

March 2019

A Grave In a Garden

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Recommended Citation

Sawyer, W. (2019). A Grave In a Garden. Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/wyatt-sawyer-sermons/8>

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A Grave In a Garden

Int. Bible speaks of gardens 38 times. 5 times in N.T.

Etymology: Inclosure, pleasure (paradise or Heaven) + delight.

Purpose: yard or plot for growing vegetables, flowers or herbs.

Symbolized: Original happiness, ^{Eden} Beauty + delight of life and the flavor of living (spices).

Bible speaks of three important gardens. Some spiritual lessons in each: 3 men + 3 stories.

Adam and the Garden of Eden. (Eden means: Plain, ^{steppe} delight.)

1. God's first gift to the human race. a delightful home. Gen. 2:8-14.
2. Man's first job. Gen. 2:15.
3. Man's first prohibition, 2:16-17. and first threat.
4. Man's first operation. 2:18, 21-22.
5. Man's first companion. never a female before! 23-25. ^{all male or neuter.}
6. Man's first sin. 3:6. Disobedience. Unfaithfulness.
7. Man's first consciousness of good or evil. V. 7-13.
8. Man's first passing of the buck - shifting respon. V. 12.
9. Man's first promise of a Savior. 3:15.
10. Woman's first knowledge of pain. 3:16.
11. Man's first awareness of struggle. V. 17-18.
12. Man's first expectation of death. V. 19. ^{First exaction!} ^{from a domicile!}

Note: Man turned God's Paradise into a jungle - through sin. Same today.

3. The Sad Events and the Gardens.
- Jesus prayed often in the garden. Oh, the sins!
 - Jesus agonized in the garden. Lk. 22: 39-44.*
 - Betrayed by a friend in the garden. No delight. Lk. 22: 47-48.*
 - Arrested, as a criminal, when guilty of nothing. Lk. 22: 54-62.*
 - Jesus died in ~~the garden~~ a garden. John 19: 41-42.*
 - He was buried in a garden. Borrowed.

4. Garden witnessed the single most-imp. event of all human history - Resurrection. Silent tomb in a Beautiful Garden!! Mat. 28: 2-6.*

Inv. what this event means to us.

- Proves identity of Jesus. Son of God!
- Proves power of God. Over death.
- Proves this power can benefit us also. * Rom. 6: 1-11.

4. World can be a garden or a weed-patch depending on our relationship to Jesus.

John 14: 6. 14: 1-3. Hope, joy & peace.
The eternal garden of delight.

(2)

II King Solomon's Delights Experienced In a Garden.

A. Song of Solomon: a treatise and essay on true
love. 1:1-4.

1. Outline: Met in garden + fell in love. Lovers united

a. Solomon's wedding day. 1:1-2:7*

b. Remembers his sweet courtship in garden. 2:14

He c. Describes his sweetheart as a garden
of delight. Song 4:7-15.

d. His return is a thrilling experience. 5:1.

e. Bride has troubled dream. Lover is gone,
found him in the garden. 6:1-3.

f. The King remembers his first meeting
with his wife. 6:10-13.

Note: This garden represented to Solomon
everything that love should represent:
Joy, peace, happiness, rest, delight and gratitude
for God's goodness.

III Jesus and His Garden (Gethsemane)

A. Mentioned twice by name. (Matt. 26: 36, ^{Garden of the oil press} Mk. 14: 32) and twice only as THE garden. (John 18: 1 + 26.)

B. What the Garden represented to the family that owned it.

1. Food, flowers and flavoring. ^{privately owned.} Vegetables, fruits, nuts, berries and herbs.
2. a quiet and cool place for rest from a day's labors.
3. a haven for strangers and a home for away from ~~home~~ friends. Sleep outside. Grotto.

Summary: Place of peace, comfort + satisfaction.

C. What the Garden came to mean to Jesus.

1. The Happier Days.

- a. Companionship in a hostile world 3/4 mile away.
- b. Coolness after heat of blistering day. ^{travelling + teaching}
- c. Rest after arduous debates, arguments, conflicts and tensions. John 18: 1-2.
- d. Relief from hours of prayer + meditation.

2. Garden represents the World. Symbolism.

- a. as long as Jesus visited it there was peace, prosperity and plenty. Law + order. World at peace.
 - b. Any garden unattended will grow weeds, thorns, briars and thickets.
 - c. When Jesus left the earth the garden degenerated: weeds of hate + malice continued to grow in Jrs. Thickets of jealousy and greed choked out flowers. Briars of hypocrisy and dishonesty expanded. Thorns of war, discord + anarchy grew. * Matt. 24: 4-8.
- without Jesus the world is just an overgrown
bramblebush? A.D. 70. A.F.D.