

Greater Works Christian Church
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Don't Pick Fruit, Go for the Root

Intro: We MUST learn to Destroy the Root of the issue, do not merely pick fruit. This means, get down to the root cause of the problems you are trying to overcome. Regardless if those problems are personal or national, this principle remains the same.

When we look at the problems in this nation we are usually looking at the Fruit of the true problem.

Fruit= that which the Root and Trunk (of a tree) produces

Imagine an Orange Tree. We tend to focus on the fruit, but there is a whole tree that is responsible for producing the fruit. The roots of the tree provide the Support of the Tree and the Nutrition of the Tree.

To effectively destroy the fruit, we must first destroy the root.

Jesus and the Fig Tree

Mark 11:12-14; 20

12 Now the next day, when they had come out from Bethany, He was hungry.

13 And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He 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.

14 In response Jesus said to it, "Let no one eat fruit from you ever again." And His disciples heard *it*.

20 Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots.

If this story Jesus is looking for some Figs on a Fig Tree. There was no Figs to be found, so Jesus Cursed the Tree. The next day the disciples noticed the Tree was dried up from its Roots.

When Jesus cursed the fig tree, the roots dried up thus keeping the tree from producing fruit.

This principle is the same for you and I today. We MUST destroy the root of the problems we face. If we merely "pick fruit" the fruit will return.

Deaf and Dumb spirit

Matthew 17: 14-18

14 And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying,

15 "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water.

16 So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him."

17 Then Jesus answered and said, "**O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me.**"

18 And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour.

As we can see, there was a young man that was sick (Epilepsy) who was brought to Jesus. Jesus cast a demon out of the boy, and he was set free. Jesus got to the root of his problem, a demon.

Mark 9:25-27

25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "**Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!**"

26 Then *the spirit* cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead."

27 But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose.

In the book of Mark, the writer tells us what type of demon Jesus cast out of the boy. Keep in mind that the main problem this young man had was Epilepsy. There were other issues, but Epilepsy would have been the worst of them.

Jesus rebuked and cast out a deaf and Dumb spirit, not a spirit of Epilepsy. The root of this boy's problem was this deaf and dumb spirit, but the primary fruit was Epilepsy.

Jesus got to the Root of this boy's problem and rebuked it. All the Fruit went away after the Root was dealt with. This is how we should face our individual problems and our national problems. This works in Deliverance and Spiritual Warfare.