

# Luke 13:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He spake also this parable; A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none.

## Analysis

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Jesus tells the parable of the barren fig tree: 'He spake also this parable; A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none' (ἔλεγεν δὲ ταύτην τὴν παραβολήν· Συκῆν εἶχέν τις πεφυτευμένην ἐν τῷ ἀμπελῶνι αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἦλθεν ζητῶν καρπὸν ἐν αὐτῇ καὶ οὐχ εὔρεν). The fig tree represents Israel, planted in God's vineyard (cf. Isaiah 5:1-7), expected to produce fruit. The owner 'sought fruit' (ζητῶν καρπὸν) but 'found none' (οὐχ εὔρεν)—God's legitimate expectation met with barrenness. This parable warns of coming judgment while offering brief opportunity for repentance. The vinekeeper's intercession (v.8-9) represents Christ's advocacy, providing grace period before judgment.

## Historical Context

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Fig trees normally bear fruit within three years, making the three-year search (v.7) reasonable grounds for cutting it down. In first-century Palestine, unproductive trees consumed valuable resources (water, soil nutrients, space). Jesus spoke this parable shortly before His final journey to Jerusalem, warning that Israel's rejection of Messiah would result in judgment—fulfilled in AD 70 when Rome destroyed Jerusalem. The parable's urgency matches John the Baptist's warning: 'even now the axe is laid unto the root of the trees' (Luke 3:9).

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. What kind of spiritual fruit does God legitimately expect from those who have received His grace?
2. How should the temporary nature of God's patience motivate urgent repentance and fruitfulness?

## Interlinear Text

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Ἔλεγεν	δὲ	ταύτην	τὴν	παραβολήν·	Συκῆν	εἶχέν	τις
He spake	also	G3778	G3588	parable	a fig tree	man had	A certain
G3004	G1161			G3850	G4808	G2192	G5100
ἐν	τῷ	ἀμπελῶνι	αὐτοῦ	πεφυτευμένην	καὶ	ἦλθεν	
in	G3588	vineyard	G846	planted	and	he came	
G1722		G290		G5452	G2532	G2064	
καρπὸν	ζητῶν	ἐν	αὐτῇ	καὶ	οὐχ	εὔρεν	
fruit	and sought	in	G846	and	none	found	
G2590	G2212	G1722		G2532	G3756	G2147	

## Additional Cross-References

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**John 15:16** (Parallel theme): Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

**Galatians 5:22** (Parallel theme): But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

**Jeremiah 2:21** (Parallel theme): Yet I had planted thee a noble vine, wholly a right seed: how then art thou turned into the degenerate plant of a strange vine unto me?

**Philippians 4:17** (Parallel theme): Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.

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