

BREAKING THE YOKE OF FAILURES AND DISAPPOINTMENTS

Mat 21:17-19 KJV 17 And he left them, and went out of the city into Bethany; and he lodged there. 18 Now in the morning as he returned into the city, he hungered. 19 And when he saw a fig tree in the way, he came to it, and found nothing thereon, but leaves only, and said unto it, Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward for ever. And presently the fig tree withered away.

Mar 11:13-14 KJV 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 Jesus answered and said unto it, No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever. And his disciples heard it.

This hour I will be speaking on the topic breaking the yokes of failures and disappointments.

Today prayer is both curative and preventive.

failure is a state or condition of not meeting a desirable or intended objective, opposite of success.

While disappointment is defined by the dictionary a feeling of sadness or frustration when a strongly held expectation is not met.

Bethany was a village about two miles distant from Jerusalem, by Mount Olivet.

The Bible says that Jesus left Bethany very early in the morning and along the way he was hungry.

Some people say if Jesus was God how could He be hungry. Jesus was God manifested in the flesh. He was 100% human like us but had no sin nature.

Joh 1:14 KJV And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

To be hungry is to desire or crave food or for some other things. In this context, Jesus was hungry just like any of us.

There are many people that are hungry today in our nation. There is a famine in the midst of plenty. Some of us hunger for our business to get better, marriage to improve. May that yoke of hunger be broken in Jesus name.

Psa 107:9 KJV For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.

As they passed by He saw a fig tree. Jesus was hungry and most likely he was on the look out for solution or whatever he can eat. it was in the process that he saw a fig tree.

When you are hungry for anything you must see what will solve that problem. The reason why many of us have issues is that we can't see. What will help us or solve our needs is right before us but we can't see. After this all night your eyes shall be opened. Your vision shall be clearer. You must see. Say I receive sight.

The Greek bible actually says "one tree" by the roadside. There were many fig trees because Bethany means house of figs. But this particular tree was distinct and outstanding among the rest. Even though Jesus

was far from it yet he could distinguish out. May you be distinguished out of your peers and colleagues in Jesus name.

It was beside the road so it actually may not have belonged to anyone in particular therefore it would be available for all passer by.

And when he saw a fig tree,.... In the Greek text it is "one fig tree", one remarkable fig tree: he must see a great many, as he went along; for a large tract of the Mount Of Olives was full of fig trees, and therefore called "Bethphage": and notice has been taken already of the figs of Bethany: but he saw none that had such large and spreading leaves as this; Another distinct feature of the tree was that it has many leaves on. And this was what attracted the Lord Jesus to it.

According to the tradition of fig leaves, they are not supposed to have figs at that season of the year, in fact most trees were bare. But this particular one had leaves and abundant leaves for that matter. It was an indication that there would be figs on it too since it leaves.

It is peculiar to the fig tree that its fruit begins to appear before its leaves. It was, therefore, a natural supposition that on this tree, with its leaves fully developed, there might be found at least some ripened fruit.

Our Lord, therefore, approached the tree in his hunger, with the expectation of finding fruit. But as he drew near to it, and realizes the fact that the tree, though full of leaf, is absolutely fruitless,

The Hebrew word for "haply" is "ara". It means therefore. That is even though it was not the season for figs but since this one has leaves it will have figs. If, such being the case, i e., the tree having leaves - he might

find fruit, which, in the fig, precedes the leaf.so He concluded and went for it and not any other one.

But on getting to it He saw only leaves and no figs. He found nothing. What a disappointment. May the yoke of nothing be broken in your lives in Jesus name.

This is the experience of many people. They look for much and they either get nothing or little. We go around with that sense of failure and frustrations. Tonight that yoke shall be broken in Jesus name.

There are two major lessons to be drawn from the passage.

1. **The case of failure on the part of the tree.** From what we read, it was expected that if a fig tree shows plenty of leaves it is expected to bring figs also. Even though this tree had everything available to make it productive; sunlight, exposure to the rays of the sun, humidity, wind, moisture yet it produced nothing.

There are many of us that expect much from ourselves and the society, church, even God expect much from us. We are expected to be fruitful. Just like the fig tree, we are well positioned, we are labouring, we have gone to school and yet we can't produce anything when people look up to us.

What could have been responsible for the failure of the tree to bring forth fruit despite having leaves? The Bible didn't specify but can I make some conjecture? Probably it was external influence which we will today tag yokes of unproductiveness.

Ladies and gentlemen there are some unexplainable things that happen to people.

Failure also means bringing the wrong fruit rather than the expected one.

Isa 5:1-4 KJV 1 Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill: 2 And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes. 3 And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard. 4 What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes?

Failure means it does not meet expectations or acceptable marks. May that yoke of failure be broken in Jesus name.

