We Are the Garden

Part 4

In the next few scriptures we will discover that we are described as being the **garden** and the **springs of living water**. However, we can only become them when we spend quality time in God's presence; that is being in Christ and being cultivated by the Spirit as His bride (2 Cor. 5:17).

Song of Solomon 4:5 says, "You are a **garden spring**, a **well of fresh water**, and streams flowing from **Lebanon**" (to be white, purify).

Song of Solomon 5:1 also says, "I have come into <u>my garden</u>, my sister, <u>my bride</u>"

And **Isaiah 58:11** tells us, "And the LORD will continually guide you, and satisfy your desire in scorched places, and give strength to your bones and **you will** be like a **watered garden**, and **like** a **spring** of **water** whose **waters** do not fail.

Genesis 2:8 – The LORD God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed.

Genesis 2:8 with added clarity – "The LORD God <u>planted</u> a <u>garden</u> (of a bride, planted with trees, cultivated place, defend, cover, protect) <u>toward the east</u>, (eternal, meeting, confront, rise in morning with dawn of a new day) <u>in Eden</u> (pleasure, first habitation of man, paradise, delight); and there <u>He placed</u> (appoint, ordained, established, transformed into, fashioned, make for a sign) <u>the MAN</u> (Adam, mankind) whom He had formed."

In these scriptures it is clear that all along the Lord God's intention was to be one with His offspring who were represented by a well-watered garden as His bride, His trees that have been cultivated. In the book of Revelation, chapter twenty-one, we see God's ultimate purpose for those who have been cultivated as His prepared bride, His dwelling place, the habitation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Revelation 21:2-3 – And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man, and He will live with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God...],

Here we see the consummation, in and with God, of our true identity; as a prepared bride, a holy city, and the new Jerusalem; to rule and reign with Christ as the abode of God.

Revelation 22:2 (BSB) – In the <u>middle</u> of the main <u>street</u> of the city. On <u>either</u> side of the <u>river</u> stood a <u>tree of life</u>, producing <u>twelve kinds of fruit</u> and yielding a fresh crop for each month. And the <u>leaves</u> of the <u>tree</u> are for the <u>healing</u> of the <u>nations</u>.

As His offspring who have come into maturity, we see that the **leaves of the trees** that had been nurtured and tended in the Garden were now being established to have dominion and to rule and reign as priests and kings of the Most-High God. Once established, the mature bring **forth fruit** in due season so that the glory of God would cover the earth. From Genesis to Revelation the full picture of our true identity in Him is seen.

For a better understanding of the verse, more detail is provided below.

In the <u>middle</u> (midst, among, with) of its <u>street</u> (form, mold, shape, used of a potter). On <u>either side</u> (within, by, fixed position, relation of rest) <u>of the river</u> (torrent, flood, stream, *to receive into the soul*, to refresh, to strengthen, to nourish into life eternal, to drink; reference John 7:37, Matt. 6:25, Mk. 14:25, Rev. 6:6) <u>was the Tree of Life</u> (Jesus Christ is the Tree of Life), <u>bearing twelve</u> (government of God) <u>kinds of fruit</u>

(When we bear fruit we "reproduce" fruit; we give praise, we reap a harvest, we become a progeny. In the Strong's Concordance the Greek word harpazo (G726) means to be caught up. In Acts 8:39 Phillip was caught up. In 2 Cor. 12:2 Paul was speaking about a man he knew that was caught up in third heaven; 2 Cor. 12:4 "Caught up in Paradise", snatch out or away, take by force, to seize, and it also means to be elected to office) **yielding a fresh crop** (fruit) for each **month**; and the **leaves** (sprout, to beget, bring forth, shoot forth, produce, tribe, nation, people) **of the trees** (wood, humanity, a cross, stick, staff, wooden pitcher from which water or wine is poured) **were for the healing** of the **nations**.

As we see in this scripture, fruit not only means to reproduce fruit and to reap a harvest but it also means to be caught up. We see the manifestation of being "caught up" in Acts 8:39 with the account of Philip and the eunuch. Once Philip finished baptizing the eunuch, in the Spirit Philip was "caught up" and he instantly appeared in Azotus. Also, in 2 Corinthians 12:3-4 Paul was speaking about a man he knew that was "caught up" in third heaven, paradise, and heard inexpressible words which a man is not permitted to speak.

This scripture speaks powerfully of the very essence of the character and nature of God flowing through a governmental people; His offspring bearing a fruitful harvest from being in His presence. A people who have been caught up in Him and who have been molded and formed in His likeness in the River of the Holy Spirit that brings forth nourishment of the procreative power of God being poured out for the healing for the nations. As we see in the following scriptures the leaves that are planted by this river will bear fruit in their season and will prosper where they are sent.

Psalm 1:3 tells us, "He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers."

As we understand that the garden means a rich cultivated place that has been cultivated in Christ, we get a real revelation of the meaning of the waters in the beginning of Genesis. The Word of God says in **John 7:38**, "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his **innermost being** (belly, matrix) **will flow rivers of living water**." Here we can see that the waters that flow from the garden, the presence of God, is no other than the Holy Spirit that is to flow out of us.