

Fulfilled Prophecies

[Home](#)

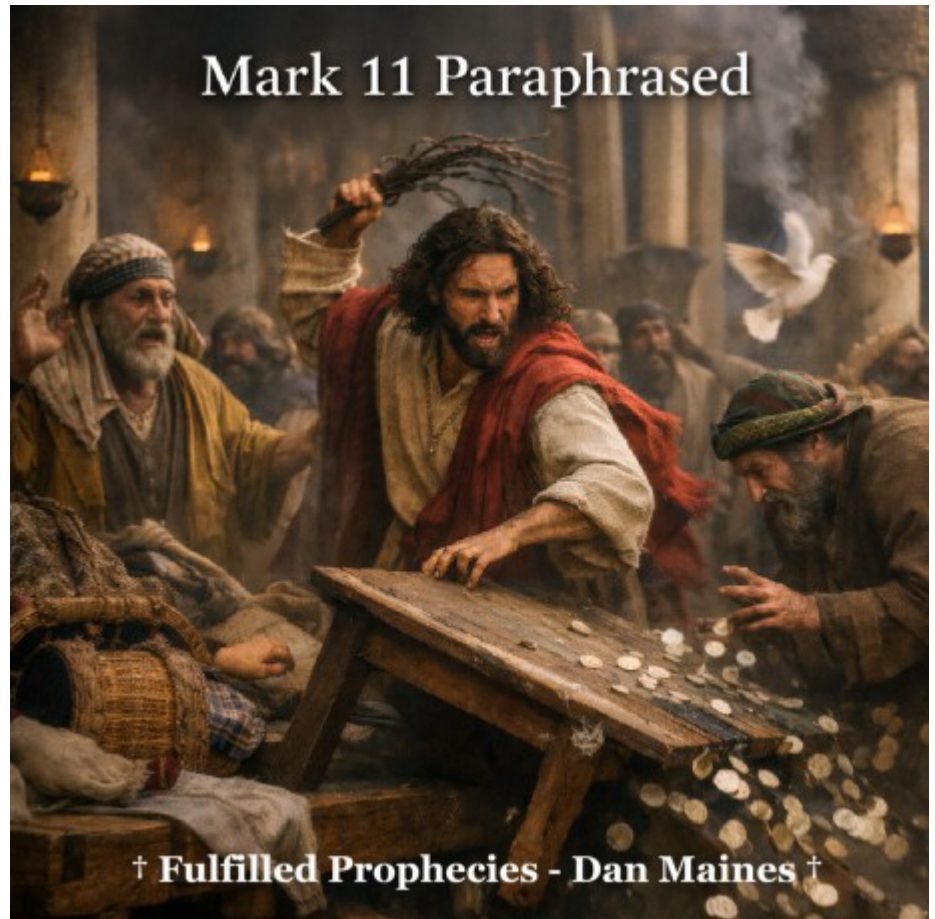
>

[Other](#)

>

[Share on Facebook](#)[FACEBOOK LINK](#)

Mark 11 Paraphrased



By Dan Maines

Mark 11 Paraphrased

Introduction

† Mark 11 records the final week of Jesus' ministry before the destruction that would come upon Jerusalem in that generation. The events here move quickly, the entry into Jerusalem, the judgment on the fig tree, the cleansing of the temple, and the confrontation with the religious leaders. Each moment points to the coming end of the Old Covenant system and the exposure of Israel's leadership.

† Jesus openly presents Himself as the promised King, yet the

same city that celebrates Him will soon reject Him. The chapter reveals both the mercy of Christ and the judgment that was approaching the corrupt temple leadership (Matthew 23:37-38). † Early Christian writers also recognized the significance of this moment. Eusebius wrote that the rejection of Christ by Jerusalem's leaders led directly to the judgment that came upon the city in AD 70.

Mark 11:1

As Jesus and His disciples approached Jerusalem near Bethphage and Bethany by the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His disciples ahead.

† The approach from the Mount of Olives is significant because prophecy connected this location with the coming of the Lord to judge Jerusalem (Zechariah 14:4).

† Jesus intentionally enters the city in a way that fulfills messianic expectation, making it clear He is the promised King (Zechariah 9:9).

† Irenaeus explained that Christ's actions were not random events but deliberate fulfillments of the prophets concerning the Messiah.

Mark 11:2

He told them go into the village ahead of you, and as soon as you enter it you'll find a young donkey tied there that no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here.

