

JESUS ENTERED THE TEMPLE COURTS AND DROVE OUT ALL WHO WERE BUYING AND SELLING THERE. HE OVERTURNED THE TABLES OF THE MONEY CHANGERS AND THE BENCHES OF THOSE SELLING DOVES. "IT IS WRITTEN," HE SAID TO THEM, "'MY HOUSE WILL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER,' BUT YOU ARE MAKING IT 'A DEN OF ROBBERS.'" THE BLIND AND THE LAME CAME TO HIM AT THE

MATTHEW 21:12-22

TEMPLE, AND HE HEALED THEM. BUT WHEN THE CHIEF PRIESTS AND THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW SAW THE WONDERFUL THINGS HE DID AND THE CHILDREN SHOUTING IN THE TEMPLE COURTS, "HOSANNA TO THE SON OF DAVID," THEY WERE INDIGNANT. "DO YOU HEAR WHAT THESE CHILDREN ARE SAYING?" THEY ASKED HIM "YES," REPLIED JESUS, "HAVE YOU NEVER READ, "FROM

MATTHEW 21:12-22

THE LIPS OF CHILDREN AND INFANTS YOU, LORD, HAVE CALLED FORTH YOUR PRAISE'?" AND HE LEFT THEM AND WENT OUT OF THE CITY TO BETHANY, WHERE HE SPENT THE NIGHT. EARLY IN THE MORNING, AS JESUS WAS ON HIS WAY BACK TO THE CITY, HE WAS HUNGRY. SEEING A FIG TREE BY THE ROAD, HE WENT UP TO IT BUT FOUND NOTHING ON IT EXCEPT LEAVES. THEN HE SAID TO

MATTHEW 21:12-22

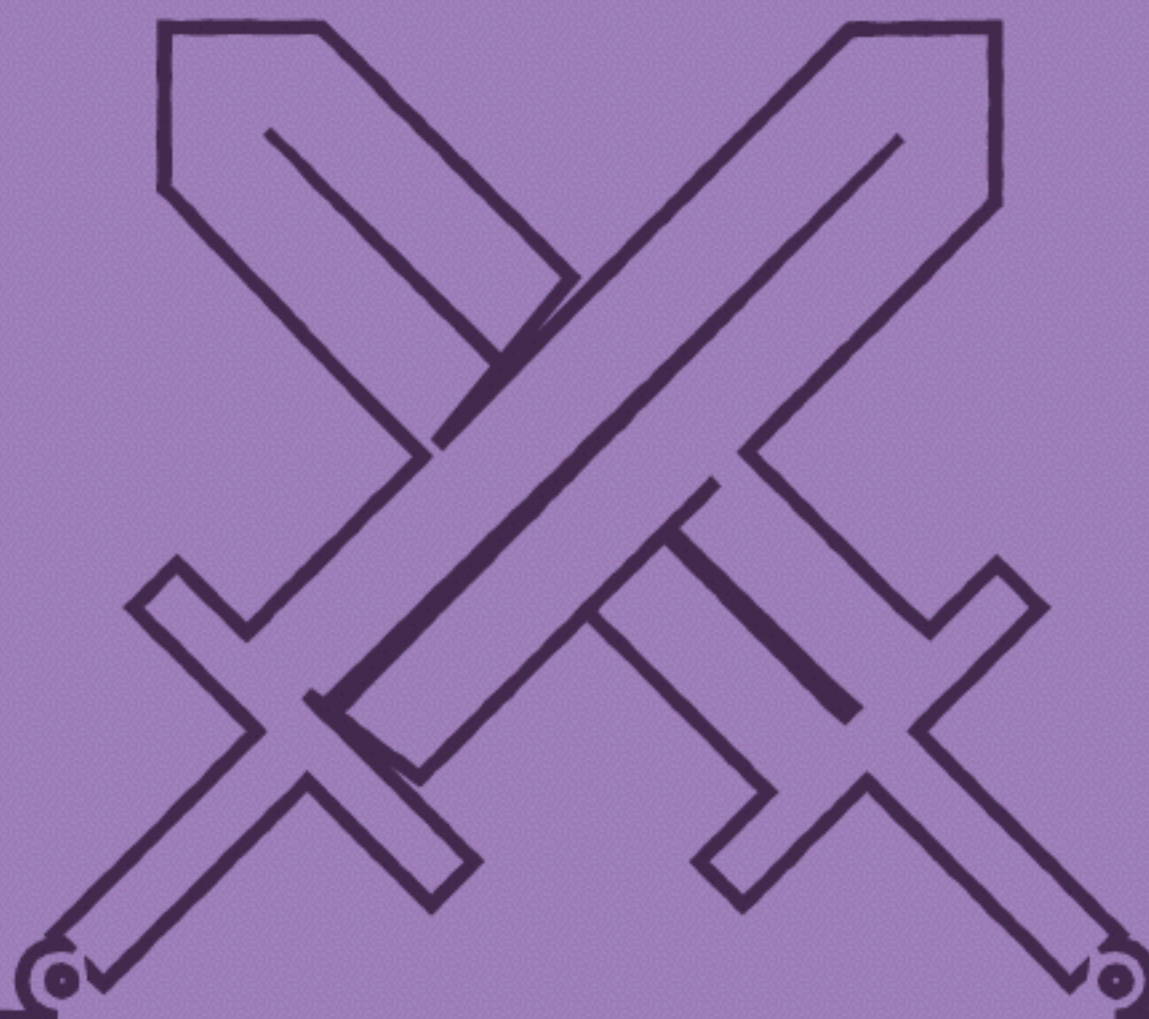
IT, "MAY YOU NEVER BEAR FRUIT AGAIN!"
IMMEDIATELY THE TREE WITHERED. WHEN THE
DISCIPLES SAW THIS, THEY WERE AMAZED. "HOW
DID THE FIG TREE WITHER SO QUICKLY?" THEY
ASKED. JESUS REPLIED, "TRULY I TELL YOU, IF YOU
HAVE FAITH AND DO NOT DOUBT, NOT ONLY CAN
YOU DO WHAT WAS DONE TO THE FIG TREE, BUT
ALSO YOU CAN SAY TO THIS MOUNTAIN, 'GO,

MATTHEW 21:12-22

THROW YOURSELF INTO THE SEA,' AND IT WILL BE
DONE. IF YOU BELIEVE, YOU WILL RECEIVE
WHATEVER YOU ASK FOR IN PRAYER.”

MATTHEW 21:12-22

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THE CLASH OF
THE KINGDOMS

MATTHEW 21

V. 12-22

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**AS YOU COME TO HIM, THE LIVING STONE—
REJECTED BY HUMANS BUT CHOSEN BY GOD AND
PRECIOUS TO HIM—YOU ALSO, LIKE LIVING
STONES, ARE BEING BUILT INTO A SPIRITUAL
HOUSE TO BE A HOLY PRIESTHOOD, OFFERING
SPIRITUAL SACRIFICES ACCEPTABLE TO GOD
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST.**

1 PETER 2:4-5

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