



A Withered Worship
Mark 11.1-26
Lead Pastor, Jace Cloud

09.17.23

Notes

1) He Came (11.1-11)

2) He Saw (11:15-19)

3) (Why) He Left (11:12-14, 20-26)



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Weekday Application Questions

- a) **EQUIP** — Seeing Jesus ride on a donkey, over the Mount of Olives, across the Kidron Valley, up to the Temple would clearly have recalled to mind the words of the prophet Zechariah for those watching. What does Zechariah 9:9–10 indicate that Jesus is saying about Himself?
- b) **ENGAGE** — What are the various responses to Jesus that you see in the Text (and the surrounding context)? How are these responses also displayed by people in our world today?
- c) **EXALT** — Mark has given us another “Markan sandwich.” The outer part concerns the fig tree (Mark 11:12-14, 20-26), the inner part concerns the Temple (Mark 11:15-19). How do both parts of this “sandwich” help explain each other? Why does Jesus curse the fig tree? How were the fig tree and the Temple alike? Why does Jesus come back to cleanse the Temple? Why would Mark bother to mention that Jesus looked around the Temple and left (v. 11, 19)?
- d) **Here is your “One Thing” for this week:** How can your religious activity look alive on the outside but be dead on the inside? What does “withered worship” look like today? Instead, how is God calling you to manifest the fruits of faith, prayer, and forgiveness?

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