

Fruitless and Cursed

Matthew 21:14-22

(series #118)

Intro: the tragedy of wasted potential and opportunity

I. The Proper Use of the Temple v. 14

II. The Responses from the Groups v. 15

A. The youngsters shouted praise

B. The religious leaders were indignant

III. The Reply from Jesus vv. 16-17

A. He said "Yes"

B. "Have you not read?" - 12:3,5; 19:4; 22:31

C. He quoted Psalm 8:2, a reference to God

IV. The Cursing of the Fig Tree vv. 18-20

A. It represented fruitless Israel vv. 18-19

1. Joel 1:7; Hosea 9:10

2. Isaiah 5:1-7

B. It amazed the disciples v. 20

V. The Instruction to the Disciples vv. 21-22

A. An exhortation to genuine faith v. 21

B. An exhortation to sincere prayer v. 22

Conclusion: the fruit that comes from genuine faith

- Matthew 3:10