What happens when I fail to bring fruit or bring forth wrong fruit?

- a. I will not be fulfilling the destiny and purpose for life. There is a reason why you are in your church, why you are alive now, why you learnt a job or vocation. There is a reason why God placed you where you are presently
- b. If I fail to be fruitful like the fig tree, then someone will suffer. Do you know that the Lord Jesus could not get anything to eat till He got to Jerusalem. There are people whose miracles are connected to us. We are carrying in us other people's miracles so we can't afford to be non productive.

c. These should make you angry and therefore place a demand on what is inside of you. John 7: 37 out of your belly shall flow rivers of living water. You are not a container but a dispenser.

2. This has to do with the expectation and disappointment the Lord experienced.

When the Lord saw the fig tree with leaves, his hope was raised. His expectation was great. He would have been producing saliva the Lord's experience. Imagine walking 2miles, being hungry and seeing a potential source of food and on getting there, you see nothing. You will be disappointed and exactly that was what happened. He was disappointed. His desire and expectation was cut off.

The fig tree disappointed Jesus. even though it looks so promising. The Lord was disappointed.

There are many of us that have been disappointed from people and from life generally. Some of us have been promised heaven and earth, some promised to help you, some promised to marry you, some promised to set you up in business and you look forward to it but it never materialized.

There are many of us today that are or has experienced disappointment in many divers ways:

Marriage: It could be disappointment in marriage, you enter into marriage with great expectation only to feel disappointment,

Business: you probably start a business with hope of making gain but only to be disappointed.

Education: you went to and through school only to graduate and have no job. But after this encounter such yokes shall be broken and once more your expectation shall not be cut off in Jesus name.

Pro 23:18 KJV For surely there is an end; and thine expectation shall not be cut off.

Here is the game changer. the things and all things that happen to Jesus happened for our sakes. He was disappointed so we might not be disappointed. He met a failed fig tree so that we might meet with success in life.

Heb 4:15 KJV For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

The New Testament reality is that He has paid for our failures and disappointment in lifes and all we are called to do is to enforce our rights and victories that He has purchased for us.

To put it in simpler form and this is how I operate. If Jesus paid for it I don't have to again. If he experienced disappointment for my sake I don't have to.

What breaks the yoke is the anointing and the good news is we have the anointing already. Its not coming down. It's already on the inside.

1Jn 2:20 KJV But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.

1Jn 2:27 KJV But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

2Co 1:21 KJV Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God;

Prayers

1. Maybe the fig tree was trying to produce fruit before Jesus arrived and yet had nothing to show for it. There are many of us labouring without results. But this is contrary to the scripture in Isaiah that says they shall not labour in vain.

Isa 65:23 KJV They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them.

Every yoke of labouring in vain, labouring for nothing be destroyed in Jesus name.

2. Many of us have failed to be what we are expected to be in life due to one challenge or the other but we want to pray every yoke of failure over our lives and marriages be destroyed in the name of Jesus.
3. There are many that are experiencing disappointment in every area of their lives. So many people have promised you money, marriages and only for them to back off at the last minute. every yoke of marital disappointment, business disappointment be broken in Jesus name.

4. Some of us are experiencing what they call near-success syndrome. You almost. You almost got the job, got married, got the contract but at the last minute it was given to another person. Say every yoke of near success syndrome be destroyed by fire in Jesus name.

5. There are many of us moving in cycles, experiencing repeated failure every now and then.

Deu 2:3 KJV Ye have compassed this mountain long enough: turn you northward.

Every power introducing failure into my life died and perished in Jesus name.

6. There are forces assigned against individuals just to make sure they don't ever succeed in life. They wasted their efforts and labour. Every waster of destiny, waster of time, waster of life be wasted in Jesus name. They are like Midianites.

Jdg 6:5 KJV For they came up with their cattle and their tents, and they came as grasshoppers for multitude; for both they and their camels were without number: and they entered into the land to destroy it.

7. One of the reasons why many experience failure and disappointment could be that what belongs to you is being given to another. What you labour for is given to another person. Samson laboured to marry a beautiful lady but when she was to be given to him she was given another. Every power taking what belongs to me perishes from life in Jesus name.

8. You see in the account Jesus still could not have anything to eat. He remained as He was. He was still hungry. There are powers that want you to remain as you are. They want the status quo to

remain. They don't want progress or advancement. But every power of stagnation be destroyed in Jesus' name.

9. When you are disappointed the next thing that follows is shame and frustration. But the Bible says in the book of Joel 2 my people shall not be ashamed. Every yoke of shame and frustration, be destroyed completely in Jesus name.

Job 22:28 KJV Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways.

I refuse and reject failure in life. From now henceforth I shall not fail, I shall not be disappointed. That yoke is broken over my life. I decree success. Whatever I lay my hands on to shall prosper. Success is mine.