

## The Garden

*“And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her and he did eat...” Genesis 3:6*

Wow!!! What a scripture. And how descriptive of the root of our dilemma today as our deception is so evident in how we perceive the world.

As we shall see later, all (seen) stems from the unseen. When “the woman” saw the tree, it was “seeing” that which was unseeable by the physical eye. Knowledge is unseeable. Also notice that even though the tree is the knowledge of good and evil, the serpent enticed her to see only the good of the tree. Oh, how we have woven a web of “good works” and deceit that only Christ Himself can open the prison doors and set us free.

That inner man of ours has eyes, it can desire something (wisdom) and it can eat and share. A tree of apples we can see with physical eyes, but a tree of knowledge we cannot see with our physical eyes.

Let us start from the beginning. God had created man (male-female) in the beginning — a male-female entity. Let us surmise that the male-female is the soul, spirit, and the soul is “the woman” that ate of the tree. This is in the unseen realm. You will notice that first God created man male-female, and then after He rested from all His work, He began to form man. Creating and forming are quite two different actions as He spoke His creation into being. His first creation was like a draft board or a womb. The evolution of man, the years God has been making man in His image is uncertain except, of course, to the “know it all” who has all the pat answers to the mysteries of God.

It appears that the male-female unseen entity God created could procreate as He commanded it to multiply itself. Then after He rested from that work, He started another facet of bringing forth. Is it not interesting that in Christ there is no male or female but a new creation?

Now, after He rested from His creating, He starts forming a man out of the dust of the earth and then breaths His life into this man. You will note from the scripture that Adam is only a living soul, not a life giving spirit as is Christ. This soul, the woman, feeds continually from the tree of knowledge of good and evil and feeds the spirit the food it eats. Then along comes our meeting Christ. He brings life into a dead entity, our soul, and we begin to feed off the tree of life. Now if we obey and continue to feed our (husband) or spirit we will eventually continually eat from the tree of Life. In other words we will inherit the tree of life. Death to the old tree — life to the new. The tree of life is eternal, the tree of knowledge temporal.

The scripture says that Christ is the first Adam and also the last Adam. What a mind blower. And we, also are the first Adam as we journey back to our Father where we become the last Adam, even Christ. In other words we are all born a living soul and Christ came to transform us into a life giving spirit. What a painful, God-awful experience!!!

Now let us get to our scripture. God had made a garden with a lot of beautiful trees from which to eat. However in the middle of the garden he had placed two trees. One the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and the other the tree of life. Make note that this tree is evil as well as good. To this day we are continually acting good to cover up the evil that lurks in the hearts of all.

Now God talked to Adam. The male part of us (the spirit) can know God and commune with God. Eve was not there as yet. He said, “Adam, see those two trees? Do not eat of that tree that is the knowledge of good and evil for if you do you shall surely die.” Well, knowing

man the way I do, that made that tree the one I would want even if it did not look good. Seems if we are told not to, that we want to do. Let me put in a couple “what ifs” here. We know sin is not computed onto us until we meet Christ (the law). We know also there is no devil without Christ. Just “what if” Christ, the first Adam is the tree of knowledge and when we meet Christ we then know good and evil. Until that time we are dead in trespasses and in sins. After we eat of the tree we become alive to sin. We are baptized into “Christ’s death”. Did not the serpent tell us if we ate of that tree we would surely die? And through that death (which is the cross) we then become the tree of Life.

Now Eve appears on the scene (made out of Adam’s rib, yet), not as a wife but as a helpmate. Now the desire to go back to the male-female being we were while yet in the womb is only taken away in Christ. Perhaps God saw our predicament and invented marriage. For in Genesis 2:23 Eve is called a woman and in Genesis 2:24 she suddenly becomes a wife and the whole marriage decree is set up. We never become satisfied again until we are in Christ, back in the beginning where there was male-female — now there is no male or no female but a new creation.

Now let us go back to the two trees. Genesis 3:1 — enter — a new entity. Was he created? Was he formed? Was he a man? Was he an angel? Was he convincing? Did he perhaps open Eve’s eyes to see the tree as good only???? Perhaps, yes to all of these. He is called the serpent, later the devil, and later the dragon. And he undoubtedly walked upright for the curse was that he should crawl and eat dust (which, by the way, is what God used to form Adam).

Now, I want you to start thinking for yourself, that is, if the pastors and the government have not taken away all incentive to think. Remember, Adam — you and I — is just a living soul, like any other animal. If he had eaten off the tree of life, the Bible says, he would live forever just as a living soul. God had other plans for man, so He tempted him into eating off the tree that would not only make him miserable all his life, but he would surely die and not stay as an animal. In other words, the tree kept him from being innocent, or completed. It kept him open to growth and change. For in Romans 8:21 — “For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of Him who hath

subjected the same in hope, because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

We have all been taught that it was “the fall”. I call it one more step in the journey growing up into the full stature of our calling in God where we can be His representation on earth — blameless, innocent and at peace. Back home, in other words.

So, back to the garden. The story is now getting interesting for we have more characters. God, man, woman, and the big growth promoter and deceiver, Satan, the serpent himself, stealing the show. Notice Eve relating what God had said to Adam. He told Adam, “Thou shalt not eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil or you will surely die.” He said nothing about touching it. And Eve added to the word of God. Does that sound like all of us as we change God’s words into our words, thus voiding the word of God???

Now let me ask you a question. When God talked to Adam, He said nothing that would make that tree look good. In other words, it looked and sounded sorta scary. Only people who like to live on the edge would venture to see what God really meant. However, along comes the serpent and suddenly Eve sees the tree as good, as making one wise and very pleasant. So she did eat and that started her on a journey which incorporated something into the soul of man that made it different than an animal, for we are the only animal who can receive Christ and become a different being.

Now let us come into the year 2003. The two trees are still in operation. Both give power and life; both are just there — available. The tree of knowledge gets its power from the spirit of the world and the tree of life gets its power from God.

The wisdom from the tree of knowledge is demonic and contentious. For we see in part, speak in part, and understand in part and we think in part. What seems pleasantness, good or harmless can many times lead us into the depths of hell. It is called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Not just good, but good and evil. You will notice that Eve just saw it as good.

Does not an alcoholic become one with that first drink that feels good and looks good?? Does not sex as portrayed on the TV screen look good and when one is ensnared we see the bondage of it? Let us think upon

other things that look good and the results thereof, for when the evil side of the good thing appears we find out it does not satisfy but makes us miserable — like striving to be someone or make a name for ourselves; like going to church every Sunday and feeling as miserable after as before. My dear friends, the world was never meant to satisfy. It was meant to lead to futility so you seek something, someone beyond yourself.

The age or the womb of Christianity is passing away and with it the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

The tree of life is budding inside our inner man and people are being forced to change. Those who suffer with Christ will inherit the Kingdom of God and eternal life. What a prize to press on to obtain. Let us all endure until the end, and receive the prize of the high calling and sit down with the Lord on the throne, being fed continually by the tree of Life.



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