

The Barren Fig Tree (Luke 13.1-9)

1. A terrible tragedy, massacre under Pilate — how to make sense?

Background to Pilate

Examples of Pilate's cruelties...

2. Another terrible tragedy, people killed by collapsed tower...

3. Key question: "Does this mean those who have perished are worse sinners than others?"

4. Jesus turned the tables to warn his listeners: "Unless you repent, you too will perish!" Is there a warning for us too?

5. He then told the parable of barren fig tree.

What is his point?

What is its connection with the call to repent?

6. Key application for today: It is not enough to just go through the motions of religion. Our Lord wants us to show real passion for kingdom living – a passion that leads us to first transform ourselves before we transform people and society!

7. Discussion questions: How biblically are we living in the light of the parable of the barren fig tree? Are there evidences we are going beyond the motions of religion to bear fruit by transforming people and society?