

## The Book of Mark:

### The Point of the Cursing of the Fig Tree

*The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. <sup>13</sup> Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs. <sup>14</sup> Then he said to the tree, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard him say it.*

*<sup>15</sup> On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple courts and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves, <sup>16</sup> and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts. <sup>17</sup> And as he taught them, he said, "Is it not written: 'My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations'? But you have made it 'a den of robbers.'"*

*<sup>18</sup> The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching.*

*<sup>19</sup> When evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.*

*<sup>20</sup> In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots. <sup>21</sup> Peter remembered and said to Jesus, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered!"*

*Mark 11:12-21 (NIV)*

THE THREE WORDS WE ARE USING TO SUMMARIZE THIS PASSAGE ARE:

A. \_\_\_\_\_.

B. \_\_\_\_\_.

*But I have been watching! declares the Lord.  
Jeremiah 7:11 (NIV)*

C. \_\_\_\_\_.

BIBLE INTERPRETATION PRINCIPLE:

! We must interpret the \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_.

*"When I found Israel,  
it was like finding grapes in the desert;  
when I saw your ancestors,  
it was like seeing the early fruit on the fig tree.  
But when they came to Baal Peor,  
they consecrated themselves to that shameful idol  
and became as vile as the thing they loved.  
Hosea 9:10 (NIV)*

What misery is mine!  
I am like one who gathers summer fruit  
at the gleaning of the vineyard;  
there is no cluster of grapes to eat,  
none of the early figs that I crave.  
<sup>2</sup>The faithful have been swept from the land;  
not one upright person remains.  
Micah 7:1-2 (NIV)

*“I will take away their harvest,  
declares the Lord.  
There will be no grapes on the vine.  
There will be no figs on the tree,  
and their leaves will wither.  
What I have given them  
will be taken from them.”  
Jeremiah 8:13 (NIV)*

*You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you:*

<sup>8</sup>*“These people honor me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me.*

<sup>9</sup>*They worship me in vain;  
their teachings are merely human rules.’  
Matthew 15:8-9 (NIV)*