

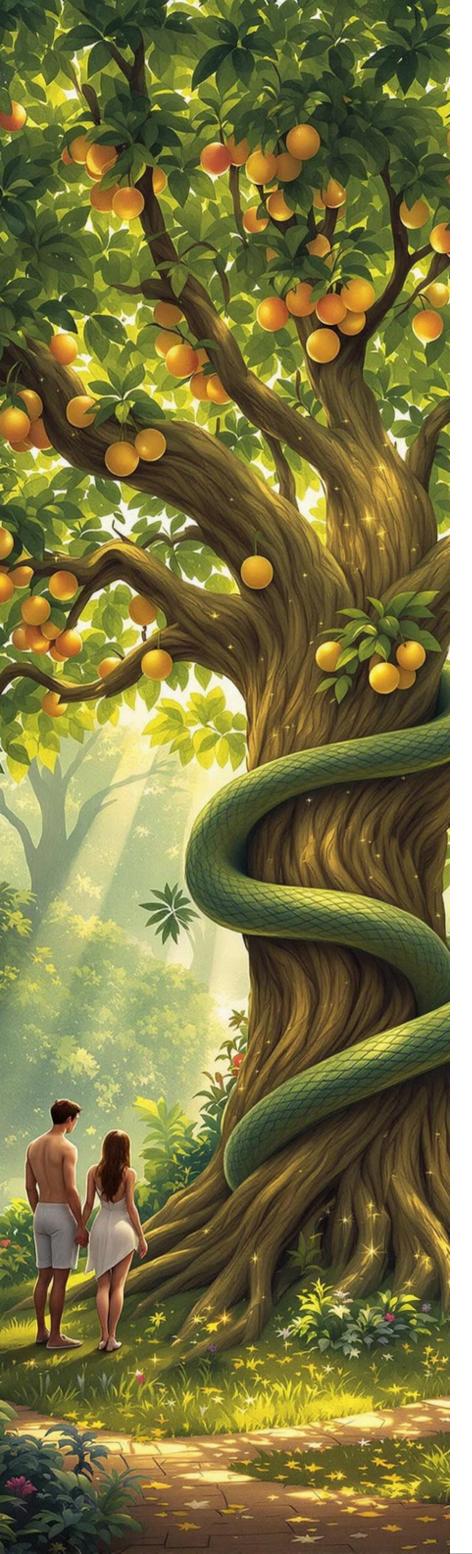
The Hidden Truth About Eden That Changes Everything

Rediscovering paradise as a spiritual state within us, not a lost physical location.

by Michael Keeney

The Garden of Eden wasn't a physical place, but a spiritual state that you can experience right now. This book reveals the profound spiritual truth hidden in Genesis that most Christians have missed for centuries —a truth that will completely transform how you understand your relationship with God.

This isn't just theory—this revelation will give you a powerful new perspective on why you struggle with sin and how God's grace actually works in your life.



The Eden Puzzle

For generations, theologians have been troubled by certain aspects of the Eden story:

- Why was the serpent present in God's perfect garden?
- Why did God place the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil right in the middle where Adam and Eve could easily reach it?

The answers to these puzzles reveal something far more relevant to your daily spiritual life than you might think.

What You'll Discover in This Book

- 1 Eden represents God's "covering of delight"

 And what that means for you
- The shocking truth about what the two trees actually symbolize

 In your life today
- The serpent's true identity

 That will change how you view temptation forever
- Why understanding Eden correctly reveals God's incredible plan

For restoration

This book offers a framework that makes sense of humanity's relationship with God in a way that traditional interpretations simply can't match.

Eden Redefined

The True Meaning of 'Garden of Eden'

Let's start by looking at what "Garden of Eden" actually means in Hebrew. The word "Eden" (עַדן) literally means "pleasure" or "delight," while "garden" (בְּן 'gan') refers to an enclosed, protected space.

So, the Garden of Eden literally means "the protection of delight" or "the covering of pleasure." This isn't a physical location—it's a spiritual state where humans lived completely covered by God's righteousness, experiencing perfect communion with Him.

Spiritual Covering

Think about it: Adam and Eve were physically naked but felt no shame. Why? Because they were spiritually covered by God's presence. This covering—this spiritual protection—is what really matters in the Eden story.

Just look at Isaiah 61:10, where the prophet declares:

"I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels."

This divine protection—God's righteousness and His Spirit—creates a sanctuary of safety and holiness for believers. We see a similar concept in Job 1:10, where God's blessing acted as a protective hedge around Job.



God's Spiritual Kingdom

This "cover of pleasure"—the Garden of Eden—represents God's spiritual kingdom, where He covers us with His Spirit and stays fully present with us. Eden's true joy came not from physical pleasures but from a complete spiritual connection with God.



The Garden as God's Kingdom

Adam and Eve initially lived physically naked yet spiritually unashamed, completely wrapped in God's perfect righteousness, enjoying unbroken fellowship with their Creator. This aligns with Jesus' teachings about the kingdom of God being "within you" in Luke 17:21.



The Tree of Life: God's Spirit Within

The Tree of Life symbolizes God's Spirit living within us—the source of eternal life, divine wisdom, and all goodness.

Proverbs 11:30 gives us insight:

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life." It represents what Galatians 5:22-23 calls the "fruit of the Spirit"—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.



