

All Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.

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Two Trees
Mini Book
Part 2

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Web sites titled,
“TWO TREES.”

Introduction

There were two trees in the garden of Eden (Gen. 2:9). There was in the garden the Tree of Life and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Adam and Eve were given the choice of which trees they would eat the fruit of. It says in Genesis 2:16,17, **“And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:...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.”**

Adam and Eve choose to eat of the wrong tree (**the tree of the knowledge of good and evil**). Did you know that God wanted man to eat of **“the Tree of Life,”** but not of **“the tree of knowledge of good and evil?”**

Did you know that the LORD God was not speaking to Adam alone in Genesis 2:16, where it says, **“And the LORD God commanded the man (adam), saying...”**? There is a miss translation into the English Bibles by putting the word **“the”** in front of the word **“man”** in this verse. Did you know that the word (adam) used in Genesis 2:16 means mankind in general, both male and female? It does not mean “Adam” (an individual person by the name of Adam). The LORD God was speaking to every human being that ever lived upon this earth, beginning with Adam and Eve and continuing on until Judgment Day, which is the day spoken of in Revelation 20:12.

Our English Bibles do not reveal these truths. The truth of what was said is only found by studying the Hebrew and the Greek, which are the inspired Scriptures (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20,21). Christians need to check the Hebrew and Greek also, for every person will stand before the LORD and be judged according to that which is written in the books (Rev. 20:10,12).

In Genesis 2:17, the LORD God said, **“...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.”** The LORD God was speaking to all mankind (including you and I) at the time when this was spoken in Genesis 2:17.

In Genesis, Chapters, One and Two, the LORD God was preparing for mankind (including you and I), to have an everlasting relationship and fellowship with God. God wants to have multitudes of people with Him in eternity, in the image of Jesus Christ (His Son). In 1 Corinthians 15:49, writing to Christians it says, **“as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.”** This verse is talking about bearing the image of God’s only begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

Are you ready to walk with God like Jesus walked with God and bear the image of Jesus Christ yourself?

EATING OF THE TWO TREES

God has provided for Christians to eat of the Tree of Life and have an abundant life (John 10:10). God has provided a way to be free of the works of the devil.

God's way, by eating of the Tree of Life is opposite of the world's ways. The world is still eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. But, Christians can eat of the Tree of Life and be free of the works of the devil.

Let me give an example of the difference between eating of the Tree of Life and eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. A sister in the LORD had gotten into an automobile accident and the left side of her face was all cut up by flying glass. I met her in the hospital just after she came down from the emergency room. When the doctor came in with the x-rays he examined her face very closely. He then said to her, *"There are no broken bones, but there is a lot of damage. Part of your eyelash is missing, and part of your eyebrow is missing. There is no place on your body where I can get eyebrows or eyelashes from at this time. All I can do is sew you up and after it is healed somewhat we can send you to another hospital about 100 miles away and they will be able to graft in some eyelashes and eyebrows."*

After the doctor left the room she said to me, *"We are not going to accept that are we?"* I said *"No, let's pray!"* I began to pray in the Spirit (*unknown* tongues). I must have prayed (in an *unknown* tongue) at least five minutes or more when she said to me, *"Is that all you are going to do is pray in the Spirit?"* I said to her, *"Let the Holy Spirit do what He wants to do."* And I continued to pray in the Spirit (*unknown* tongues).

After praying in the Spirit for quite some time, words began to come out of my mouth in English. I heard myself saying, *"In the name of Jesus I command the eyelashes to be there. In the name of Jesus I command the eyebrows to be there. In the name of Jesus I command the tear glands to be whole and working. In the name of Jesus I command the eye muscles to be working properly. In the name of Jesus I command 20-20 vision in her eyes."* Then, unexpectedly I heard these words come out of my mouth *"And she will be in church on Sunday."* When I heard myself say that, my mind stopped my spirit from praying. I could not believe in my mind that she would be in Church on Sunday. It was about 6:00 PM on Friday at that time.

Just a note here: The Scripture says, **"God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?"** (Numb. 23:19). Also see the following verses, "Deuteronomy 18:21,22; Jeremiah 28:9; Isaiah 55:11; Ezekiel 12:25,28; Luke 21:23."

When the Holy Spirit puts the words in your mouth they will always come to pass. This sister in the LORD was in Church that Sunday evening. What was spoken from my spirit did come to pass (even though I could not believe in my mind, "the words I heard coming out of my own mouth").

