

ShalomAZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption

"Eden is Not JUST Where We Came From—It's Where We're Going"

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Devotion and Discussion Questions

Key Passages: Gen. 11-3; Rev. 21-22; Gen. 5:1-2; Matt. 19:3-8; Gal. 3:26-29

We often think of *Eden* as a place behind us—something we lost long ago. A pristine paradise, a moment in time before everything fell apart. But Scripture tells a bigger story. Eden wasn't just our beginning. **It's our destination**.

In *Revelation 21 and 22*, we see God restoring what was lost. Not just forgiving sin, but making **all things new**. Not just returning us to the garden—but fulfilling the original plan in even greater glory.

Eden is not just where we came from. It's where we're going.

1. EDEN WAS GOD'S GOOD BEGINNING (Gen. 1:1-5; 26-31; 2:15-25)

"In the beginning..." God created a world that was very good. Light out of darkness. Life from dust. Order from chaos. And at the crown of that creation: humanity—made in His image. Male and female. Unique, yet unified.

Genesis tells us that God placed humanity in a garden called *Eden*—a place of purpose, peace, joy, trust, and intimacy. No shame. No hiding. No fear. They were naked and unashamed. And not only did they walk with God, they walked in unity with each other—so unified they were simply called *Adam* (Gen. 5:2).

There was rest, called *nuach*—deep, soul-level rest. God gave them a world where everything they needed was already growing. All they had to do was cultivate it, protect it, and enjoy it.

That was Eden. Not a fairy tale. Not a myth. The blueprint.

2. SIN BROKE THE BLUEPRINT—AND WE'VE SETTLED FOR BROKEN. (Gen. 3; Mt 19:3-8)

Then came *Genesis 3*. One command. One choice. And everything changed. The serpent deceived. Adam disobeyed. And shame rushed in. They covered up. They hid. They blamed.

God's good creation fractured. "Cursed is the ground because of you..." (Gen. 3:17). The earth groaned. Relationships crumbled. Cain killed Abel. And we've been trying to hold the pieces together ever since.

And the scary part? We've gotten used to it. We've accepted broken as normal. Just like a car that stalls at every stop, we adjust. We build workarounds. We settle. But in *Matthew 19*, Yeshua is asked about divorce, and He doesn't just give a legal answer. He points them all the way back to Eden. He says, *"From the beginning, it was not so."*

He's saying: You've learned to live with brokenness—but I remember how it was meant to be.

3. GOD IS RESTORING EDEN—THAT'S THE END OF THE STORY. (Rev 21-22; Gal. 3:26-29)

In *Revelation 21–22*, the story comes full circle. Eden is no longer just a memory—it becomes a **fulfilled reality**. "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth… Behold, I am making all things new." (Rev. 21:1,5 TLV)

There's a river of life, just like in Eden. The tree of life is there—bearing fruit and healing. "No longer will there be any curse." We'll see His face. His name will be on our foreheads. There is no more night. No more death. No more mourning. No more hiding. No more fear.

And through Messiah Yeshua, the divisions caused by the fall—between male and female, Jew and Greek, slave and free—are being healed. "You are all one in Messiah Yeshua" (Gal. 3:28).

God hasn't given up on Eden. He's restoring it. That's where we're going.

CONCLUSION

The big story of Scripture isn't just about salvation from sin—it's about restoration to what was *very good*.

Eden isn't just your origin story. It's your **destination**.

And here's the best part: if you belong to Yeshua, the work has already begun. "If anyone is in Messiah, he is a new creation" (2 Cor. 5:17). You've already been invited back into relationship. You've already been given a new name.

But maybe today, you realize you've been settling for broken. You've lived with dysfunction for so long, it feels normal. Today, the Spirit of God is saying, "Come home. Let Me restore you." Let Eden begin again—in your heart, in your marriage, in your identity.

And if you've never trusted in Messiah, today is the day to step into the bigger story. You weren't made for brokenness. You were made for Eden. And it's not just behind you—it's ahead of you.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. What stands out to you most about the Garden of Eden?
- 2. Where have you personally settled for brokenness in your life or relationships?
- 3. How does Yeshua's answer in Matthew 19 reshape how we see God's design?
- 4. What's one way you can live now like someone headed for restoration?
- 5. How does the picture of Eden restored in Revelation give you hope today?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Abba, Lord, thank You for being a God of restoration. Thank You for not giving up on Eden. Thank You for sending Yeshua to bring us back to what was lost. I ask You to make me new—restore what has been broken, re-align me with Your design, and give me hope for what's ahead. I want to live now as someone headed for Eden. In Yeshua's name, amen.

B'Shem Yeshua, In Yeshua's Name, Amen.