

EDEN – A WORLDLY OR HEAVENLY REALM?

INTRODUCTION

The Bible is a book containing mysteries from Genesis to Revelation that without your having the spiritual knowledge of the foundations and unveiling them will cause you to walk in error of understanding throughout the rest of its contents as it were. This is because of the fact that the contents thereof are generally coded. And this requires divine spiritual insights that God gives to a few to unravel or decode the letters thereof by the Spirit of truth which Christ gives to those that hear and obey him. **Mtt 13:9-13; Deu 29:29; Ps 25:12,14; Mtt 16:19; Acts 5:32**

Those that read the Bible with a carnal mindset interpret the spiritual contents therein from a worldly perspective. They are always given to carnalizing the spiritual things and spiritualizing the carnal things therein, thereby finding themselves in religious error. The nature and location of Eden and the garden therein is one of the numerous things that fall under this error that many have found themselves in as it were. **Mtt 16:23; Isa 55:8-9; I Cor 2:12-14**

Many readers and scholars of the Bible consider the Garden of Eden to be a location that was in this present world and that is currently extinct. They suggest that its location must have been at the head of the Persian Gulf, in southern Mesopotamia, which is in present day Iraq where the Tigris and Euphrates rivers run into the sea; and in Armenia. But is this true?

In this brief literature, we shall look into identifying the location of Eden, its origin and nature, unraveling the ambiguity surrounding it. This has caused many to veer into grave error in the understanding of the nature of the first man, Adam whom God formed and put in it. Many seem to only associate Eden with Man as per the episode in the book of Genesis and go no further than that. We shall go further than that in our study of Eden even as it connects with the serpent and also the most important tree that is found in it, the tree of life. Were these terrestrial or celestial in nature? **Gen 3:1; Rev 12:7-9**

EDEN WAS IN EXISTENCE BEFORE THE CREATION OF LUCIFER

Eden as a whole was referred to as the garden or paradise of God in the Bible. Is that paradise no longer in existence? Was it on earth or in this world? Or was it in the spiritual realms of heaven?

Eden had been in existence even before Lucifer was created by God as we shall see in the Scriptures, meaning that Eden was spiritual and heavenly. Unfortunately, many identify with Eden only with Adam as per the garden that God planted eastward in it in order to place Adam therein.

We are able to gather this from the word of the LORD that came to the king of Tyrus who was a figure of Lucifer, who was mostly referred to in this prophecy rather than a natural man.

Ezek 28:11-19 (Vr.12 Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. **Vr.13** Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. **Vr.16** By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God; and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. **Vr.17** Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, **Vr.18** Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries [*How?*] by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee.

Similarly, in the word of the LORD that came to Pharaoh King of Egypt we are able to see Lucifer being referenced spiritually in the contents thereof too. Lucifer as the figure of the tree found in Eden featured prominently as it were.

Ezek 31:1-18 (Vr.4 The waters made him great, the deep set him up on high with her rivers running round about his plants, and sent out her little rivers unto all the trees of the field. **Vr.8** The cedars in the garden of God could not hide him: the fir trees were not like his boughs, and the chesnut trees were not like his branches; nor any tree in the garden of God was like unto him in his beauty. **Vr.9** I have made him fair by the multitude of his branches: so that all the trees of Eden, that were in the garden of God, envied him. **Vr.10** Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thou hast lifted up thyself in height, and he hath shot up his top among the thick boughs, and his heart is lifted up in his height; **Vr.11** I have therefore delivered him into the hand of the mighty one of the heathen; he shall surely deal with him: I have driven him out