Following the prayer, they took her up for surgery. About 11:00 PM the doctor came to me and said, *"Praise the LORD! The eyebrows and eyelashes were all there. The tear glands were fine. Everything was there, all I had to do was sew her up."*

The words I was speaking while praying in the Spirit were not coming from my head. It was my spirit that was doing the praying (1 Cor. 14:14). It was the Holy Spirit putting the words in my mouth. I did the speaking, but I was speaking by the unction of the Holy Spirit within me (Acts 2:4).

While we are speaking in tongues, the Holy Spirit is giving us the words to say. The Holy Spirit can shift us over from our prayer language to His ministry gift of tongues (1 Cor. 12:10,28,30).

When the Holy Spirit takes over, it is no longer “we” who are doing the works, but the Spirit of God within us doing the works (John 14:10). When the Holy Spirit is in control, we are eating of the Tree of Life, not of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

The world is still eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. But, Christians should be eating of the Tree of Life, not of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

The world cannot “speak in tongues by the power of the Holy Spirit from within them.” The world cannot operate from their spirit, by the power of the Holy Spirit within them. The world does not have “the Baptism in the Holy Spirit” to enable them to “walk after the Spirit and not after the flesh” (Acts 1:4,5,8; 2:4; Rom. 8:1-8).

Eating of the Tree of Life is a totally different way of living than eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. It is a whole new way of living (walking after the Spirit and not after the flesh).

Today, just as in Genesis, Chapter Three, Christians have a choice between which trees they will eat the fruit of? Our choice is defined even better when it talks about the difference between walking after the flesh or after the Spirit. Romans 8:1,2 says, **“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit....For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.”**

Many Christians do not know that walking after the flesh and eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil are the same thing. When we eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, God is not pleased with us. Romans 8:5-8 says, **“For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit....For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace....Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be....So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.”**

God was not pleased when Adam and Eve ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Look what the LORD God said to Adam in Genesis 3:17, **“And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life.”**

Does God want Christians living under a curse? The Word of God declares that God “does not” want Christians living under a curse. In Galatians 3:13 it tells us, **“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.”** God does not want Christians living under a curse. In Genesis 3:17,18 God made it known unto us that man was living under a curse. Therefore, God sent Jesus into this world to die in our place, that we would no longer live under a curse. Now that Jesus took the curse upon Himself, Christians should be free of the curse of sin and death (Rom. 8:2). If Christians are not free of the curse of sin and death, it is not God’s fault, it is our own fault for not knowing and believing in what God has already done for us in Christ Jesus.

The world & the knowledge of good and evil

When Adam and Eve ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, all of mankind came under the curse of the law of sin and death. Adam is the head of mankind. When the head of mankind disobeyed the LORD God, Satan became mans slave master. Mankind become slaves to Satan. Romans 6:16 says, **“Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?”**

When Adam submitted to the voice of the woman (who had already submitted to the voice of the serpent, who also had already submitted to the voice of the devil), all mankind became slaves to the devil and the voices of those who serve the devil.

The voice of the Devil operates from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. The Devil uses words (both, spoken words and thoughts in the minds of people) to control what they say and do. Mankind became slaves to the Devil when Adam submitted to a voice which was not of God. By Adam submitting to the voice of another, all of Adam’s descendants became slaves to the Devil.

Jesus came into this world, born of a woman according to the Scriptures, and set everyone free (that is, everyone who will believe the Gospel). Those who do not believe the Gospel are still in bondage to the slavery of Satan, the Devil.

Even though Jesus paid the price for the redemption of every person born into this world, not everyone is free. In Revelation 1:8, Jesus said to the apostle John, **“I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.”**

Jesus took the keys of hell and death from the Devil, and gave them to the Church (which is His Body here on earth). In Matthew 16:19, Jesus spoke to Peter and said, **“And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”** Jesus was not speaking to Peter only, but to everyone who believes that Jesus is “Christ.”

Everyone who has become born again into the family of God by believing on Jesus Christ, and receiving Him as their LORD and Savior, are a part of the Body of Christ here on earth (which is the Church). Now, it is up to the Church to set the captives free!

How do we set the captives free? To be free, people who are not born again must become children of God by the New Birth (that is, born again of the Word of God and the Holy Spirit). By the new birth into the body of Christ an individual is redeemed from the powers of Satan, and translated into the kingdom of God’s Dear Son (Col. 1:13).

Satan is no longer our legal slave master. Through the New Birth, we become children of God, born from above. We are not of this world, and the world has no legal authority from God over us.

