

The Fig Tree

(Part 2)

⁶ Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree, planted in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it, but did not find any. ⁷ So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, ‘For three years now I’ve been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven’t found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?’ ⁸ “‘Sir,’ the man replied, ‘leave it alone for one more year, and I’ll dig around it and fertilize it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.’” (Luke 13:6-9)

Christian life is not how many years you are Christian; many they boast that they are long years Christians but what is matter here is not that but how much you follow God and walk in His ways. Christianity is a life style and commitment to the Lord to the end as Jesus said, **“But he who stands firm to the end will be saved.”** (Matthew 24:13)

The Lord wants to see and enjoy the fruit in your lives. In the parable that the Lord mentioned about the fig tree, the owner had planted the fig tree in his vineyard, it took a space in the vineyard. He also put a man to take care of it and that another cost for the owner and in addition to that his continuous follow up for three years but then there was no fruit. You must now realize that God wants you to be transformed and changed from being care receiver to care taker and from being consumer to be a productive man; the Lord had invested many resources in your life and He wants you to be productive and fruitful in your walk with Him. The time had come in your life that you need to be faithful to the Lord and express your good gratitude to Him by being obedient to perform the task and achieve the good work that He had prepared in advance for you to do.

The Lord wants to taste the fruit in your life and be satisfied with your good attitude and perfect character that expresses God’s love and His will. In **Matthew 21:18-19** **“Early in the morning, as he was on his way back to the city, he was hungry. Seeing a fig tree by the road, he went up to it but found nothing on it except leaves. Then he said to it, “May you never bear fruit again!” Immediately the tree withered.”**

Jesus is hungry and wants to get satisfy of how you live your life to Him. The following are the scripture that can show us what Jesus is looking for and taste in our lives.

1- Jesus is looking for sheep and not goats: In The parable of the sheep and the goats the Lord commended the sheep for their true love and how they denied themselves for the sake of others, and condemn the goat for their selfishness and lack of concern, **“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. ³⁴ “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ ³⁷ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to**

drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ ⁴⁰ “The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.’ ⁴¹ “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’ ⁴⁴ “They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’ ⁴⁵ “He will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’ ⁴⁶ “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.” (Matthew 25:31-46) The time that you will start to deny yourself and love your neighbour as yourself that will be the time that you will be able to share and give to others.

2- Jesus looking for true disciple: ¹⁴ **“When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. ¹⁵ And he said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶ For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.”** (Luke 22:14-16) The Lord took His supper with His true followers. Jesus is eager to fellowship with us as long as we are in line with Him and with His word and teaching. Therefore the Lord when He is looking to the fig tree or to his church He wants to see true disciples and not a mere crowd who show no concern to the Lord or to His word.

3- Jesus is thirsty to see people who live to fulfill the scripture: ²⁸ **“Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.” ²⁹ A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips.”** (John 19:28-29) To fulfill the Scripture that is the task that Jesus is entrusted to you today as you read the message. Don’t be like other who disobey God and break Scripture. Be eager to obey God and walk in His ways. The Holy Spirit every now and then will challenge you to obey certain Scripture and put them into practice, and as you obey you are honoring God and you in that will quench the thirst of Jesus. In other word Jesus is looking for people who do God’s will as He said, **“Whoever does God’s will is my brother and sister and mother.”** (Mark 3:35)

My Dear and Beloved: The word of God tells us the following: **“Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit.”** (Psalm 103:10) Therefore it is in your hand to be obedient child of God and to please Him. Jesus also said, **“If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. ⁸ This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”** (John 15:7-8) Therefore it is your responsibility to abide with the word of Jesus and bear much fruit in your life that Jesus name would be lifted up and glorified in your life as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord I repent from the following sins _____. I renounce them all and commit myself to live my life according to your word, denying myself, living as true disciple of yours, and bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit, being abound in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Help me Lord to do that and live my life in such a way. This all I ask and pray in Jesus name Amen.