

Matthew 21:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when he saw a fig tree in the way, he came to it, and found nothing thereon, but leaves only, and said unto it, Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward for ever. And presently the fig tree withered away.

Analysis

This verse reveals profound theological truth central to Reformed understanding of Scripture. The passage demonstrates God's sovereignty and grace working through human circumstances. Christ's teaching here challenges contemporary religious assumptions while pointing to deeper spiritual realities.

Historical Context

The historical setting involved complex religious and political dynamics. Jewish leaders maintained authority through Roman tolerance while common people sought deliverance. Jesus' teaching addressed both immediate concerns and eternal truths.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does this verse deepen your appreciation for Christ?
2. What false beliefs or practices does this text correct?
3. How should you share this truth with others?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἰδὼν συκῇ μίαν ἐπ' τῆς ὁδοῦ ἦλθεν ἐπ' αὐτῇ
And **when he saw** **fig tree** **a** **in** ^{G3588} **the way** **he came** **in** **it**
G2532 G1492 G4808 G3391 G1909 G3598 G2064 G1909 G846

καὶ οὐδὲν εὑρεν ἐν αὐτῇ εἰ μὴ φύλλα μόνον καὶ
And **nothing** **found** **thereon** **it** ^{G1487} ^{G3361} **leaves** **only** **And**
G2532 G3762 G2147 G1722 G846 G5444 G3440 G2532

λέγει αὐτῇ Μηκέτι ἐκ σοῦ καρπὸς γένηται εἰς τὸν
said **it** **henceforward** **on** **thee** **fruit** **Let no** **for** ^{G3588}
G3004 G846 G3371 G1537 G4675 G2590 G1096 G1519

αἰῶνα καὶ ἐξηράνθη παραχρῆμα ἡ συκῇ
ever **And** **withered away** **presently** ^{G3588} **fig tree**
G165 G2532 G3583 G3916 G4808

Additional Cross-References

John 15:6 (Parallel theme): If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

Luke 3:9 (Parallel theme): And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

Titus 1:16 (Parallel theme): They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

Mark 11:14 (Parallel theme): And Jesus answered and said unto it, No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever. And his disciples heard it.

John 15:2 (Parallel theme): Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

Jude 1:12 (Parallel theme): These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots;

Revelation 22:11 (Parallel theme): He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.

2 Timothy 3:5 (Parallel theme): Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.