

TWO GARDENS, TWO ATTITUDES, TWO DESTINIES

Text: Gen. 2:8-10, 16-17; John 18:1

INTRO: There are two basic attitudes with which men may face life. One of these attitudes was manifested in the Garden of Eden, the other in the Garden of Gethsemane. We shall examine these two attitudes & their consequences.

I. THE ATTITUDE THAT PREVAILED IN EDEN.

GEN. 3:1-6

- A. Eve knew what God had said, but she preferred to believe the tempter, thus was readily deceived.

- B. She sinned, then became a stumbling block to her husband & led him into sin.

- C. Adam was not deceived (1 Tim. 2:14), but apparently was more concerned in maintaining fellowship with Eve than with God.

II. THE ATTITUDE THAT PREVAILED IN GETHSEMANE.

READ MATTHEW 26:36-44

NOTE: Jesus desired to avoid the cross with its pain, shame, mockery & abuse. But He put the will of the heavenly Father above His own personal, temporal desire.

III. THESE TWO ATTITUDES ARE EXEMPLIFIED
THRU-OUT THE SCRIPTURES IN MEN AND
WOMEN.

A. The Eden attitude.

1. Balaam, READ NUMBERS 22:13, 19.
Num 22:13, 19, So Balaam rose in
the morning & said to the princes
of Balak, "Go back to your land, for
the LORD has refused to give me
permission to go with you... Now
therefore, please, you also stay
here tonight, that I may know
what more the LORD will say to
me."

2. Pharaoh: Who is the Lord that I
should obey His voice...? I do not know
the Lord, nor will I let Israel go. (EX 5:2).

3. King Saul, READ 2 SAMUEL 14:3, 7-
14, 23

4. Jonah (1:1-3).

B. The Gethsemane attitude.

1. Hananiah, Mishael & Azariah.
Dan 3:17-18, Our God whom we
serve is able to deliver us from the
burning fiery furnace & He will de-
liver us from you hand, O king. But
if not, let it be known to you, O
king, that we do not serve

your gods... nor will we worship
the gold image which you have set
up.

2. Job. Tho He slay me, yet will I trust
Him. (13:15).

3. Abraham. READ HEBREWS 11:17-19.

4. Paul. Phil. 1:21.

IV. EACH OF US MANIFESTS ONE OF THESE TWO
ATTITUDES AS WE FACE THE TESTS & CHAL-
LENGES OF DAILY LIFE.

A. In marriage.

Gen 6:2, The sons of God saw the daugh-
ters of men, that they were beautiful &
they took wives for themselves of all
whom they chose.

B. In business, careers, use of time.

C. In recreation, entertainment, leisure time.

D. In religion. Convenience? Bargains? Ease?

CONCLUSION: 1 Cor 15:21-22, For since by man
came death, by man came also the resurrection of
the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ
shall all be made alive.

The Eden attitude brot death. It always does.
The Gethsemane attitude brot everlasting life. It
still does. Which will it be for you?

Thru Moses, God challenged the Israelites of
old: Behold I set before you today a blessing & a
curse; the blessing, if you obey the commandments

of the Lord your God which I command you today; & the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God... (Deut. 11:26-28). This challenge is as valid today as it was then. Is your heart right with God?

La Porte, TX, February 17, 1980

Highway 29, Liberty Hill, TX, November 25, 1981

Exton, PA, December 9, 1984

Shively, Louisville, KY, December 1, 1985 (meeting)

Shiloh, Mexia, TX, February 26, 1989

Highway 29, Liberty Hill, TX, June 2, 1989

Exton, Pa, July 8, 1990

Wrightsville, PA, December 16, 1990

Benchley, Bryan, TX, June 14, 2000

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, April 2, 2006