

# TREES IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN

## INTRODUCTION

### **I. Man was made before there is any mention of the garden of Eden.**

A. Adam was made from the dust of the ground.

1. God did not make him from rocks, old bones, or parts of animals, as we might do if we were trying to design something.
2. Some don't see how God can RE-form human beings in the resurrection, but if He formed man once from the dust, He can do it again in the resurrection day.

B. Adam was first without human companionship. Gen. 2;18

1. God made the animals and brought them to Adam to name them, but there was not among them one compatible to man's nature, so He made a woman from a rib taken from Adam's side.
2. God did not make her from a dry rib, but one with flesh on it. Cf Gen. 2:22-23

### **II. Now let's look at the Garden of Eden.**

A. The 1<sup>st</sup> mention of it is in Gen.2:8 where it is stated that God "planted" a garden there, and put man IN that garden.

1. God put all sorts of trees *in* the garden. Gen. 2:9
  - a. God placed within the tree the ability to produce **seed** which in turn would keep trees ON the earth. vs. 10-12
  - b. God in His wisdom KNEW that man would need something to eat down through the stream of time—so trees.
2. A river went out of Eden to water the garden, and into other parts of the world. Gen. 2:10-14

B. Then, emphasis is given to Adam's responsibility IN that garden. vs. 15-17

1. The trees would beautify the garden and provide food. v. 9
2. The tree of life could sustain life for humans, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil was a special tree indeed.

### **III. Now let's give special attention to trees in the garden.**

## DISCUSSION

### **I. First, there were TREES FOR BEAUTY AND FOOD.**

A. Surely, these trees were the basic trees we have for food today, as they were reproduced from the power of SEED that God put in them.

1. Many types of trees beautify earthly scenes today, as they are a part of NATURE—on the mountains and by rivers.
  - a. These trees provide shade for the weary traveler, a home for birds of the air, and wood from which we can build houses, bridges and tools and wood to heat and operate machinery.
    - 1) From Gopher wood, Noah was able to build the ark to preserve life after the flood. Gen. 6:14; 7:11-15, 23
    - 2) From Cedar, Olive, Fir and Cypress trees, Solomon was able to build the beautiful temple in Jerusalem. 1 Kings 5:1-10; 6:9-23
  - b. Many medicines are developed from trees.
2. Trees have many illustrative uses in the Bible.
  - a. Trees are personified in many passages.
    - 1) In a parable to denounce Abimelech. Judges 9:7-15
    - 2) In singing, clapping their hands and praising God. 1 Chr. 16:33; Isa. 55:12; Psa. 148:7-12
  - b. Trees are used in prophecies.
    - 1) Of Israel's exaltation. Ezek. 17:22-24
    - 2) Of the fall of wicked nations. Ezek. 31:1-18
    - 3) Of a righteous man. Psa. 1:1-4
    - 4) The coming Savior was to be **crucified** on a tree, in order to redeem fallen man. Deut. 24:23; Gal. 3:13

c. The **principle** that seed ALWAYS reproduces after it's kind is prophetic in that the "seed" of the kingdom is the Word of God (Luke 8:10-11), which gives credence to the need of the "seed" to restore the kingdom to it's first century status after the apostasy of the church in the gospel or Christian age.

B. The trees named in the Bible are the *cedar, olive, fir, cypress, almond, apple, bay, box, chestnut, fig, juniper, mulberry, myrtle, palm, pine, pomegranate, shittah, sycamore, vine and willow.*

## **II. Second, the trees that originated in Eden were FOR MAN'S GOOD.**

A. They were not in any way connected to the fall of man, with the exception of man partaking of one tree that had been forbidden.

B. Trees could give life even AFTER sin entered the picture.

1. They were intended to provide for temporal life.
2. It is as if God anticipated the need for such trees, no matter what influence Satan had upon man.

### **CONCLUSION**

I. If wood from trees could create such beauty as seen in the temple of Jerusalem, the beauty of heaven itself will exceed in beauty.

A. Trees are reminders of the concern God has for man.

B. If future studies, we will give special attention to OTHER trees mentioned in the Garden of Eden.

II. Won't you obey the Lord who was nailed to a tree for your redemption, that you might someday be in heaven to be sustained by the tree of life?