

**YOU LOOK GOOD, BUT ARE YOU BEARING FRUIT?**  
**AN ETERNAL WARNING FOR THE FRUITLESS**  
**Matthew 21:18-22**

**I. BE WARNED, GOD WILL JUDGE THOSE WHO DO NOT BEAR FRUIT: Jesus curses a leafy yet barren fig tree which symbolically represents hypocritical Israel, who looks like they know the Lord but are completely fruitless, revealing they don't. (18-19)**

A. Israel's state symbolically revealed as Jesus in His humanity sees a leafy fig tree that should have fruit but it has none (18-19a)

B, Jesus symbolically reveals Israel's impending judgment by cursing the deceptive fig tree (19b)

**II. UNDERSTAND, A TRUE RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST WILL PRODUCE FRUIT IN THE CONTEXT OF GENUINE FAITH IN HIM: Jesus reveals to His disciples that genuine fruit of a true relationship with Him is produced by faith in Him (thus revealing Israel was faithless and thus to be judged) (20-22)**

A. Jesus' disciples reveal they don't get it. (20)

B. Jesus responds to their ignorance revealing that faith is the issue (21)

C. Jesus points out genuine faith is manifest in dependent prayer (22)