

#1270 Israel as the Fig Tree – The Cursed Fig Tree of Matthew 21 and its relationship to the May 14, 1948, rebirth of Israel as a Fig Tree not Blossoming, part 2, The Cursed Fig Tree of Matthew 21 points to the May 14-15, 1948, rebirth of Israel as fulfilling the Matthew 24 parable of the Fig Tree with leaves, but not bearing fruit



On the **Monday** before the crucifixion, Jesus **curses a barren fig tree** (Matthew 21:18-19; Mark 11:12-14) and cleanses the temple (for the second time, Matthew 21:12-13; Mark 11:15-19; Luke 19:45-46).



Matthew 21:17-19 (KJV) *And he left them, and went out of the city into Bethany; and he lodged there.*

18 Now in the morning as he returned into the city, he hungered.

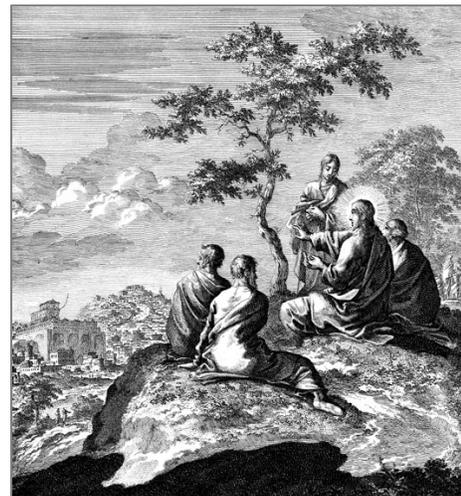
*19 And **WHEN HE SAW A FIG TREE in the way, he came to it, AND FOUND NOTHING THEREON, BUT LEAVES ONLY, and said unto it,***

Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward for ever. And presently the fig tree withered away.
{a fig tree: Gr. one fig tree}



On the **Tuesday** before the crucifixion, the disciples pass by the cursed fig tree and see that it has already died (Matthew 21:20-22, Mark 11:20-24). On that day as well was what is known as the Olivet discourse. Jesus had departed from the temple and gone to the Mount of Olives. The disciples then asked him about

the sign of his coming, and of the end of the world. As a part of the extensive answer given by Jesus, he spoke of **the parable of the fig tree.**



Matthew 24:32-33 (KJV) *Now learn **A PARABLE OF THE FIG TREE**; When his branch is yet tender, and **PUTTETH FORTH LEAVES**, ye know that summer is nigh:*

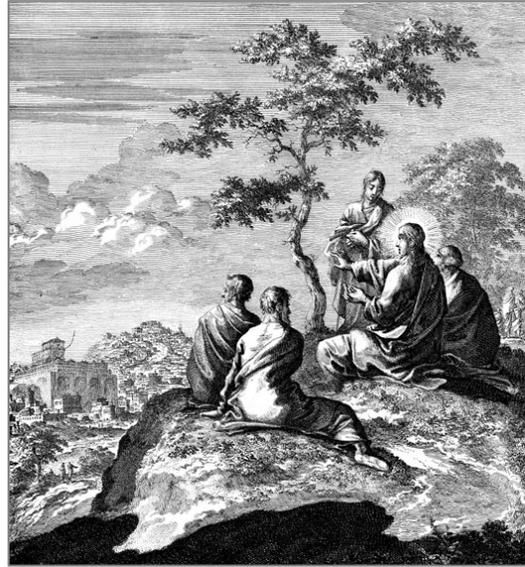
33 So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. {it: or, he}

We have been presented with the key question of whether the fig tree in the parable of the fig tree in Matthew 24:32-33, while it is referring to the birth of Israel on May 14-15, 1948, *is like a fig tree without fruit, having been delivered by the Beast, who is Babylon the Great, or whether it is a fig tree that is blossoming due to America playing the role of a second ‘Cyrus the Great’ Media-Persia, and therefore the Lord’s Deliverer of Israel.*

First, since we have seen that the United States is actually the Beast out of the Pit of Revelation 17:08, and the true *second* Babylon, or Babylon the Great, and not a true *second* Media-Persia,

its “deliverance” of Israel is more likely to culminate in *a fig tree that is not bearing fruit* than to culminate in *a fig tree that is blossoming and bearing fruit*. Furthermore . . .

Key Understanding: Since (i) Jesus *cursed the barren (fruitless) fig tree with leaves* on the Monday before the crucifixion, and (ii) on the Tuesday before the crucifixion the disciples saw that the cursed fig tree was already *withered*, and (iii) *the cursed barren (fruitless) fig tree with leaves* was representing a barren, fruitless Jewish nation that would be dispersed from the land in 70 A.D., and (iv) on that same day – the Tuesday before the crucifixion – the Lord gave the Olivet discourse which included the parable of *the fig tree with leaves*, it is clear that (v) the parable of *the fig tree with leaves* is indeed referring to the comprehensive future events of the World War I Balfour Declaration and the post-World War II



May 14-15, 1948, rebirth of Israel and regathering of the Jewish nation, but is actually describing *a fig tree with leaves but not bearing fruit*. The current Jewish nation is obviously *not bearing fruit* and that is because the rebirth of Israel and regathering of the Jewish nation was/is by the hand and flesh of men (though always ultimately by the sovereign hand of God) who are not of the true vine, Jesus Christ. The Jewish nation in this present age is in the same fruitless spiritual condition as when Jesus Christ cursed the barren fig tree the day before the Olivet discourse that would point to the future birth of Israel. Nonetheless, the regathering of Israel is meant to be an enormous sign that the end of the age is at hand.



The parable of *the fig tree with leaves* is indeed referring to the comprehensive future events of the World War I Balfour Declaration and the post-World War II May 14-15, 1948, rebirth of Israel and regathering of the Jewish nation, but is actually describing *a fig tree with leaves but not bearing fruit*.



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