

**March 20, 2022**

Delivered Up (Easter Series)

Judgments of Jesus – Matthew 21:12-27

As Jesus enters Jerusalem, He receives a red-carpet welcome from the people. They are excited to receive Him. One of the names the crowd ascribed to Jesus was prophet. “This is the prophet Jesus.”

Unfortunately, in their excitement the crowd forgot the role of a prophet. Yes, a prophet spoke for God. Their usual message, however, confronted people because they failed to live in obedience to God’s word. God’s judgment upon them was the result of their failure. Instead of Jesus promising them political freedom, He delivers four scathing prophetic messages of judgment against the people.

**Additional Verses:**

2 Kings 18:31

Psalm 8

Isaiah 56:6-8

Jeremiah 7:1-1, 8:13

Micah 4:4

**Outline:**

1. Jesus pronounces judgment against dishonoring worship.
2. Jesus pronounces judgment against hard hearts.
3. Jesus pronounces judgment against fake fruit.
4. Jesus pronounces judgment against false integrity.

**Study Questions:**

1. How does Jesus fulfill the role of prophet? Which judgment do you think is the harshest? Why?
2. How can believers be an impediment to worship of Jesus? Have you ever been an impediment to worship? What is the remedy?
3. How can believers give an appearance of fruit? How are believers able to bear fruit? What role does pruning play in fruit bearing? See John 15:1-11.
4. If Jesus came to Red Bank one Sunday to worship, what do you think His response would be? What areas would He commend? What areas would He judge? How would this change the way you worship?
5. How is the Holy Spirit leading you to respond to God today?