

Easter Sunday – The Gardens

Garden - a plot of ground where herbs, fruits, flowers, or vegetables are cultivated

There are three significant events, that happen in a garden that impacted the world

1. The Garden of Eden – (Genesis 2:8-17 nlt)

⁸Then the Lord God planted a garden in Eden in the east, and there he placed the man he had made.⁹The Lord God made all sorts of trees grow up from the ground—trees that were beautiful and that produced delicious fruit. In the middle of the garden he placed the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.¹⁰A river flowed from the land of Eden, watering the garden and then dividing into four branches.¹¹The first branch, called the Pishon, flowed around the entire land of Havilah, where gold is found.¹²The gold of that land is exceptionally pure; aromatic resin and onyx stone are also found there.¹³The second branch, called the Gihon, flowed around the entire land of Cush. ¹⁴The third branch, called the Tigris, flowed east of the land of Asshur. The fourth branch is called the Euphrates.¹⁵The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. ¹⁶But the Lord God warned him, “You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden— ¹⁷except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.”

- It was The Lord God who planted the garden in Eden. He planted 2 trees in the middle of the garden. The tree of life and the tree of knowledge of good and evil
- God put Adam in the garden to tend and watch over it and was commanded he can eat from all the trees except from the tree of knowledge of good and evil or he will die
- God formed the woman from the rib of Adam and one day the woman was talking to the serpent and the serpent deceived her and she ate from the tree of knowledge of Good and evil and gave its fruit to Adam to eat
- When Adam ate the forbidden fruit their eyes got open and they saw themselves naked and ashamed and they hid from God

(Genesis 3:8-15 nkjv)

⁸And they heard the ^[c]sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the ^[d]cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.⁹Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, “Where *are* you?” ¹⁰So he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.” ¹¹And He said, “Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?” ¹²Then the man said, “The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³And the Lord God said to the woman, “What *is* this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” ¹⁴So the Lord God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, You *are* cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life. ¹⁵And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”

- Because of their disobedience they were kicked out of the garden

(Genesis 3:22-24 nkjv)

²²Then the Lord God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever”—²³therefore the Lord God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.

- Because of one man disobedience, we were made all sinners

(Romans 5:17-19 nlt)

For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God’s wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸Yes, Adam’s one sin brings condemnation for everyone, but Christ’s one act of righteousness brings a right relationship with God and new life for everyone. ¹⁹Because one-person disobeyed God, many became sinners. But because one other person obeyed God, many will be made righteous.

- In the garden of Eden, the fall of man happen, the curse and the separation from God occurred

2. The Garden of Gethsemane – (Luke 22:39-48 nkjv)

³⁹ Coming out, He went to the Mount of Olives, as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him. ⁴⁰ When He came to the place, He said to them, “Pray that you may not enter into temptation.” ⁴¹ And He was withdrawn from them about a stone’s throw, and He knelt down and prayed, ⁴² saying, “Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.”⁴³ [a] Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. ⁴⁴ And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. ⁴⁵ When He rose up from prayer, and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping from sorrow. ⁴⁶ Then He said to them, “Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation.” ⁴⁷ And while He was still speaking, behold, a multitude; and he who was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them and drew near to Jesus to kiss Him. ⁴⁸ But Jesus said to him, “Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

- Jesus knew that the time has come for him to be betrayed and to lay his life down for us
- Before he died on the cross, he prayed in the garden of Gethsemane. A garden full of olives
- **Gethsemane** - "oil press" a place where olives were crushed
- Out of the 4 gospels only 3 mention this event in the garden of gethsemane. Matthew, mark & luke
- But only Luke, the physicians, mention that Jesus sweated blood

- Drs say sweating blood is caused by intense emotional stress, fear or vascular issues. Blood vessels constrict and expand breaking into the sweat glands
- The most common cause is intense psychological stress, fear or anxiety, often described as an extreme “fight or flight” response
- Think about the weight of all sin Jesus was enduring for us. The thought that he was going to die to take away the sins of the world
- Jesus was being crushed in a place which meant oil pressed. A place where they made oil

3. The Garden Tomb – (John 19:38-42 nkjv)

³⁸ After this, Joseph of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate gave *him* permission. So he came and took the body of Jesus. ³⁹ And Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰ Then they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury. ⁴¹ Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. ⁴² So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews' Preparation *Day*, for the tomb was nearby.

