

Where is your fruit? Lesson

Psalm 50:16

But to the wicked God says:

“What *right* have you to declare My statutes,
Or take My covenant in your mouth,

What was their sin?

Check out how God punished them? Maybe that can give hints!?

Relate it to fake worship, God removing his staff and Rod, them being in exile, Daniel saying they have nothing left for them

God waited many years in Isaiah then Christ waited 3 years for fruit. And God is still waiting now for us - this is us living on borrowed time

It's very dangerous and deceiving When everything is going great. That was during the king in Isaiah, people thought they are all good since there is no war or enemies and since there is the temple and the sacrifices

It's not easy to bear fruit. Hard work and painful.

11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace(A) for those who have been trained by it. Hebrews 12:11

From a sermon on Sunday 11/13/2022:

- God is seeking fruit. But he isn't seeking more than what you can bear... he isn't asking you to be St Antony, st Moses, St Macarius and all those great saints. He seeks fruit 30,60,100 so even if you give the 30, that's 100% in the eyes of God
- Three fruits:
- John the Baptist talks about the first fruit being the fruit of repentance
- It's to also abide in Christ the stem and the root.
- We give fruits with patience with ourselves and with God and waiting on Him

Remove weed, stones,

Break down the soil from after the river flooding

The soil needs to submit itself to the (plower?) so that it's softened (hearts)

There has to be some

Remove the weeds and the thorn - which is leaving all those unnecessary tasks in our lives so we can focus and examine the priority

What's beautiful is even in this dark image of us being stubborn, he is willing to wait more and work more hoping we finally submit. Then from there you can transition into how God works in us to change this unfruitful ground

How come I'm not seeing changes in my life? We attend retreats, liturgies, meetings and so on but why do I still feel disconnected completely and not rooted in God? Maybe it's the same sin they were going through at the time of Isaiah. If men have learned anything from history, it's that men never learn anything from history