savior.

Malachi 3:1; Psalms 118:25-26

### V. 11 sets the stage

Jesus "looked around at everything..." No response yet; he just notices.

### Fig Tree → Temple → Fig Tree → Prayer & Faith Teaching

We're going to see three distinct roles of Jesus:

**Jesus as Human**

**Jesus as Divine**

**Jesus as Prophet**

Those three roles will be expressed in two different scenarios or implications (simply put, two different ways to read the text):

**Prophetic Implication**

**Practical Implication**

#### 1. Prophetic Implication

**TEMPLE**

**FIG TREE**

**Jesus sees from a distance**

**Jesus enters/inspects**

**Jesus doesn't see what he wants to see**

**Result is a holy/righteous anger**

Old Testament Prophecies that tie in: Jeremiah 8:13; Joel 1:7; Micah 7

Jesus is acting as an OT prophet and announcing judgment on Israel for their sin and lack of fruit.

#### 2. Practical Implication

**Vv. 12-17.** Mark is very intentional about making Jesus look human right here. Anger outburst at the Temple; curses a fig tree even though it's out of season and he should have known that.

**Vv. 20-21.** Here we see the divinity of Jesus

**Then Jesus uses Peter noticing to give a teaching on prayer and faith.**

It doesn't seem to fit, until you consider the practical implication.

**Have Faith in God**

**Pray Big Prayers**

(And Forgive.)

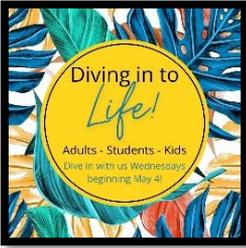
1. As Jesus rode into Jerusalem, the people cried out "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." What had been an OT prayer as God's people called upon him for salvation was now a joyful shout welcoming Jesus as the answer to that prayer. What previous cry for help has now become a shout of joy for you?

2. A fig tree cursed because it had no fruit. A Temple upended because of activities that were a perversion of God's purpose. Considering the Prophetic Implication that P Christian spoke about that involved these two "sandwiched elements," answer the following questions:

2A. How would you describe being fruit bearing followers of Jesus? How might we fall short of the same thing these Israelites/Hebrews failed at in their day?

2B. The activities of the Temple not only perverted the purpose of the house of prayer and worship, but it was a roadblock to sincere people attempting to practice their faith. What roadblocks might some find today that keep them from entering into worship and practicing their faith?

3. Consider the practical implication that P Christian spoke about. When you're stretched thin, overwhelmed, stressed, and out of options – do you find it easier or harder to pray big faith prayers? Why? Verse 25 is an interesting transition: How do you think forgiveness fits into this? Are you willing to ask the Lord if there's anyone that you need to forgive for things you're holding against them?



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