

POOR LITTLE FIG TREE

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LYRICS

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dedicated to Jesus Who is Just, 3 Sept 2011
Album: Amazing Hope 'n' Humor

“And seeing a fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it but leaves, and said to it, "Let no fruit grow on you ever again." Immediately the fig tree withered away. And when the disciples saw [it], they marveled, saying, "How did the fig tree wither away so soon?" So Jesus answered and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' it will be done." -- Matthew 21: 19-21

JESUS (later): "Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer [is] near." --Matthew 24: 32 NKJV all

1

Poor little fig tree, just standing there,
soaking up rays of sun, without Fig Tree care.
Poor little fig tree, minding its own business,
when Who should come, walking along, but
God's Own Son, Jesus.

SPOKEN 1: Mark 11: 13.

"And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He [Jesus] went to see if perhaps He would find something on it. When He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs."

2

Poor little fig tree, just standing there,
drinking up rain water, without Fig Tree care.
Poor little fig tree did not seek Jesus's notice. It
sure did not expect a curse from
God's Own Son, Jesus.

SPOKEN 2: Mark 11: 13 b and 14, plus 20 and 21

“When He [Jesus] came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. In response Jesus said to it, "Let no one eat fruit from you ever again." And His disciples heard it.... Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. And Peter, remembering, said to Jesus, Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away.”

3

Poor little fig tree, it was not the season for
it to bear fig fruit there, so what then was the reason that
poor little fig tree should get cursed or made to die? That
sure sounds mean, sound unjust, by the Son of God, Jesus.

SPOKEN 3: Song Story -- The Lyrics

This story told in both Matthew 21 and Mark 11 had been a stumbling block for me for years, as it is for many people. Who can trust the love of Jesus when he gets mad at a tree for not having fruit when the Bible CLEARLY says it was NOT even TIME for figs.

The authors were writing to people who knew all about how fig trees grow so they saw no need to explain what people back then knew:

Fig trees bear figs FIRST, and then put out leaves to cover the figs. So if you see a fig tree with leaves, you can expect to find something to eat on that tree.

4 j SPOKEN 4: Luke 6:43 to 46, Jesus has just been talking about hypocrites. Then Jesus said to the crowd of people,
"For a good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit.... "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil.... But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?"

Song Story - The Music Tempo: Why is this ballad so slow? Try very quickly saying "Fig Tree Care" without sounding like "Vict'ry there"! And saying fast "fig fruit there" and "Galatians Five List." God was answering prayers for clarity at 60 beats per minute!

Song Story - The Lyrics:

The first two verses of this song's lyrics were completed in about 5 minutes at some store's dark parking lot that I pulled into on my way home from a studio session... at 3:10 A.M. I was thinking about someone who was mad at me without even coming to me to ask why I did something that needed to be done.

Then I started thinking of how often I gripe at God in my prayers for awhile before remembering that I don't have all the facts and He does, so I should trust Him.

And then for some reason I thought of this fig tree story in Mark 11 and Matthew 21. I truly was pretty annoyed with God for years about that story. Poor Little Fig Tree.

A few years ago I was annoyed again to realize how many years I had wasted being annoyed with God..... to realize that the answer was so simple. You just have to know something about fig tree biology, as told at the end of Verse 3.

**When you don't understand why God does or doesn't do something,
do you remember that you might be missing some facts?
God never is. God's decisions are loving, just.... and just plain Right.**