

## DID YOU KNOW

Pastor James Bennett - July 29 & 30, 2017



- **Matthew 24:10** “And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.”
- **Proverbs 18:19** “An offended friend is harder to win back than a fortified city. Arguments separate friends like a gate locked with bars.”

THERE ARE TWO CATEGORIES OF OFFENSE THAT WE ALL FALL INTO:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ OFFENSE: THOSE THAT HAVE TRULY BEEN MISTREATED
  2. \_\_\_\_\_ OFFENSE: THOSE THAT THINK THEY'VE BEEN MISTREATED.
- **Luke 17:1** “Then said he unto the disciples, ‘It is impossible but that offenses will come: but woe unto him, through whom they come!’”
  - **Luke 17:5-6** “And the apostles said unto the Lord, ‘Increase our faith.’ And the Lord said, ‘If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, “Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea”; and it should obey you.’”

WHAT CAN WE LEARN ABOUT OFFENSE FROM THE SYCAMINE TREE?

1. THE SYCAMINE TREE HAD A VERY LARGE AND DEEP ROOT STRUCTURE.
2. THE SYCAMINE TREE PRODUCED A FIG THAT WAS VERY BITTER TO EAT.
3. THE SYCAMINE TREE GREW THE FASTEST.
4. SYCAMINE WOOD WAS THE PREFERRED WOOD FOR BUILDING CASKETS AND COFFINS.

WALK IN THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF THE WORD.

- **Romans 12:2** “Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”
- **2 Corinthians 10:3-5** “For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world... We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”

REMEMBER THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF OUR OFFENSE.

- **Matthew 5:44** “But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you...”

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