

# The Truth About Suffering and Sin: The Great Need for All to Repent

Luke 13:01-09

(Mt. 21:18-21; Mk. 11: 12-14, 20-26; Isa. 5:1-7)

## 1. *Men do not suffer because they are greater sinners than others*

a. Event 1: The latest news of a horrible murderous event

1) Did not suffer because they were greater sinners

2) *All* must repent or perish

b. Event 2: The latest news of a terrible tragedy

1) Did not suffer because they were greater sinners

2) *All* must repent or perish

## 2. *Men must bear fruit or else they will perish*

a. The fig tree's privilege:  
In the vineyard

b. The fig tree's purpose: To bear fruit

c. The day for reaping came

1) Found no fruit

2) Found that the tree was using up space on the ground and producing nothing

d. The mercy of God

1) Gave another chance

2) Fertilized and fed

e. The judgment was based on fruit

1. Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices.

2 Jesus answered,  
"Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way?"

3 I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.

4 Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them - do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem?"

5 I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

6 Then he told this parable:  
"A man had a fig tree, planted in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it, but did not find any.

7 So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard,  
'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any.  
Cut it down!  
Why should it use up the soil?'

8 'Sir,' the man replied,  
'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it.

9 If it bears fruit next year, fine!  
If not, then cut it down.'"