† The unused colt reflects royal symbolism, animals set apart for sacred or royal purposes were often those never used before (Numbers 19:2).

† This act fulfills the prophecy of the humble King riding on a donkey, showing that Christ's kingdom wasn't built by earthly power (Zechariah 9:9).

† Clement of Alexandria noted that Christ deliberately fulfilled the prophetic signs so Israel would recognize their Messiah.

Mark 11:3

If anyone asks you why you're doing this, say the Lord needs it

and will return it soon.

† Jesus shows His authority even in ordinary matters. The title Lord demonstrates His authority over people and events.

† This moment reveals that the Messiah's authority was recognized even by those outside His immediate followers.

Mark 11:4

They went and found the colt tied at a door outside in the street and they untied it.

† The disciples' obedience shows their trust in Christ's instructions.

† The accuracy of Jesus' words confirms His knowledge and authority over events.

Mark 11:5

Some people standing there asked them what are you doing untying the colt.

† This question sets up the recognition of Christ's authority.

† It also demonstrates that the disciples were acting under the direct instruction of the Lord.

Mark 11:6

They answered just as Jesus told them and the people let them take it.

† The authority of Jesus' word allows the disciples to proceed without conflict.

† This moment reveals how the mission of Christ moved forward through obedience.

Mark 11:7

They brought the colt to Jesus and placed their cloaks on it and He sat on it.

† Placing garments on the animal was a sign of honoring a king (2 Kings 9:13).

† Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem fulfills prophecy while presenting Him as the true King.

Mark 11:8

Many people spread their cloaks on the road and others spread leafy branches they had cut from the fields.

† The spreading of cloaks and branches reflects the celebration of a victorious king entering a city.

† The crowd recognizes Jesus as the long awaited Messiah.

Mark 11:9

Those going ahead and those following were shouting Hosanna blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

† The word Hosanna means save now and was taken from the Psalms used during festivals (Psalm 118:25-26).

† The crowd was unknowingly declaring the arrival of the Messiah promised in the scriptures.

Mark 11:10

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David Hosanna in the highest.

† The people expected the restoration of David's kingdom.

† Christ's kingdom however would not be political but spiritual, established through His death and resurrection.

Mark 11:11

Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. After looking around at everything, since it was already late, He left for Bethany with the twelve.

† Jesus examines the temple, symbolically inspecting the condition of Israel's religious system.

† What He sees leads to the coming judgment against the corrupt leadership (Matthew 21:12-13).

Mark 11:12

The next day when they left Bethany, Jesus became hungry.

† The narrative now shifts to the fig tree, which represents Israel.

† The coming action toward the tree becomes a symbolic act of

judgment.

Mark 11:13

Seeing a fig tree in leaf from a distance He went to see if He could find fruit on it but when He came to it He found nothing but leaves because it wasn't the season for figs.

† The fig tree often symbolized Israel in scripture (Hosea 9:10).

† The leaves without fruit represent outward religion without true righteousness.

Mark 11:14

Jesus said to it may no one ever eat fruit from you again and His disciples heard Him say it.

† The judgment against the fig tree symbolically represents the judgment coming upon Israel's unfruitful leadership.

† This act parallels Jesus' later pronouncement that the kingdom would be taken from them (Matthew 21:43).

Mark 11:15

They came to Jerusalem and He entered the temple and began driving out those buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those selling doves.

† The temple had become corrupted by profit and exploitation.

† Jesus cleanses the temple as a sign that judgment is coming upon the entire system.

Mark 11:16

He wouldn't allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts.

† Christ asserts His authority over the temple.

† The temple was meant to be holy ground, not a marketplace.

Mark 11:17

He taught them saying isn't it written my house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations but you've made it a den of robbers.

† Jesus combines two Old Testament passages showing the temple was meant for the nations (Isaiah 56:7, Jeremiah 7:11).
† The corruption of the temple leadership turned worship into exploitation.

Mark 11:18

The chief priests and scribes heard this and began looking for a way to destroy Him because they feared Him since the whole crowd was amazed at His teaching.

† The religious leaders' response reveals their hardened hearts.
† Their desire to kill Him fulfills the pattern of rejecting God's messengers (Matthew 23:37).

Mark 11:19

When evening came they left the city.

† Jesus withdraws temporarily as the tension grows.
† The conflict between Christ and the leaders is rapidly escalating.

Mark 11:20

In the morning as they passed by they saw the fig tree withered from the roots.

† The complete withering represents total judgment.
† This mirrors the coming destruction of Jerusalem and the temple system.

