

Lesson VI. **THE BARREN FIG TREE AND THE DEFILED TEMPLE—TEMPERANCE LESSON** August 9, 1914

Mark 11 : 12-26. Study Mark 11 : 12-33—Memory Verses, 22, 23.

**Golden Text**—By their fruits ye shall know them.—Matthew 7 : 20.



but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass ; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive *them*, and ye shall have *them*.

25 And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any : that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

26 But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

12 And on the morrow, when they were come from Beth'any, he was hungry :

13 And seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came, if haply he might find any thing thereon : and when he came to it, he found nothing but leaves ; for the time of figs was not yet.

14 And Je'sus answered and said unto it, No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever. And his disciples heard it.

15 And they come to Jeru'salem : and Je'sus went into the temple, and began to cast out them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves ;

16 And would not suffer that any man should carry any vessel through the temple.

17 And he taught, saying unto them, Is it not written, My house shall be called of all nations the house of prayer ? but ye have made it a den of thieves.

18 And the scribes and chief priests heard it, and sought how they might destroy him : for they feared him, because all the people was astonished at his doctrine.

19 And when even was come, he went out of the city.

20 And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots.

21 And Pe'ter calling to remembrance saith unto him, Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away.

22 And Je'sus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.

23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea ; and shall not doubt in his heart,

### THE LESSON RETOLD

It was Monday morning. Jesus and His disciples were again on the way to Jerusalem and the temple. The night before they had gone away to stay in the little town of Beth-any. As Jesus traveled along He grew hungry. He saw a fig tree covered with beautiful green leaves, and He went to it.

It was very early in the season for a tree to have so many green leaves. But when a fig tree has fine, full-grown leaves, it should be a sign that there is fruit to eat. There should have been plenty of figs under the leaves.

When Jesus reached the tree and looked for figs, there were none at all. The tree was a sham ; it bore nothing but leaves.

Jesus said, "No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever."

The master and His disciples went on till they reached the temple. When He entered the great court He saw sights that He knew

were displeasing to God. In some places men were selling doves and animals for the sacrifices. In other places men were selling oil. In other places men sat at tables changing money. Everywhere there was busy trading. The buyers and sellers were trying to make good bargains for themselves. Many were doing things which were not honest.

Jesus exclaimed, "It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer, but ye have made it a den of thieves!" Then He overturned the tables of the money changers, and drove the sellers of goods from the court of God's holy place. He would not even allow people going from one part of the city to another to use the temple grounds for a short cut.

A great many people were filled with wonder ; but the scribes and Pharisees were more angry at Jesus than ever.