- Jesus died on the cross for our sin. He took away the curse for us. And after his death he was laid in a tomb in the garden
- In other words he was buried in a garden
- Today we celebrate the resurrection. because on third day early Sunday morning the tomb was empty. Jesus is alive! He is risen!

(John 20:1-18 nlt)

20 Now the first *day* of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw *that* the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ²Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.” ³Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. ⁴So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. ⁵And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying *there*; yet he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying *there*, ⁷and the ^[a]handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. ⁹For as yet they did not ^[b]know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples went away again to their own homes. ¹¹But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down *and looked* into the tomb. ¹²And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. ¹³Then they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.” ¹⁴Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing *there*, and did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, “**Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?**” She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, “Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away.” ¹⁶Jesus said to her, “**Mary!**” She turned and said to ^[c]Him, “Rabboni!” (which is to say, Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, “**Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, ‘I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.’**” ¹⁸Mary Magdalene came and told the ^[d]disciples that she had seen the Lord, and *that* He had spoken these things to her.

- In the garden of Eden where man failed. God said that the woman seed will crush the serpent head
- Women don't have seed, they have eggs. Only the men have seed
- a woman only has an X chromosome, and the man has an XY chromosome. Which means a person's sex is dictated by the man
- so for the women to have a seed. It would have to be supernatural, a virgin birth and God himself
- In the Garden of Gethsemane and the punishment he suffered on the cross. Think about when a farmer must plant new crop. He must tilt the land first. The gardener must prepare the ground first before he can plant
- Jesus Himself even compares his death in this way

(John 12:23-27 nlt)

²³ Jesus replied, “Now the time has come for the Son of Man^[1] to enter into his glory. ²⁴ I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives. ²⁵ Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity. ²⁶ Anyone who wants to serve me must follow me, because my servants must be where I am. And the Father will honor anyone who serves me. ²⁷ “Now my soul is deeply troubled. Should I pray, ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But this is the very reason I came! ²⁸ Father, bring glory to your name.”

- According to google, a kernel of wheat typically sprouts in 24 to 48 hours...

God is making a new garden in our hearts and Jesus is death and resurrection is giving us access to that garden

- Jesus being planted in your heart will produce the tree of Life that leads to eternity
- The prophetic Ezekiel prophesied about the restoration like the Garden of Eden (**Ezekiel 36:25-38 nlt**)

“Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. Your filth will be washed away, and you will no longer worship idols. ²⁶ And I will give you **a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart.**^[a] ²⁷ **And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow my decrees and be careful to obey my regulations.** ²⁸ “And you will live in Israel, the land I gave your ancestors long ago. You will be my people, and I will be your God. ²⁹ I will cleanse you of your filthy behavior. I will give you good crops of grain, and I will send no more famines on the land. ³⁰ I will give you great harvests from your fruit trees and fields, and never again will the surrounding nations be able to scoff at your land for its famines. ³¹ Then you will remember your past sins and despise yourselves for all the detestable things you did. ³² But remember, says the Sovereign Lord, I am not doing this because you deserve it. O my people of Israel, you should be utterly ashamed of all you have done! ³³ “This is what the Sovereign Lord says: When I cleanse you from your sins, I will repopulate your cities, and the ruins will be rebuilt. ³⁴ The fields that used to lie empty and desolate in plain view of everyone will again be farmed. ³⁵ **And when I bring you back, people will say, ‘This former wasteland is now like the Garden of Eden! The abandoned and ruined cities now have strong walls and are filled with people!’** ³⁶ Then the surrounding nations that survive will know that I, the Lord, have rebuilt the ruins and replanted the wasteland. For I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do what I say. ³⁷ “This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I am ready to hear Israel’s prayers and to increase their numbers like a flock. ³⁸ They will be as numerous as the sacred flocks that fill Jerusalem’s streets at the time of her festivals. The ruined cities will be crowded with people once more, and everyone will know that I am the Lord.”