

# Parables For Sinners: Barren Fig Tree

“Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.” *Matthew 7:19, English Standard Version*

This parable is both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

## Luke 13: Considering The Parable In Its Context

### A. Fig trees in Bible times:

1. 1 Kings 4:25 – To have a \_\_\_\_\_ and a fig tree was a symbol of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Isaiah 5:1-7 – God’s dream for His \_\_\_\_\_ did not come to pass. He was referring to \_\_\_\_\_.

### B. The parable and its surrounding context:

1. Luke 13:1-5 – Jesus mentioned two \_\_\_\_\_ that happened without \_\_\_\_\_. It’s a reminder that we must \_\_\_\_\_, or else something \_\_\_\_\_ may happen to us.
2. Luke 13:6-9 – Why should this fruitless tree \_\_\_\_\_ up the \_\_\_\_\_? One more \_\_\_\_\_ would be given, and then it would be \_\_\_\_\_ down if it still had no \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Luke 13:10-17 – The real focus of this miracle was the hollow attitude of the \_\_\_\_\_ leaders. They gave no “fruit”.

## Lessons For Sinners From This Parable

### A. **God’s grace provides us with opportunities to bear fruit:**

1. Acts 14:17 - \_\_\_\_\_ gives us \_\_\_\_\_, fruitful \_\_\_\_\_, etc.
2. Acts 17:25 – God \_\_\_\_\_ to all people \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Romans 2:4 – His \_\_\_\_\_ should lead us to \_\_\_\_\_.

### B. **Trees that don’t bear fruit are destined to be cut down:**

1. Matthew 21:18,19 – The fig tree represented \_\_\_\_\_, which had no \_\_\_\_\_ to show for God.
2. Matthew 7:19 - \_\_\_\_\_ tree that does not bear \_\_\_\_\_ fruit is cut down and thrown into the \_\_\_\_\_.

### C. **God’s patience provides us with time to bear fruit:**

1. 2 Peter 3:14,15 – We are to count God’s patience as \_\_\_\_\_. Let us therefore be \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Henry: “... we cannot \_\_\_\_\_ that He will bear \_\_\_\_\_.”

Take time to inspect: Am I bearing \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_?

*Central Church of Christ, Johnson City, Tennessee, July 10, 2022, p.m.*