







THE HARD SAYINGS OF JESUS

The Cursing of the Fig Tree

Mark 11:12-25

Pastor Jeff Dieselberg







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**Psalm 9:8 “He will judge the
world in righteousness; he
will govern the peoples with
justice.”**



John 5:22 “The Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgement to the Son”

“Soberingly, this passage does not just remind us that a Christian by definition must produce spiritual fruit (even if only small early figs). It’s also about the threat of and temptation toward false pretenses of fruit.

The fig tree, like the bustling temple courts during Passover, was putting on a good show. And that made it all the worse. It’s one thing to lack fruit out of season. It’s another thing to lack it while pretending you have it.

So let us be warned.

Our personal lives can look like “in leaf.” Our leaves may look like those of a supermom, a winner, a perfect family, an A-team Christian with an overstuffed schedule of ministry activities. But the root may be withered. There may be no fruit of holiness and no intimacy with God. What’s worse—our leaves may even fool us.

And our churches can do the same. A church's leaves may look impressive: booming attendance, capital campaigns, clever pastors, impressive music. But what will the Lord find upon close inspection? Will he find only leaves? Or will he find figs, too?"

Dr. Greg Lanier

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- 5. Pray believing and forgiving**



