

AfterThoughts
July 12, 2020
Sermon Title: The Return of the King
Scripture: [Mark 11:1-18](#)

This week, Pastor David shared how Jesus' cursing of the fig tree and cleansing of the temple were connected. His main points were:

- A Relationship with Jesus produces a changed life
- A Relationship with Jesus provides access to God's saving work

Going Deeper:

- Pastor David shared that, as a follower of Jesus, change is our destiny: the Holy Spirit is transforming us to be more like Jesus. How do you see this change occurring in your life?
- The fig tree is part of the larger story of the Old Testament and, as Jesus explains it, is a living parable. How can a person be active/busy for Jesus without developing intimacy with Him?
- In verses 15-18, we see why the religious leaders wanted to crucify Jesus. He was proclaiming that, through Him, both Jews and Gentiles could have access to the Father. Why was that such a threatening message?
- How can you show the fruit of the Spirit-love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control-in your workplace, in your neighborhood, and in your family?
- What are the tables Jesus needs to turn over in your life so that you can love Him more deeply and follow him more closely?

To learn more about becoming a Christian, please visit www.dawsonchurch.org/becoming-a-christian.

Additional Discovery:

When I would gather them, declares the LORD, there are no grapes on the vine, nor figs on the fig tree; even the leaves are withered, and what I gave them has passed away from them."

~ Jeremiah 8:13

Thus says the LORD of hosts, behold, I am sending on them sword, famine, and pestilence, and I will make them like vile figs that are so rotten they cannot be eaten. ~ Jeremiah 29:17

Like grapes in the wilderness, I found Israel. Like the first fruit on the fig tree in its first season, I saw your fathers. But they came to Baal-peor and consecrated themselves to the thing of shame, and became detestable like the thing they loved.

Ephraim is stricken; their root is dried up; they shall bear no fruit. Even though they give birth, I will put their beloved children to death. ~ Hosea 9:10, 16

It has laid waste my vine and splintered my fig tree; it has stripped off their bark and thrown it down; their branches are made white. ~ Joel 1:7

[Micah 7:1-6](#)

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

~ John 15:5

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ~ Galatians 5:22–23

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

~ Jude 24–25

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