

YESHUA CURSES THE FIG TREE

Matt. 21:18-19 *The next morning, on His way back to the city, He felt hungry. 19 Spotting a fig tree by the road, He went up to it but found nothing on it except leaves. So He said to it, “**May you never again bear fruit!**” and immediately the fig tree dried up*”. In the parable of the fig tree, why did Yeshua curse the tree if it was not the season that it was supposed to have fruit? It was not the fault of the tree.

In Jerusalem there are actually two harvest seasons for figs. One is around the Passover



season and the greater harvest is in Oct/Nov. The fall harvest is that of a very juicy delicious good fruit while the spring season harvest is more stinky, meaty, and much poorer quality. The spring harvest fig is actually called the “harvest of the poor” because of its poor quality. We read about this in the **Song of Songs 2:13** *“The fig tree has ripened its figs, and the vines in blossom have given forth their fragrance”*. Solomon here is speaking about the spring of the year. The rich people always waited till the fall season for the prime figs, whereas the poor ate those harvested in spring. When Yeshua approached the fig tree in the parable it was in spring and there was no fruit on it.

The fig tree in this parable was close to the city of Bethany. Bethany means: “the city of the poor”, “house of unripe figs”. The nations are supposed to provide fruit for the poor. That fig tree was on the Mount of Olives. That would be unique, a lone fig tree on the mount of olives. The wood from that dead fig tree would later become a gift of the poor (wood) as an offering for the temple. That tree would later become the tree used as a stake for Yeshua's death. That is why so much detail is given about what might seem to be a rather simple act Yeshua did just before He died. He prepared His own tree for his own judgment that would ultimately lead to the judgment of the whole world. Cursed is he who hangs on a tree. Yeshua took all our curses when He hung on a tree.

This evokes the idea that if you have a ministry and it only ministers to the rich, you don't have much of a ministry. Yeshua was expecting the fruit for the poor to be present but it wasn't. The wood from the fig tree was the only wood that was brought up to the temple and used for the sacrifices. When He cursed it and caused it to dry He was actually causing it to be dry wood for the altar. Another way to look at it is that Yeshua was showing the Nations that if you're not even willing to provide the fruit from the fig tree to the poor, (help the poor) then you shall reap the judgement for not doing so, and dry up and wither. At least then you can be used as fuel for the fire in the Temple. It may not be much use, but it is appropriate for those who do not help the poor.

DASYD MINISTRY "DO AS YESHUA DID" dasydministry.org Jerry Hennig (Sep/21)
excerpt from Bible Supplement Book.