

Doctrine of the Fig Tree

1. The first use of figs is in association with the Fall. Fig leaves were used as a covering after Adam and Eve sinned.
 - *Genesis 3:7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.*
2. The fig tree is a symbol of God's agricultural blessing on a nation.
 - *Deuteronomy 8:8 A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey;*
3. The fig tree was used in a parable to teach a spiritual lesson.
 - *Judges 9:10 And the trees said to the fig tree, Come thou, and reign over us.*
 - *Judges 9:11 But the fig tree said unto them, Should I forsake my sweetness, and my good fruit, and go to be promoted over the trees?*
4. Dwelling safely under a fig tree is a symbol of national security.
 - *1 Kings 4:25 And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, every man under his vine and under his fig tree, from Dan even to Beer-sheba, all the days of Solomon.*
5. The enemies of Israel offered a sense of false security with a national alliance.
 - *2 Kings 18:31 Hearken not to Hezekiah: for thus saith the king of Assyria, Make an agreement with me by a present, and come out to me, and then eat ye every man of his own vine, and every one of his fig tree, and drink ye every one the waters of his cistern:*
 - *Isaiah 36:16 Hearken not to Hezekiah: for thus saith the king of Assyria, Make an agreement with me by a present, and come out to me: and eat ye every one of his vine, and every one of his fig tree, and drink ye every one the waters of his own cistern;*
6. The destruction of the fig trees is a sign of Divine judgment.
 - *Psalms 105:33 He smote their vines also and their fig trees; and brake the trees of their coasts.*
7. A proper pruning of one's fig tree will bring a personal benefit.
 - *Proverbs 27:18 Whoso keepeth the fig tree shall eat the fruit thereof: so he that waiteth on his master shall be honored.*

8. The fig tree is spoken of in association with sensual love.
- *Song of Solomon 2:13 The fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.*
9. The wrath of God in shaking the earth in judgment is illustrated in part by figs falling from a fig tree.
- *Isaiah 34:4 And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling fig from the fig tree.*
10. One form of divine discipline is famine.
- *Jeremiah 5:17 And they shall eat up thine harvest, and thy bread, which thy sons and thy daughters should eat: they shall eat up thy flocks and thine herds: they shall eat up thy vines and thy fig trees: they shall impoverish thy fenced cities, wherein thou trustedst, with the sword.*
 - *Jeremiah 8:13 I will surely consume them, saith the Lord: there shall be no grapes on the vine, nor figs on the fig tree, and the leaf shall fade; and the things that I have given them shall pass away from them.*
 - *Hosea 2:12 And I will destroy her vines and her fig trees, whereof she hath said, These are my rewards that my lovers have given me: and I will make them a forest, and the beasts of the field shall eat them.*
11. When God first decided to honor national Israel, it was when they were in their youth, but it was to their shame for Israel turned from the Lord to worship idols.
- *Hosea 9:10 I found Israel like grapes in the wilderness; I saw your fathers as the firstripe in the fig tree at her first time: but they went to Baal-peor, and separated themselves unto that shame; and their abominations were according as they loved.*
12. Providentially, the Lord will use nature to discipline a nation.
- *Joel 1:7 He hath laid my vine waste, and barked my fig tree: he hath made it clean bare, and cast it away; the branches thereof are made white.*
 - *Joel 1:12 The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field, are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men.*
 - *Amos 4:9 I have smitten you with blasting and mildew: when your gardens and your vineyards and your fig trees and your olive trees increased, the palmerworm devoured them: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord.*

13. The fig tree became a symbol of spiritual and material blessing.

- *Micah 4:4 But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the Lord of hosts hath spoken it.*
- *Haggai 2:19 Is the seed yet in the barn? Yea, as yet the vine, and the fig tree, and the pomegranate, and the olive tree, hath not brought forth: from this day will I bless you.*

14. When the Lord was angry with Israel, the fig tree became a symbol of judgment.

- *Nahum 3:12 All thy strong holds shall be like fig trees with the firstripe figs: if they be shaken, they shall even fall into the mouth of the eater.*
- *Matthew 21:19 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.*
- *Matthew 21:20 And when the disciples saw it, they marvelled, saying, How soon is the fig tree withered away!*

15. The fig tree was used by Christ to encourage faith.

- *Matthew 21:21 Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.*

16. Jesus conveyed spiritual truths by using the fig tree.

- *Matthew 24:32 Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh:*