

THE PARABLES OF JESUS

FRUITFULNESS:

LESSON

13.

OBJECTIVE: To emphasize the grace of God in longsuffering, and the ultimate condemnation of not bearing fruit!

PARABLE: *The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree:* Luke 13:1-9

I. THE SETTING:

Jesus was addressing a group of listeners through chapter 12. There now seemed to be a pause in His discourse; and then the pause is interrupted with the passing statement of verse 1. What nationality were the people [& where were they from] who were speaking in verse 1?

II. THE CENTRAL TEACHING:

A. These people thought great physical calamity came as a result of great sin. What did Jesus think?

B. Jesus repeated one statement twice for emphasis. What was that statement? _____

C. Besides teaching about repentance and fruitbearing, what other attributes of God are revealed in this parable?

III. UNDERSTANDING THE PARABLE:

A. What is the primary application of the parable:

1. Who was represented by the fruitless fig tree?

2. Who was the owner?

3. Who was the dresser of the vineyard?

4. What ultimately was going to happen to the fig tree?

B. What's the secondary application of the parable:

1. Who is the fig tree?

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2. When is the cutting time to be?

C. Other passages which teach on bearing fruit:

1. Matthew 7:19: What will happen to "trees" which do not bear good fruit?

2. John 15:1-6: What are the branches?

3. 2 Peter 3:9: How does God show us patience so we may bear fruit? _____

4. James 3:10-12: Should we bear different kinds of fruit? [Be prepared to discuss.]

5. Romans 7:1-7: Why are we married to Christ?

Additional Notes: