

THE RIGHT TREE

1/2/17

God not only reveals the nature of the two primary trees in creation, he also uses similar metaphors for spiritual guidance and understanding. We are reminded that we are firstly, spiritual purposed creatures.

GEN 2:9 And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food (all natural trees of varying purposes, followed by 2 spiritual trees); the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Three types of trees mentioned in this verse. Natural trees that are pleasant to look at and some are good for food. A lot of trees are good for food (nuts, fruits, palms etc.): some are not good for food but are attractive in their coloration, size and shape, their texture, provide shade and variety, but their fruit or chemistry can be harmful. However, two specific trees control the spiritual destiny of each individual; the tree of Knowledge of good and evil and the tree of Life.

The tree of life offers the Spirit of God... Jesus used the concept of fruit trees to explain spiritual facts. **JOH 15:1** I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Jesus states that he is the true vine. There must also be false vines that seemingly appear to be good for food when in reality they have a toxic effect and threaten life. **2** Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. **3** Now ye are clean (cleansed and safe) through the word which I have spoken unto you. **4** Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. **5** I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. We have become part of the tree... not just outsiders feeding on the fruit. **6** If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. **7** If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Jesus relates with us about the concept of him being the vine and us being the branches. This is the ultimate experience, the start of a beautiful relationship with eternal promises. A perfected state of existence, speaking to God face to face as a friend... receiving and living through the Holy Spirit. We must abide (remain and continue) in him (the church) and his word (like the sap in a vine) in us.

The fruit of the tree the Knowledge of Good and Evil is also available. **GEN 2:16** 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. Don't eat from the tree of knowledge... a tree with colourful, tasty but highly toxic fruit.

GEN 3:4 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. It offered knowledge that appealed to the natural senses of man, blocking spiritual reasoning while highlighting carnal ideas and feelings. This allows humanity to use their feelings and ideas as a standard for everything. The fruit of our own mind is toxic and delusional. Delusions are where someone sees, hears, smells, tastes or feels things that don't exist outside their mind. Spiritually, it's a false perception, with a compelling sense of the reality of something not really present... any false or mistaken idea. The whole concept of life today is a delusion. All people die and the graveyards of the world remind us that our lives are terminal.

Reality and desire are often far removed from each other. **ISA 47:10** For thou hast trusted in thy wickedness: thou hast said, None seeth me. Thy wisdom and thy knowledge, it hath perverted thee; and thou hast said in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me. **11** Therefore shall evil come upon thee; thou shalt not know from whence it riseth: and mischief shall fall upon thee; thou shalt not be able to put it off: and desolation shall come upon thee suddenly, which thou shalt not know. Living by the senses is opposite to living by faith. The tree promised enlightenment, but not life. Humanity has exalted themselves, ignoring the loving hand which fashioned them in the dust of the earth from nothing. God promises eternal life with physical proof.

We need to offer God's side of the story. **ACT 2:38** Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. God offers evidence... people speak in a clear new language that they have never learnt.

Spiritual reality. **2COR 4:18** While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal. This is the difference between life and death, right and wrong. God offers clear, visual evidence... it's your choice!!