[from Eden] for his wickedness. **Vr.12** And strangers, the terrible of the nations, have cut him off, and have left him: upon the mountains and in all the valleys his branches are fallen, and his boughs are broken by all the rivers of the land; and all the people of the earth are gone down from his shadow, and have left him. **Vr.14** for they are all delivered unto death, to the nether parts of the earth, in the midst of the children of men, with them that go down to the pit. **Vr.15** Thus saith the Lord GOD; In the day when he went down to the grave I caused a mourning: **Vr.16** I made the nations to shake at the sound of his fall, when I cast him down to hell with them [*the beast, the false prophets and the fallen angels*] that descend into the pit: and all the trees of Eden, the choice and best of Lebanon, all that drink water, shall be comforted in the nether parts of the earth. **Vr.17** They also went down into hell with him unto them that be slain with the sword; and they that were his arm, that dwelt under his shadow in the midst of the heathen. **Vr.18** To whom art thou thus like in glory and in greatness among the trees of Eden? yet shalt thou be brought down with the trees of Eden unto the nether parts of the earth:

We can see that Eden was of a different location/realm from the earth and higher than the earth. Why? because Lucifer was brought down from Eden in the heavenly to hell in the earth beneath as it were. When iniquity was found in Lucifer he was driven out from the realms of the mountain of God and Eden the garden of God to the lower parts of the earth as it were.

Isa 14: 12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! **Vr.13** For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: **Vr.14** I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. **Vr.15** Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. **Vr.16** They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;

The mountain of God wherein Lucifer walked up and down is in heaven. If the mountain of God is in heaven, then why should the garden of God not be in heaven too? **Isa 14:13; Ezek 28:14**

A PLACE OF TRIAL FOR MAN PLANTED IN EDEN

It seems to be assumed by many that the garden that God planted in the eastward portion of Eden and placed the Man that He formed was meant to be the place where man was to inhabit and operate in pleasure. That the garden was to be the place of his increase and dominion, but is this true? No.

Just as the last Adam was placed in the wilderness to be tempted of the devil before the commencement of his divine mission in the world, so was the first man, Adam placed in the

heavenly realm of the garden in Eden to be tempted of the serpent before the commencement of his divine mandate on earth. This garden in the east of Eden was a place of trial for Adam wherein he was expected to be wholly obedient to God's word unto eating the tree of life to receive the reward of eternal life in righteousness. It was not a place of rest for Adam. **Mtt 4:1-11**

Gen 1: 26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. **Vr.28** And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. **Vr.29** And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

Gen 2:4-8 (Vr.5 And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground [*of the earth not that of Eden*]. **Vr.6** But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground. **Vr.7** And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground [*of the earth*], **Vr.8** And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden [*the paradise of God*]; and there he put the man whom he had formed. **Vr.10** And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; **Vr.15** And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

The garden of Eden was a testing ground in the heavens for the man formed to subdue the earth. Both realms (Eden and the earth) were wholly spiritual at this time in creation. The description of Eden was of a spiritual nature which was to have a figure in the world with similar names after the fall of man.

Gen 2: 10 And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads. **Vr.11** The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; **Vr.12** And the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone. **Vr.13** And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia. **Vr.14** And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates.

There are many similitudes of heavenly things in the world as we know it. Just as you have New Jerusalem that is above, so also you have Jerusalem city that is beneath. There is a celestial Jerusalem city and there is a terrestrial Jerusalem city.

Gal 4:21-31 (Vr.24 Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar. **Vr.25** For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. **Vr.26** But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.

Moses also built an earthly tabernacle according to the pattern of the heavenly tabernacle as instructed him by God. **Hebr 8:1-5; Exo 25:8-9**

Many believe that the garden of Eden was the paradise made by God for Man to inhabit and operate in forever, but that is not true. It was God's own garden, not man's and was a transit zone for Adam, a place where he was to be rewarded if he had been obedient unto overcoming in righteousness. Adam was to have received a kingdom that cannot be moved from whence he was to execute the divine mandate given him by God over the earth. This we the saints of God in Christ from the last day shall accomplish instead. **Mtt 25:34; Hebr 12:28; I Cor 15:22-25; Phil 3:20-21**

IS THE TREE OF LIFE TERRESTRIAL OR CELESTIAL?