Mark 11:21

Peter remembered and said to Him Rabbi look the fig tree you cursed has withered.

† The disciples recognize the power of Christ's word.
† The event confirms the prophetic sign Jesus performed.

Mark 11:22

Jesus answered them have faith in God.

† Jesus redirects their attention from the miracle to the power of faith.
† Faith becomes the defining characteristic of the new covenant

community.

Mark 11:23

Truly I tell you whoever says to this mountain be taken up and thrown into the sea and doesn't doubt in his heart but believes what he says will happen it will be done for him.

† The mountain likely refers to the temple mount itself, symbolizing the removal of the corrupt system.

† Faith in God would bring about the fulfillment of His purposes.

Mark 11:24

Therefore I tell you whatever you ask in prayer believe you've received it and it will be yours.

† Prayer is connected to faith and trust in God's promises.

† Christ emphasizes reliance on God rather than religious systems.

Mark 11:25

Whenever you stand praying forgive if you have anything against anyone so that your Father in heaven will also forgive your sins.

† Forgiveness becomes a central principle of the new covenant life.

† Christ connects prayer, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

Mark 11:27

They came again to Jerusalem and while He was walking in the temple courts the chief priests scribes and elders came to Him.

† The religious leaders now confront Jesus directly.

† Their authority is threatened by His teaching.

Mark 11:28

They asked Him by what authority are you doing these things and who gave you this authority.

† The leaders question His authority because they refuse to accept His identity.

† Their question exposes their rejection of God's messenger.

Mark 11:29

Jesus said I'll ask you one question answer Me and I'll tell you by what authority I do these things.

† Jesus responds with wisdom exposing their hypocrisy.

† His method forces them to reveal their true motives.

Mark 11:30

John's baptism was it from heaven or from men answer Me.

† John the Baptist prepared the way for Christ (Malachi 4:5-6).

† Accepting John would require acknowledging Jesus.

Mark 11:31

They discussed it among themselves saying if we say from heaven He'll say why didn't you believe him.

† Their discussion reveals political calculation rather than truth.

† Their concern is public opinion, not obedience to God.

Mark 11:32

But if we say from men they feared the people because everyone believed John was truly a prophet.

† The leaders feared losing their influence.

† Their refusal to answer shows their spiritual blindness.

Mark 11:33

So they answered Jesus we don't know and Jesus said neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

† Their unwillingness to recognize truth results in Christ withholding further explanation.

† This moment exposes the failure of Israel's leadership.

Historical References

† Josephus described the corruption of the priestly leadership in the first century and how the temple system had become deeply compromised.

† Eusebius wrote that the rejection of Christ by Jerusalem's

leaders led to the judgment that later fell upon the city.
† Irenaeus recorded that the prophets and apostles warned Israel repeatedly before the final destruction of Jerusalem.

How It Applies To Us Today

† Mark 11 reminds us that outward religion without true faith produces no fruit.

† Christ looks for genuine obedience and faith rather than empty traditions.

† The judgment that came upon Jerusalem warns every generation not to reject the truth of Christ.

† Faith in God must be accompanied by forgiveness and humility.

† The kingdom Christ established isn't built on temples or institutions but on faith in Him.

Q & A Appendix

Q: Why did Jesus ride a donkey into Jerusalem?

A: To fulfill the prophecy of the humble King entering Zion (Zechariah 9:9).

Q: What did the fig tree represent?

A: It symbolized Israel's leadership that appeared religious but produced no spiritual fruit (Hosea 9:10).

Q: Why did Jesus cleanse the temple?

A: The temple had become corrupt and was no longer fulfilling its purpose as a house of prayer for all nations (Isaiah 56:7).

Q: What does the withered fig tree represent prophetically?

A: It points to the coming judgment upon Jerusalem and the temple system in that generation (Matthew 21:43).

Q: Why did Jesus question the leaders about John the Baptist?

A: Because accepting John would require them to acknowledge

Jesus as the Messiah (Malachi 4:5-6).

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

© Fulfilled Prophecies - Dan Maines.

Source Index

† Mark 11

† Josephus, Antiquities of the Jews

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History

† Clement of Alexandria, Stromata

[Share on Facebook](#)

Links

Facebook Link <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/posts/>

Fulfilled Prophecies <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/>

Dan Maines

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/user/100001027365819/>

You may share this article freely without permission as long as you include credit to Dan Maines and/or a link to the Fulfilled Prophecies Group.