

**Interpretive Key: God's Promises Aren't Dead**

- A. Fig Tree: Found with no fruit (11:12-14)
- B. Temple: Israel has no fruit (11:15-19)
- A. Fig Tree: Found withered from root up (11:20-21)

Mark 11:21-22 Being reminded, Peter said to Him, "Rabbi, look, the fig tree which You cursed has withered." And Jesus answered saying to them, "Have faith in God."

2

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**God's Eschatological Plans Will Succeed**

Mark 11:23 Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, "Be taken up and cast into the sea," and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him.

Zechariah 4:6-7 Then he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel saying, "Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the LORD of hosts. What are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become a plain; and he will bring forth the top stone with shouts of "Grace, grace to it!"

3

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Understanding the "Mountain" Metaphor**

► The "mountain" represents obstacles to God's promises:

Isaiah 40:4 Let every valley be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; and let the rough ground become a plain, and the rugged terrain a broad valley

1 Corinthians 13:2 If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

4

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Mark 11: 21-25

## What Is the Object of Your Faith?

03/23/2014  
by Eric Douma

### Jesus Teaches Them About the Power of Prayer

Mark 11:25-26 Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that **you have received them**, and they will be granted you. Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions.

▶ “When prayer is the source of faith’s power and the means of its strength, God’s sovereignty is its only restriction.”

Lane, W. L. *The Gospel of Mark* (p. 410)

5

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Applications

1. We must understand that the Word of Faith teachers have both a false object for their faith and a set of false promises that they attribute to God.

2. We must understand that God and His actual promises are the only valid objects for saving faith.

3. We must understand that God uses the prayers of His people to carry out His redemptive plan.

6

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### 1. Word of Faith Heresy

▶ **Falsely claims humans are God incarnate just as Christ is:**

When I read in the Bible where He says, **I am, qI just smile and say, Yes, I am too** (Copeland).

▶ **Has a false object of faith: Faith as a force.**

Mark 11:22 And Jesus answered saying to them, **Have the faith of God** (W.O.F. false translation).

▶ **Has false promises:** Tell people all the time, **if you are not satisfied with what you have in life, then change what you are saying.** You have created what you have in your life with your own words (Hagin).

7

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



# Mark 11: 21-25

## What Is the Object of Your Faith?

03/23/2014  
by Eric Douma

### 2. Valid Object of Faith: God and His Promises

Mark 11:21-22 Being reminded, Peter said to Him, "Rabbi, look, the fig tree which You cursed has withered." And Jesus answered saying to them, "Have faith in God.

John 4:21-23 Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers."

8

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### 2. Valid Object of Faith: God and His Promises

John 14:1-2 "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you."

2 Corinthians 1:20 ESV For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.

9

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### 3. God Sovereignly Acts Through Prayer

Matthew 6:7-13 "And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words. So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. Pray, then, in this way: Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

10

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

