

Eden and the Church

Gen. 2:15-25

Text:

Introduction:

From this story I learn that there are some places on earth more profitable to you than other places on the earth. I also see that there are places on earth that God can enjoy you more than He can enjoy you in other places on earth. The very fact that God put Adam in Eden testifies that there is a geographic to service.

If you are going to be in the perfect, complete will of God, there is some place on this earth that you must be geographically head quartered.

I don't believe that you can serve God anywhere you want to. Part of the problem today is that people have in their mind I'll go somewhere else if I get mad at the preacher, youth director, or deacons, and get involved. But that's not true. There is only one place on earth that you can be enjoyable and profitable to God, and that's where ever God puts you in the church.

God told Elijah to go to Cherith and I'll feed you there. Now he could have gone any place else and died of

hunger. There was a place for him that was profitable and enjoyable.

Jesus had to die in Jerusalem. Mary had to be in Bethlehem, and the Lord had to tax the whole nation just to get her there.

There's a place that God has assigned you on this earth to serve and until you're there, nothing you try to do will work.

So we're placed in the church and when you stop and think about it the church is the only organization that Jesus ever belonged to. It was the organization that He founded. The one he developed the funding for. It's the only organization He ever had letters written to. It was the only organization He ever gave an assignment for. And is the only organization on earth designed to collect His money.

I want to make some comparisons to the Church and Eden.

1. The Destiny of Every Man that's Right With God is the Church.

(vs. 8) And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

A. Adam wasn't created in Eden, but was put there. **(vs. 15)**

B. When a person gets saved and becomes a new creature in Christ, you need to be in Eden.

1. You need to belong to a church.

2. When God Put Adam in Eden, He Put Him there to Dress it.

A. Adam was in the greatest place on earth, but there was still work to be done.

1. Things needed attended to.

2. Eden wasn't without need.

3. It was a wonderful place but still needed his attention.

B. As great and wonderful as the church is she needs our attention.

1. She needs maintained.

2. She needs cared for.

3. She needs dressed up.

C. When God put you in the Church, He didn't intend for you to lie on your back and eat grapes and be fanned by pretty women. He put you there to work.

3. When God Put Adam in the Garden, Adam was to Draw From it.

A. What was Adam to draw from it.

1. vs. 9: To draw his food from it.
2. vs. 10: To draw his water from it.
3. vs. 16: He was to eat from it.
4. vs. 22: He was to get his mate from it.
5. Chapter 3: Got his fellowship in it.

B. There are some things we are to draw from Eden.

1. Our Doctrine
2. Our fellowship
3. Our friends
4. Our mate.

a. Dating is not an evangelistic tool.

4. I See that there are Some Things in the Church you Must Deny Yourself Of. (Vs 16,17)

A. What we must touch.

1. Don't touch the Tithe.
2. Don't touch God's Word.
3. Don't touch God's man.

5. Adam's Responsibility in the Garden was To Duplicate Himself. (Gen. 1:28)

A. Our job in the church is to duplicate ourselves as Christians.

6. I Learn From Adam and this Story That in Eden and in the Church I have to Learn to Deal with the Devil. (Gen. 3:1-5)

(Genesis 3:1-5) "Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? **{2}** And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: **{3}** But of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. **{4}** And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: **{5}** For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."

A. There are some things and some people the Devil uses in the church you need to stay away from.

(Romans 16:17) "Now I beseech you, brethren, **mark them** which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid **them.**"

1. People who are not surrendered.
2. Wolves in sheep clothing.
3. People who Gossip.