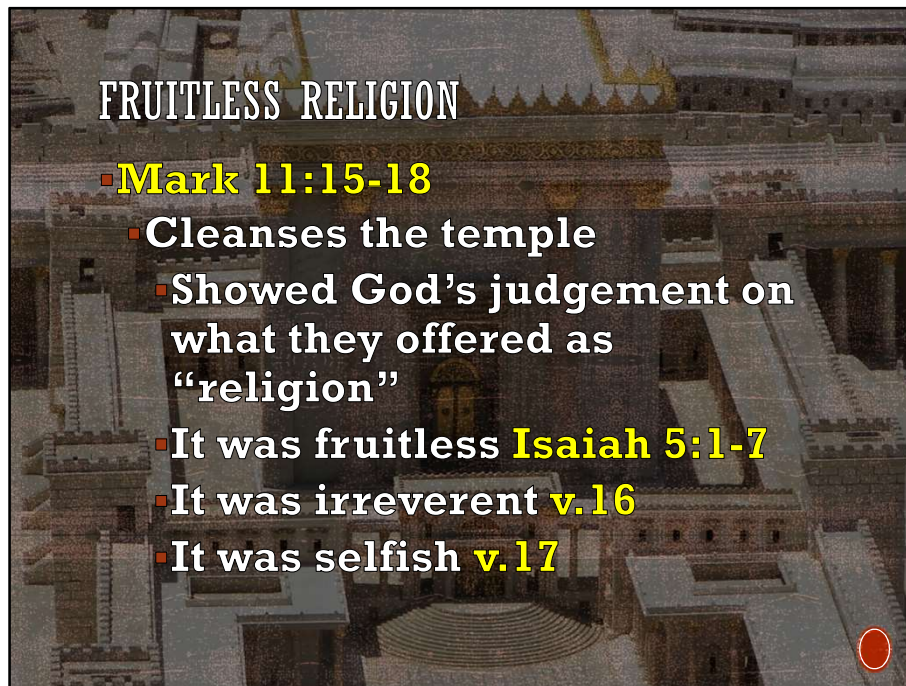


Setting: Jesus has come up to the region and city of Jerusalem for the last time before His crucifixion. This section of text takes place after the triumphal entry.

Not the season – The small figs which came in late spring/ early summer (June) often proceeded the leaf or were ripe as the tree was leafing. The larger ones came when the tree was full leafed and later in the season, around August.



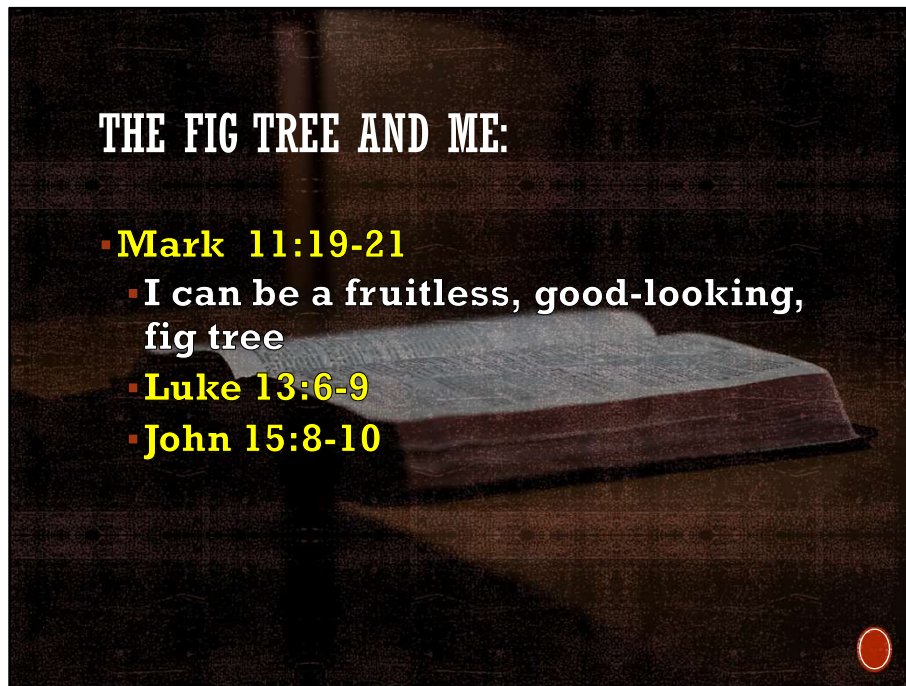


v.16 – “Jesus did not want people to continue the practice of using the court as a shortcut through which to carry utensils and containers with merchandise to other parts of Jerusalem because such a practice revealed great irreverence for the temple—and ultimately for God Himself.” – John McAuthor

A close-up photograph of water flowing over mossy rocks in a forest stream. The water is dark and turbulent as it cascades over the rocks, which are covered in green moss. The background is a soft-focus green forest.

**For I delight in loyalty
rather than sacrifice, and in
the knowledge of God rather
than burnt offerings.**

Hosea 6:6



THE FIG TREE AND ME:

- **Mark 11:19-21**
 - I can be a fruitless, good-looking, fig tree
- **Luke 13:6-9**
- **John 15:8-10**

Look good – [High school band disaster at contest, “At least you looked good.”]

Luke 13:6-9 – I am given the appropriate time to grow by God (fig tree did not produce fruit until the third year). However, there is a point in time when I am **expected to have fruit!**



Matthew 3:8-10