

Palm Trees, Fig Trees, Mountains and Seas

Mark 11:1-26

Series: *“Cornerstone or Stumbling Stone?”*

Emmanuel Baptist Church

February 10, 2019

Mark 11:1-11 (CSB) – *When they approached Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ²and told them, “Go into the village ahead of you. As soon as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³If*

anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here right away.’ ”

⁴So they went and found a colt outside in the street, tied by a door. They untied it, ⁵and some of those standing there said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶They

***answered them just as Jesus had said;
so they let them go.***

***⁷They brought the donkey to Jesus
and threw their clothes on it, and he
sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their
clothes on the road, and others spread
leafy branches cut from the fields.***

⁹Those who went ahead and those

who followed shouted: “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹¹He went into Jerusalem and into the temple. After looking around at everything, since it was already late,

***he went out to Bethany with the
Twelve.***

4 PRINCIPLES of God's Kingdom:

**1. Life is winsome when
we give Jesus the
honor He deserves.**

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⁷They brought the donkey to Jesus and threw their clothes on it, and he sat on it.

⁸Many people spread their clothes on the road, and others spread leafy branches cut from the fields. ⁹Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted: “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

11 He went into Jerusalem and into the temple. After looking around at everything, since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

**2. God doesn't leave
the door of opportunity
for salvation open
forever.**

Mark 11:12-14 (CSB) – *The next day when they went out from Bethany, he was hungry. ¹³Seeing in the distance a fig tree with leaves, he went to find out if there was anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves; for it was not the season for figs. ¹⁴He said to it, “May no one ever eat fruit from you again!” And his disciples heard it.*

**3. God abhors dead
religiosity centered
around rule-keeping
and human merit.**

Mark 11:15-19 (CSB) – *They came to Jerusalem, and he went into the temple and began to throw out those buying and selling. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the chairs of those selling doves, ¹⁶and would not permit anyone to carry goods through the temple. ¹⁷He was teaching them: “Is it not written,*

‘My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations?’ But you have made it ‘a den of thieves!’”

18The chief priests and the scribes heard it and started looking for a way to kill him. For they were afraid of him, because the whole crowd was astonished by his teaching.

19Whenever evening came, they would go out of the city.

**4. True Christianity
offers a living
relationship with the
living God, far better
than religion.**

Mark 11:20-26 (CSB) – *Early in the morning, as they were passing by, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots up. ²¹Then Peter remembered and said to him, “Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered.”*

²²Jesus replied to them, “Have faith in God. ²³Truly I tell you, if anyone says to

this mountain, 'Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. ²⁴Therefore I tell you, everything you pray and ask for—believe that you have received it and it will be yours. ²⁵And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in

heaven will also forgive you your wrongdoing.”