**A Tale Of Two Gardens**

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday October 24th, 2021

Text: I Corinthians 15:21-22, 45

Intro

1. I Cor. 15:21-22, 45: Two gardens with two very different outcomes affected the whole world!
   1. The Garden of Eden: Where life began, where sin entered the world and introduced death to all creation! (Could be called the Garden of Life but remembered as the Garden of Death)
   2. The Garden of Gethsemane: Where a sinless life was weighed down with sorrow over the sins of the world, where an innocent death would bring forth eternal life! (Could be called the Garden of Sorrow but is remembered as the Garden of Life)
2. Which garden do you choose to remain in: Death or Life?
3. **Garden of Death: Eden**
   * 1. **Eden** *(H5731, from H5730) means “delight, bliss, pleasure, paradise”*
        + 1. A place of sorrow (Gen. 3:16-17).
          2. A place of willing choices (Adam and Eve were not forced to sin, Gen. 2:16-17, 3:1-6).
          3. God's word was spoken here (Gen. 2:15-18, 3:8-19).
          4. The guilty were expelled from this garden (Gen. 3:24).
          5. The actions in this garden resulted in souls lost (Gen. 2:17, 3:3; Rom. 5:12).
          6. Though paradise, spiritual death resulted from the actions taken in this place (Gen. 3:3; Rom. 5:12; 6:23; I Cor. 15:21-22).
          7. Those in this garden were living but would die (I Cor. 15:45; Heb. 9:27).
     2. **You**
        1. Man has free will to love & obey or reject God (John 14:15)
        2. Outside of Jesus Christ is sin and death and spiritual darkness (Eph. 2:1-3)
        3. Will you obey Him? (Acts 2:38-41)
     3. In the Garden of Eden, a paradise built by God for man, sin entered the world & death reigned!
4. **Garden of Life: Gethsemane**
5. **Gethsemane** *(G1068) means “olive press, or oil press”*
   1. A place of sorrow (Mk. 14:34; Lk. 22:45).
   2. A place of willing choices (Christ was not forced to die, Matt. 26:53-54; Jn. 18:6-9; 10:17-18).
   3. God's word was spoken here (Matt. 26:38-38, 41-42, 44, 50-56; Jn. 18:6-9).
   4. The Innocent was led from this garden (Matt. 26:57; Mark 14:53; Jn. 18:13).
   5. The actions in this garden resulted in souls saved (Rom. 5:8-9; Matt. 20:28; Heb. 2:9).
   6. Though a place of sorrow, spiritual life resulted from the actions taken in this place (Jn. 3:16; 10:10; 20:31; Rom. 6:22; I Cor. 15:21-22).
   7. The One in this garden was life-giving and would never die again (I Cor. 15:45; Rom. 6:9).
6. **You**
   1. Though formerly dead in sins, Jesus makes us alive with Him (Eph. 2:4-10)
   2. Christ was the perfect sacrifice and died for your sins so you can live eternally with Him (Heb. 9:24-28; 10:10-12, 14; Rom. 6:23)
   3. Are you washed in His blood? (Acts 22:16; I Cor. 6:9-11; Eph. 1:7)
7. In the Garden of Gethsemane, an olive press, Jesus was pressed down with sorrow, and from His death for the sins of the world eternal life would be freely given to mankind!

**Conclusion**

* + 1. Sin resulted in spiritual death, and with the loss of the Tree of Life brought forth physical death.
    2. The Tree of Life was once lost to men but can now be found in Jesus Christ!
       1. Rev. 2:7: To Ephesus: “To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.”
       2. Rev. 22:1-4, 14, 17: The water of life & the tree of life – It is Jesus Who can bring us from a garden of death to the Garden of Life (Paradise) and offer it freely to His faithful saints!

1. Those who obey Him (saints) will be given the right to the Tree of Life and enjoy the Garden of Paradise (new Eden) God has waiting for the faithful!
2. If you are not a Christian, you need to be to have the right to enter the “Paradise of God” – Believe, repent, be baptized, and live!
3. If a Christian struggling with sin in your life, repent and be renewed! You can be forgiven! !
4. Whatever your requests, let them be known by coming forward ***NOW*** while we stand and sing!

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Text: I Corinthians 15:45

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| **Eden**  **(Garden of Death)** | **YOU** | **Gethsemane**  **(Garden of Life)** | **You** |
| A place of sorrow (Gen. 3:16-17) | Man has free will to love & obey or reject God (John 14:15) | A place of sorrow (Mk. 14:34; Lk. 22:45) | Though formerly dead in sins, Jesus makes us alive with Him (Eph. 2:4-10) |
| A place of willing choices (Adam and Eve were not forced to sin, Gen. 2:16-17; 3:1-6) | Outside of Jesus Christ is sin and death and spiritual darkness (Eph. 2:1-3) | A place of willing choices (Christ was not forced to die, Matt. 26:53-54; Jn. 18:6-9; 10:17-18) | Christ was the perfect sacrifice and died for your sins so you can live eternally with Him (Heb. 9:24-28; 10:10-12, 14; Rom. 6:23) |
| God's word was spoken here (Gen. 2:15-18; 3:8-19) | Will you obey Him? (Acts 2:38-41) | God's word was spoken here (Matt. 26:38, 41-42, 44, 50-56; Jn. 18:6-9) | Are you washed in His blood? (Acts 22:16; I Cor. 6:9-11; Eph. 1:7) |
| The guilty were expelled from this garden (Gen. 3:24) |  | The Innocent was led from this garden (Matt. 26:57; Mk. 14:53; Jn. 18:13) |  |
| The actions in this garden resulted in souls lost (Gen. 2:17; 3:3; Rom. 5:12, 14) |  | The actions in this garden resulted in souls saved (Rom. 5:8-9; Matt. 20:28; Heb. 2:9) |  |
| Though paradise, spiritual death resulted from the actions taken in this place (Gen. 3:3; Rom. 5:12; 6:23; I Cor. 15:21-22) |  | Though a place of sorrow, spiritual life resulted from the actions taken in this place (Jn. 3:16; 10:10; 20:31; Rom. 6:22; I Cor. 15:21-22) |  |
| Those in this garden were living but would die (I Cor. 15:45; Heb. 9:27) |  | The One in this garden was life-giving, never to die again (I Cor. 15:45; Rom. 6:9) |  |