The Tree of Knowledge: Our Human Nature

The Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil represents our human nature, our "flesh," which, when we give in to it, leads to separation from God. These two trees represent the fundamental spiritual choice every human faces daily. This understanding connects to Revelation 22:2, where the Tree of Life appears in New Jerusalem, symbolizing the restoration of humanity's relationship with God through Christ.

The Tree of Knowledge and Daily Test

The Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil: Human Nature

On the other hand, the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil symbolizes our human nature and what happens when we follow it instead of God's Spirit. Galatians 5:19-21 lists these results:

"Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like."

The "fruit" of this tree represents the consequences of these choices, ultimately leading to separation from God, broken relationships, and inner turmoil.

The Daily Test

Think about the last time you faced a tough choice between what you knew was right and what you wanted to do. That's the same test playing out in your life. Every day, we choose between living by God's Spirit (Tree of Life) or by our fleshly desires (Tree of Knowledge).

The Serpent Revealed

Beyond Literal Interpretation

Here's the revelation that changes everything:
The serpent in Eden represents a deep concept
that goes beyond literal interpretation.
Revelation 12:9 helps identify it:

"And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world."

Looking deeper at Scripture suggests that Satan isn't an external being, but represents our "flesh"—our sinful nature that opposes God's will. This internal struggle is a fundamental part of being human.

The Flesh as Adversary

Romans 8:7 gives us essential insight:

"Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be."

Our human nature naturally opposes God's will, constantly pulling us away from righteousness. In this framework, our flesh is the spirit's greatest adversary, the internal force that tempts and leads us astray—to fulfill its desires—to eat from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil—to sin.



Scriptural Examples and The Separation Problem

Scriptural Examples

This concept appears throughout Scripture. When Jesus faced temptation in the wilderness in Matthew 4, the devil—His "flesh," weakened by fasting—led Him to experience temptation, yet He overcame it. The bronze serpent Moses lifted up in Numbers 21:9, later referenced by Jesus in John 3:14-15, symbolized Jesus' flesh being judged on the cross for our sins.

The Internal Source of Sin

Eve's flesh—her internal inclination toward disobedience—tempted her spirit. When our spirit gives in to fleshly desires, it turns from God and falls from grace. This reality is reflected in Isaiah 14:12, "How art thou fallen from heaven, O shining one!"

Just like Eve's internal desire for what looked good led her astray, we fall when our spirit gives in to what our flesh wants. It's like when you know you shouldn't do something harmful, but you do it anyway—except with eternal consequences. When we choose our way over God's way, we experience separation from His presence.

God's Holiness vs. Sin

God's perfect holiness prevents connection with corrupted spirits. Sin creates a barrier that we can't overcome through our efforts. God's purity can't mix with sin—like oil and water—they just won't blend.

The serpent—the flesh—tempted Eve's spirit by appealing to desires that can lead us astray—what looked pleasant to her eyes, what seemed desirable, and what deceptively promised wisdom (Genesis 3:6, 1 John 2:16). When Adam and Eve chose fleshly desires over God's will, they lost their covering of divine righteousness, symbolized by their expulsion from Eden.



The Divine Solution and God's Restoration Plan

The Divine Solution

In His infinite love and mercy, God provides the solution described in Ezekiel 36:26

"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh."

Through faith in Jesus Christ, we receive a new spirit—perfect, spotless, and sinless—directly from God. Think of it like getting a complete system upgrade, not just a patch.

This new spirit makes us acceptable to God, bridging the gap that sin created.

This transformative event is what Jesus referred to in Matthew 18:3

"Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

The Ongoing Struggle

Even after receiving this new spirit, our physical body continues to struggle with sin because it remains corrupt, as Romans 7:17-18 explains:

"Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not."

Grace Through Christ



Grace Through Christ

God created a plan to restore what was lost and reconcile humanity to Himself. This plan is fulfilled in Christ, as Paul explains in Romans 5:17

"For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ."



Only Unbelief Separates

Since Jesus paid the full price for all sin, only unbelief now separates us from God (John 16:8-9). Through faith in Jesus, we receive a new spirit. Though we continue living in corrupt carnal bodies, God sees us connected to His Spirit (Romans 8:9).



All Things New

Revelation 21:5-7 declares: "And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son."

Practical Application and Conclusion

New Understanding, New Life

Understanding the serpent as our flesh transforms Scripture interpretation, revealing why Jesus came in human form yet lived sinlessly in His spirit. This clarifies believers' internal struggles and reinforces the Gospel's core: salvation through faith in Christ's finished work.

Eden Restored Through Grace

Eden represents complete coverage by God's righteousness. When we prioritize our will over God's, separation occurs. Through Jesus, God provided our path back.

This new life comes through God's grace—not our merit. As Ephesians 2:8-9 states:

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

Grace transforms our spiritual identity from condemned to cherished, from fallen to redeemed. No one has sinned beyond God's redemptive reach.





What This Means For You Today

Your identity in Christ

Defined by your perfect, born again spirit, not fleshly failures 2 Your struggle with sin

A conflict between flesh and spirit, not a question of salvation 3 Your relationship with God

Based on His grace, not your performance

Eden's story reveals God's promise of restoration. Through Jesus, our spirits become perfect in God's sight —true resurrection beginning the moment we believe.

Experience the joy of restoration to Eden—covered by God's righteousness through faith in Christ.

Visit https://www.youtube.com/@ShoutWisdom for more biblical insights to transform your understanding of Scripture.



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