

"Where is the House of Prayer?"
Mark 11:12-25 (NIV)
—in fulfillment of Isaiah 56:7, Jeremiah 7:11, Hosea 9:15, and Malachi 3:1-3—
Pastor Robert Brandhagen

The Purpose (Why did God write this?): To show that a new stage of redemptive history is coming: the _____ will wither but God's kingdom will still thrive, with faith, prayer, and forgiveness being the currency of the kingdom.

¹² The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. ¹³ 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.

Matt 24:32
Prov 27:18

Mark 13:28
Micah 4:4

Luke 13:6-8
Hab 3:17-18

Luke 21:29-31
Zechariah 3:10

¹⁴ Then he said to the tree, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard him say it.

John 15:4-5

¹⁵ On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple courts

There are _____ temples spoken of in Scripture.

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, ¹⁶ and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts.

Why did Jesus upend tables and create havoc that day in the temple? It was because He was angry when God's _____ was misused and abused. John's version quotes Psalm 69:9—"for zeal for your house consumes me."

¹⁷ 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.'"

¹⁸ 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.

¹⁹ When evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city. ²⁰ In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots. ²¹ Peter remembered and said to Jesus, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered!" ²² "Have faith in God," Jesus answered. ²³ "Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them. ²⁴ Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

James 1:6

James 4:2b-3

Psalm 66:18-20

²⁵ And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."

The Big Story: Every _____ of Jesus is the temple that replaced the withered one that Jesus cursed (see 1 Corinthians 6:10)! We are the house of prayer!

The Sermon-in-a-Sentence: The temple will wither like the fig tree, but if we "have _____ in God," shown by a dearth of doubt and a fullness of forgiveness, then our prayers will move mountains.

The Big Question: Will you prove your faith is real with _____ forgiveness and mountain-moving prayer?