

## **Day Two - Monday**

Matthew 21:18; Mark 11:11; Luke 19:45

Jesus began this day by leaving Bethany and heading to Jerusalem. On the way, He spotted a fig tree covered with leaves but bearing no fruit. In His hunger and frustration, He cursed the tree, and then went on His way with the disciples to Jerusalem.

In Jerusalem, on this day, Jesus did something that shocked people. Known for His love, gentleness, and humility, Jesus came into the temple and saw all the little arcades set up for commercial business, and then He cleaned house. He overturned the merchants' tables and kicked them out of the temple. People had never seen this side of Jesus before.

Why did Jesus act with such passion? Because He saw worship at the temple in Jerusalem going awry. People were opting for convenience and profit over premeditated worship and sacrifice.

Notice the similarity between the fig tree and the moneychangers in the temple. Both appeared to play the part, yet both were living a lifestyle that was convenient and beneficial to themselves.

**Assignment:** Take inventory of your life. Is there any area in which you've opted not to sacrifice, but rather bargain your way through? Remember when David declared, "I will not offer to the LORD my God sacrifices that have cost me nothing." (2 Samuel 24:24)? Is your approach the cheap, convenient approach?

What about those unfruitful areas of your life? Don't you think it's time to curse those things and move on?

Pray an effectual, fervent prayer cursing those distracting, non-fruitful things in your life, and then make costly commitments and pledges unto the Lord. No one else can do these things for you, but if you're willing to make the sacrifice, you're only five days away from your resurrection miracle!