**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr \_ \_ November 28, 2021**

**Here Comes The Judge!**

Mark 11:12-26

**Key Truth:** Jesus is committed to removing anything that stands in the way of His followers bearing fruit for Him.

**The Passage:** Mark 11:12-26

1. The Fig Tree showed signs of life without bearing any

 fruit.

2. Jesus pronounced judgment on the Fig tree as symbolic

 to Israel’s coming judgement.

3. The Temple no longer served the purpose of God.

**Lessons We Can Learn From The Fig Tree & The Temple:**

1. Judgement starts with the people of God.

2. Jesus judges’ religious hypocrisy harshly.

 A. Religious hypocrisy has eternal consequences.

 **Matthew 23:15**

3. Jesus came to bring salvation to the whole world.

 **Genesis 12:1-3, Ephesians 2:11**

4. You are not a Christian just because you say you are.

 A. Followers of Jesus bear genuine fruit that blesses

 others.

5. Faith in God produces, unwavering trust, worship, and

 genuine forgiveness that glorifies God.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Have faith in Jesus Christ as your Savior, source of help and hope.

**Food For Thought**

Read Mark 11:12-14: What did Jesus expect when He approached the fig tree? Were Jesus’ expectations fair? Why or why not?

Did the tree deserve to be cursed? Why or why not?

What do you think went through the minds of the disciples when Jesus cursed the tree? Why would Jesus use His authority in this way?

Read Mark 11:15-19: What was the purpose of the temple? How had the temple been corrupted?

Read Isaiah 56:6-8 and Jeremiah 7:11-15. How did Isaiah and Jeremiah describe the temple’s purpose and its potential problems?

Is there anything about our corporate worship that might reflect the practices taking place in the Jerusalem temple of Jesus’ day?

Are there any obstacles in your life that you would sorely miss if God removed them to have you bear more fruit and worship more genuinely?

If you were to analyze the content and frequency of your prayers, what would they communicate about your understanding of God and your faith in Him?

What steps can you take to ensure that your prayers more accurately reflect Jesus’ teaching in this passage?