

#1273 Israel as the Fig Tree – “All of the Trees are Leafing” in Luke 21:29-30 is referring to other Nations Leafing (but not bearing fruit), part 1, Nebuchadnezzar vs. Cyrus the Great

Luke 21:29-31 (KJV) And HE SPAKE TO THEM A PARABLE; BEHOLD THE FIG TREE, and ALL THE TREES; [Note: Luke differs from what is seen in Matthew and Mark because it also adds . . . *and all the trees.*]

30 WHEN THEY NOW SHOOT FORTH, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand.

31 So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand.

Key Understanding #1: In scripture, *trees* symbolize *nations*. A *fig tree* symbolizes the *nation of Israel*. [In Daniel 4, Nebuchadnezzar himself is represented by an *enormous tree* which is cut down to a stump, giving way to the understanding of the unseen Babylon Stump (of a tree) in Daniel 5. {Reference Unsealings [#623](#)–[#631](#).}] Therefore, when “*all the trees*” shoot forth their leaves, it is referring to *nations* shooting forth their leaves.

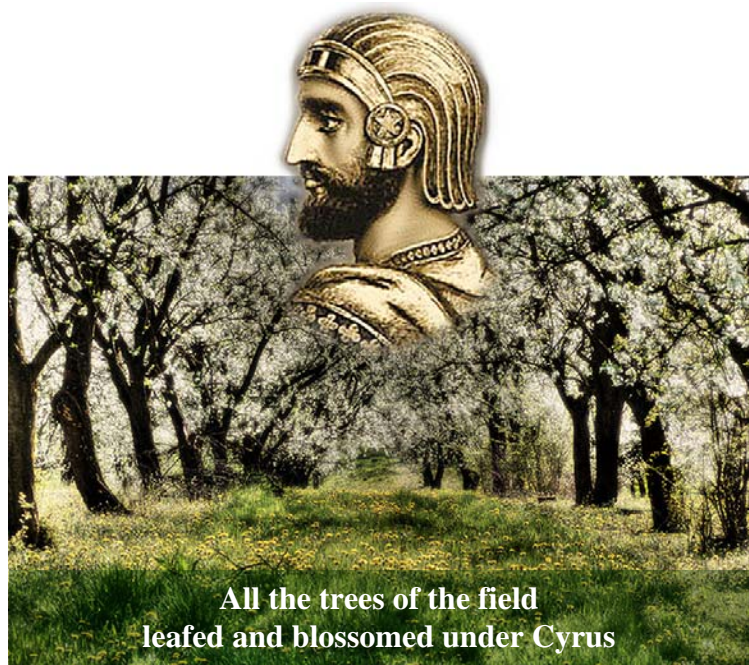


[Note: In Daniel 4, it says that Nebuchadnezzar was a great tree *with fruit*, before he was cut down to a stump for not bearing fruit, so to speak. This reference to Nebuchadnezzar as a *great tree with fruit* should be viewed more as *the fruit needed for the dwelling of the natural man*, rather than the *spiritual fruit of God*, which is the main point of our subject matter of the fig tree bearing fruit (or not bearing fruit) and the other trees (nations) of the world bearing fruit (or not bearing fruit).]

In Joel 1:12, it is seen that with the invasion of Judah by Nebuchadnezzar, not only did the fig tree of Judah languish, but *all the trees of the field were withered*. [We must keep in mind with all of this that the Book of Joel has many verses that have an earlier fulfillment and a latter day “day of the Lord” fulfillment as well.]

Joel 1:4, 12 (KJV) That which the palmerworm hath left hath the locust eaten; and that which the locust hath left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the caterpillar eaten. {That which the palmerworm...: Heb. The residue of the palmerworm} 12 The vine is dried up, AND THE FIG TREE LANGUISHETH [NIV . . . the fig tree is withered]; **the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even ALL THE TREES OF THE FIELD, ARE WITHERED: because joy is withered away from the sons of men.** [NIV . . . all the trees of the field – are dried up. Surely the joy of mankind is withered away.]

Key Understanding #2: *Nebuchadnezzar vs Cyrus the Great.* In order to understand the comprehensive picture of *all the trees of the field were withered* because of the invasion(s) and rule of such as Nebuchadnezzar and Babylon, the comparison is supposed to be drawn between Nebuchadnezzar and Cyrus the Great. Cyrus the Great, a picture of the Messiah, was the Lord's anointed to restore the Jews to Israel. In addition, Cyrus was known as a wise and tolerant ruler, able to gain the goodwill of the varied ethnic and religious groups (nations) within the realms of his large empire. Thus, in comparison to Babylon, and particularly because Cyrus the Great and Media-Persia were/are a type of the Lord and his millennial kingdom, all the trees of the field would have leafed and blossomed under Cyrus, vs. all the trees of the field withering under Babylon.



Isaiah 44:28 (KJV) [Thus saith the Lord] **THAT SAITH OF CYRUS, HE IS MY SHEPHERD, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.**

Isaiah 45:1-3 (KJV) **THUS SAITH THE LORD TO HIS ANOINTED, TO CYRUS, WHOSE RIGHT HAND I HAVE HOLDEN, TO SUBDUE NATIONS BEFORE HIM; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut;**

2 I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron:

3 And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel.

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