

Think About it Thursday!

“The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs. Then he said to the tree, “May no one ever eat fruit from you again.” And his disciples heard him say it.” Mark 11:12-14

“In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots. Peter remembered and said to Jesus, “Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered!” Mark 11:20-21

Jesus and his disciples left Bethany and went to Jerusalem where Jesus cures the tree because it has no fruit. They then go into Jerusalem where Jesus disrupts the merchants’ selling animals for the Passover sacrifices by turning over the tables and chasing them all out of his Father’s house. After his interaction with the religious leaders, he goes back to Bethany by that same tree. The disciples seemed shocked that the tree had withered and withered quickly, in just a days’ time. So, our first question is, when will these disciples see enough so as they are not shocked by the things that Jesus makes happen? Our second question might be wondering what the meaning was in curing this tree. It had no figs, but then it was not the season to produce figs. But the leaves were misleading because the leaves should come after the fruit. So, the point? The tree was symbolic of Israel and its leaders. They had outward signs of loving God, but they were not bearing any fruit and so just as Jesus condemned this tree, he would also pronounce judgment upon Israel and the religious leaders. A consistent theme of our Savior. Outward appearances mean nothing. The proof of a true believer and true disciple is to bear fruit!!!!