

From Garden to Garden

*Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? Whom sleekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou hast borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.
– John 20:15 –*

One of the most remarkable testimonies that the Bible is the Word of the living God is its amazing uniformity. There is no human intellect that could have assembled such a cogent and invariable story with such historical veracity, and transmitted it via a series of forty authors over a span of fifteen hundred years. The story of redemption found from Genesis to Revelation is one of paradise lost and re-gained, and it is embodied in many ways within the two Federal Heads of humanity – the first Man, Adam, and the last Adam, Jesus Christ. The comparisons and contrasts between these two are as stunning as they are remarkable, leaving us in awe of both the Word of God and the God of the Word. Let us here consider but a few...

Adam enjoyed direct and open communion with God in the Garden of Eden. Christ relentlessly and restlessly sought for His Father through prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Adam failed the Serpent's momentary subtle deception in the lushness of Eden. Christ rebuffed the devil's head-on forty-day assault in the barren wilderness, and later successfully withstood an extended agonizing attack in the solitude of Gethsemane.

In Eden, Adam was provided the perfect help meet in Eve, yet fell. In Gethsemane, Christ was forsaken by His closest friends, yet remained true to His Father.

Adam's fall in Eden secured the sweat of the brow as the defining characteristic of mankind's purposeful work. Christ's sweat became drops of blood in Gethsemane, which blood became the only work upon which mankind can depend for eternal purpose.

Adam was cast out of a garden and forbidden to re-enter by Cherubic prohibition. Christ arose in a garden, His tomb hosting inviting and evangelistic angelic visitants, and then subsequently ascended from that garden above all principality and power.

Is there not a sanctified irony that Mary Magdalene assumed the risen Christ to be the gardener? In Eden, Adam tended the garden of God and was tasked with giving names to all the animals, before he was given a bride. Our Lord stepped out of His tomb and into a garden to eternally secure His beloved Bride, and will give each of us a new name in the city of our God.

Let us heartily praise God for the second Man, the last Adam, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

– D. Murcek