A very pertinent question that would further help us to determine the nature and realm of location of Eden would be the nature of the tree of life that was planted in its grounds. The tree of life was it long lasting or everlasting? Was it of mortality or of immortality itself? Was it a worldly, corruptible tree that can perish and cease to exist by reason of waxing old and decaying? Was it swept away with Eden in the world after the flood of Noah like every other place and vegetation? If so what happened to the Cherubims that God set watch over it?

A tree whose fruit can give one forever life or eternal life, can it be subject to death itself? The ground from which the tree of life was taken from, planted, grew and bore fruits, did it also pass away with the tree in it?

Gen 2: 8 And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. **Vr.9** And out of the ground [*of the garden*] made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

Gen 3: 22 And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: **Vr.24** So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

The tree of life is an everlasting tree that cannot pass away even as Eden in which it was planted in. The tree was secured by angelic beings from being eaten by the fallen man in iniquity, but shall be eaten in righteousness by the redeemed man, the resurrected children of God at the end. Christ our Lord, the way, the truth and the life shall lead us to it. **Lk 20:35-36**

Rev 2: 7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

The tree of life giveth eternal life and therefore is everlasting, immortal and incorruptible in nature. It was planted in a celestial ground that is the paradise of God called the Garden of Eden. It is only those that have a celestial body that are immortal, spiritual, heavenly and incorruptible counted worthy by the Lord that shall eat of the fruits of that tree at the end. No mortal, terrestrial being can eat of that immortal tree nor can enter Eden as it were.

The tree of life is still in existence in the heavenly, celestial realm as it had been from the beginning, but the carnally minded man thinks otherwise to his own error being unable to hear Christ in his doctrine. **Jn 11:25-26**

Rev 22:1-5 (Vr.1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb [*the throne of God is in heaven – Mtt 5:34*]. **Vr.2** In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. **Vr.3** And there shall be no more curse [*that came by reason of man eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil in disobedience*]: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants [*that are spiritual beings as Adam was at the very beginning in it*] shall serve him: **Vr.4** And they shall see his face [*no flesh and blood shall see His face and live – Exo 33:20; I Tim 6:16*]; and his name shall be in their foreheads. **Vr.5** And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever [*as spiritual beings not human beings*]. **Vr.17** And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

We talk about the Spirit of life, the bread of life, the water of life and the tree of life, these are everlasting realities which are spiritual and not carnal, heavenly and not worldly. Wherever you shall find the water of life, there the tree of life shall be found also. These you shall find in Eden as it were. **Rom 8:1-2; Jn 6:48-51; Jn 4:10,14; Rev 21:6**

CONCLUSION

Eden from the beginning and till now is heavenly cum celestial and that is why you can find celestial beings like Cherubims and angelic beings in and guarding it, but the natural man thinks otherwise.

As flesh and blood cannot enter the kingdom of God, so also flesh and blood cannot enter Eden talk less of the garden found within it. But Adam was placed in that garden at the beginning and also the resurrected children of God shall be granted access into it in order to eat of the tree of life in the midst of it. What nature are these beings? Adam had a spiritual nature from the beginning but was downgraded to a carnal nature by reason of his fall. Therefore, being made human at his eviction could no longer enter the garden ever again. Adam fell short of the glory of God. **Gen 3:17-24; Hebr 2:7-9; Rom 3:23; Phil 3:21**

I Cor 15: 35-54 (Vr.40 There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. **Vr.44** It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. **Vr.49** And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. **Vr.50** Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

The natural man cannot receive the things of the Spirit of God because they are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them because they are spiritually discerned. Like we have always opined, when you get it wrong from Genesis, you will be in error of understanding overall till Revelation. Be warned.

May our good Lord and Master Jesus the Christ grant you the spirit of wisdom and understanding in the things written herein, to your coming unto the knowledge of the liberating truth that is in Jesus Christ. Amen.

FEEDBACK

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God bless and keep you heaven bound while ye still walk on this earth. MARANATHA.