

**Turkey Branch Baptist Church**  
**“The Barren Fig Tree: A Lesson on Hypocrisy and True Faith”**  
**Matthew 21:18-22**  
**07/23/23**

- I.** Jesus desires – and deserves – more than hollow worship and hypocritical religion.
- 1) Jesus does not curse all of the ethnic Jews, but rather, only those whose faith in God was a false pretense for show.
  - 2) Jesus curses a “hypocritical” fig tree before hypocritical people so that we can be warned of our own false conversions, and flee the coming judgment while there is still time to repent and come to Christ in true faith.
  - 3) Jesus did not curse the fig tree because it did not have *enough* figs – He cursed it because it pretended to have something it did *not* possess *at all*.
- II.** Jesus can – and will – do the impossible whenever we trust / have faith in Him.
- 1) What answers prayers and what saves us is not the quality or quantity of our faith, but the *object* of our faith: Jesus Christ.



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