

Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

SHE, SUPPOSING HIM TO BE THE GARDENER

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR

SUNDAY EVENING, APRIL 8, 2018

SCRIPTURE READING: **JOHN 20:15-31**

John 20:15-17, *Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. **16:** Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. **17:** Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.*

1. BACKGROUND

- a. Please refer to the April 1, 2018 Evening Message for the Background.

2. INTRODUCTION

- a. Please refer to the April 8, 2018 Morning Message for the Introduction.

3. TWO POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

c. **She, supposing him to be the gardener.**

1. **John 20:15**, *Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.*
2. Mary mistakes the resurrected Christ to be an earthly gardener.
3. No question, He is the one who created the garden. **Colossians 1:16**, *For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:*
4. Mary was wrong in her assumption.
5. It is believed that the illustration provided by her is a lesson we need to learn about **three specific gardens in Scripture**.
6. The whole mystery of sin and salvation can be understood by analyzing these three gardens.
7. What happened in the **three gardens** is highly significant and will have a tremendous impact on what one believes about the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - a. **The Garden of Eden. Genesis 2:8**, *And the Lord God planted a garden*

eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. **Genesis 2:15-17**, And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. **16:** And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: **17:** But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. (This speaks of the death of the soul) **Ezekiel 18:4**, Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die. **Ezekiel 18:20**, The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

1. The Garden of Eden was a beautiful place where man was placed to take care of the garden.
2. Every single need man had would have been met in that garden.
3. God knew man was alone and provided a help-meet named Eve, however, we find in this garden Satan appeared unto Eve and tempted her. **Genesis 2:18**, And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. **Genesis 2:21-22**, And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; **22:** And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.
4. Notice, Adam was not deceived, he willfully disobeyed God. **Genesis 3:6**, And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.
5. **Man was created innocent and when tested, he disobeyed and plunged the whole human race into sin; thereby, inheriting a sinful nature that only God can rectify.** **2 Peter 1:4**, Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.
6. God had given Adam clear warning against disobedience.
7. It was Adam who had a clear rejection of faith in God and clear rebellion that caused the whole human race to be plunged into sin. **Romans 5:12**, Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:
8. Having their understanding darkened and being alienated from the life of God. **Ephesians 4:18**, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:
9. This was a far-reaching thing in man's disobedience to God because immediately he lost communication with God and went and hid

himself. **Genesis 3:8**, *And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.*

10. Man became totally depraved, dead in sin and immediately the sentence of death was passed upon the whole generation. **Ephesians 2:5**, *Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)*
11. Man inherited a sin nature from Adam and that was inherited by the entire human race. **Romans 3:23**, *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*
12. This is a clear-cut reason why we cannot work for our salvation; it is a nature problem that God must deal with. **2 Peter 1:4**, *Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*
13. The Bible says in **Romans 3:9-11**, *What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin; **10**: As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: **11**: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.*
15. The Garden of Eden is where sin ruined the human race and cut humanity off from a relationship with God.
16. Man cannot be reconciled to God until actions of the third Garden are complete. **Romans 5:10**, *For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.* Now let's look at the second Garden; Gethsemane.

b. **The Garden of Gethsemane.**

1. The night before the Lord was crucified; He gathered His disciple into the Upper Room and had His last meal with them. **John 18:1**, *When Jesus had spoken these words, he went forth with his disciples over the brook Cedron, where was a garden, into the which he entered, and his disciples.*
2. This is the Garden of Gethsemane. **Mark 14:32-35**, *And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and he saith to his disciples, Sit ye here, while I shall pray. **33**: And he taketh with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy; **34**: And saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch. **35**: And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.*
3. None of us know for sure why the **Garden of Gethsemane** was chosen. However, we know there was great agony there. **Luke 22:43-45**, *And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. **44**: And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling*

down to the ground. **45:** And when he rose up from prayer, and was come to his disciples, he found them sleeping for sorrow, **2 Corinthians 5:21**, For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

4. Since the first Adam plunged the whole human race into sin in the Garden of Eden, we do know in the Garden of Gethsemane it was the Last Adam who restored us to salvation. **1 Corinthians 15:45**, And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. **Romans 5:18**, Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.
 5. **Jesus had to go to the cross and die for the sins of mankind. Acts 4:12**, Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.
 6. We know that Christ took the burden of our sins upon Himself in this Garden.
 7. **Isaiah 53:6** helps to make it clear, *All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*
 8. Notice there is no indication that the devil was in the Garden of Gethsemane; It was God the Father who was pouring out the wrath upon the Lord Jesus Christ. Notice what the Bible says in the aforementioned verse "*the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*"
 9. In **Isaiah 53:10**, *Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.* Also, in **1 Corinthians 15:3-4**, *For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4: And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:*
 10. The first Adam's self indulgence in the Garden of Eden ruined the entire human race but the Last Adam in the Garden of Gethsemane, restored mankind if they will believe the record that God hath given of His Son. **1 John 5:11-12**, *And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12: He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.*
- c. **The Garden Tomb.** Now in the place He was crucified there was a **Garden Tomb.** The third garden we do not hear about very often.

d. In the place where He was crucified there was a garden.

1. **John 19:38-42**, *And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave him leave. He came therefore, and took the*

- body of Jesus. **39:** And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight. **40:** Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury. **41:** Now **in the place where he was crucified there was a garden;** and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid. **42:** There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation day; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand.
2. **Matthew 27:57-60,** When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple: **58:** He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. **59:** And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, **60:** And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.
 3. The body of Jesus was begged by Joseph of Arimathaea, and Nicodemus assisted him in taking the body of Jesus off the cross and placing it in the tomb.
 4. They sealed the tomb and left the Roman soldiers to guard it. **Matthew 27:64-66,** Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first. **65:** Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make it as sure as ye can. **66:** So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch.
 5. The next morning when Mary Magdalene came into the garden weeping she came to the tomb, noticed the stone had been rolled away and turn around and saw Jesus but she didn't know who He was.
 6. In **John 20:15-16,** Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? **She, supposing him to be the gardener,** saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. **16:** Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.
 7. **In this third garden the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ took place.**
 8. In **Matthew 28:6-7** the Bible says, He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. **7:** And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.
 9. The salvation plan had been accomplished and clears a mystery that has been hidden from the ages, set forth in the gardens. Upon dying on the cross, our Lord Jesus Christ said it is finished. His bodily resurrection took place on the third day after His burial as He ascended to the Father to place His blood at the Mercy Seat at the Throne of God. **John 19:30,** When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost. **John 20:17,** Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.
 10. **The Garden of Eden** was where man first sinned.

11. The Garden of Gethsemane was the garden where redemption from sin by Jesus Christ has taken place.
12. The Garden tomb where the crucifixion and the bodily resurrection took place was where new life begins for all believers. **John 11:25-26**, Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: **26**: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? **John 10:10**, The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.
13. **It takes all three of these gardens in order to redeem sinful mankind.**
14. **Romans 5:19**, For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. **Colossians 3:1-2**, If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. **2**: Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.
15. My friend, have you decided to come to the side of the living Saviour?

4. CONCLUSION

- a. **Romans 3:23**, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
- b. **Romans 3:10**, As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:
- c. **Romans 6:23**, For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- d. **Won't you come to Christ for salvation this very moment?**
- e. The Bible says in **Acts 4:12**, Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.
- f. **Romans 10:9-10**, That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. **10**: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.
- f. Halleluiah! What a Saviour we serve!!
- g. Would you please stand?

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