Because the world still operates by the knowledge of good and evil, they are still held in bondage to the Devil. Their freedom is already paid for by the body and blood of Jesus Christ. But, it is the knowledge of good and evil that holds them captive to the Devil. Until they eat of the Tree of Life, they will remain captive to the Devil, even though Jesus already paid the price for their redemption from all the works of the Devil (1 John 2:2).

There is a major difference between the Tree of Life and the tree of knowledge of good and

evil. God is the source of the Tree of Life. Satan is the source of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

Let us see the evidence of the difference between these two trees. God is the source of the Tree of Life, and God is Love (1 John 4:8). Love forgives and forgets. In Hebrews 8:12 (quoting what the LORD said in Jeremiah 31:34), it says, **“I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.”** (This is repeated in Hebrews 10:16,17). It also says in 1 John 1:7, **“if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”** Then also in 1 John 1:9 it says, **“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”**

When God forgives, He also forgets. God does not remember our sins anymore. They are completely removed from God’s memory. That is a part of the Tree of Life, in which God is the source of the Tree of Life.

The knowledge of good and evil, which Satan is the source of, always remembers everything anyone has done in the past. Satan never forgets and never forgives.

We see evidence of this everywhere we look. The system called “Law and Justice,” is not a work of God, it is Satan operating in this world by the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

In the “Courts” today, where they claim to be “just” in everything they do, they are always bringing to justice those whom they say at one time in their past they did something that was not right. Therefore, no matter how long ago it was, they still judge them according to their past.

The Word of God says, **“Judge not, that ye be not judged.”** Judging others for what they have done in the past is not of God. It is of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. It is of the world.

All over the world, people are being judged and even put to death for something they say, they did sometime in their past, sometimes many years ago. The world never forgives or forgets what someone has done in the past.

God always forgets and forgives those who repent and confess their sins and iniquities. God never remembers their sins and iniquities that they have repented of and confessed.

Christians who do not forgive others and forget what someone else did, are still eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. They are still submitting to the wrong voice.

Christians must forgive and forget, not only others, but also themselves. God is the source of the Tree of Life, and to eat of the Tree of Life, Christians must walk in the likeness and image of God, and forgive and forget. As God has forgiven us, we must also forgive others.

When God forgives us of what we have done in the past, He forgets our past and does not remember our sins or iniquities anymore. We must also forgive others and forget their past. By doing that, we have the right to eat of the Tree of Life. Those who do not forgive and forget do not have the right to eat of the Tree of Life.

Jesus said, “We cannot serve two masters” (Matt. 6:24). If we do not forgive and forget what others have done, we are not serving God, but rather have submitted to another, by eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

Jesus, Himself was judged and condemned by the High Priests, by King Herod, and by Pontius Pilot. Then Jesus was put to death, yet Jesus never did any wrong. Satan had nothing on Him, yet He was crucified. Jesus crucifixion was a result of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

Jesus, when He was crucified and put to death, said **“Father, forgive them; for they know**

not what they do” (Luke 23:34). Jesus knew how important it was to forgive those who crucified Him. Jesus forgave those who condemned Him without a cause. Jesus walked in total forgiveness, even for those who put Him to death.

Stephen also forgave those who stoned him. In Acts 7:60 it says, **“he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.”**

To the Church in Smyrna, Jesus told the apostle John to write, **“I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan....Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life”** (Rev. 2:9,10).

To the Church in Ephesus, Jesus told the apostle John to write, **“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God”** (Rev. 2:7). The world operates by the tree of knowledge of good and evil. But be of good cheer, for God operates by the Tree of Life.

Those who overcome the world, they will have the right to eat of the Tree of Life which is in the midst of the paradise of God. In 1 John 5:5, it says, **“Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?”** This is not talking about intellectual head knowledge. Even the demons believe that Jesus is the Son of God (Matthew 8:29). In 1 John 5:5 it is talking about believing in your heart, not your head.

When we totally believe that Jesus is the Son of God, then we will overcome the world in our lives. When we believe the Word of God, Satan has nothing on us. Romans 8:2 says, **“For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.”**

Jesus Himself taught us a lot concerning forgiveness. In Matthew 6:15, Jesus said, **“But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”** In Matthew 18:21 it says, **“Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?”** Peter did not totally understand what Jesus was talking about when He told them to forgive everyone their trespasses. Jesus answer to Peter was, **“I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven”** (Matt. 18:22). Jesus then spoke to His disciples in a parable concerning a certain King who called his servants to give an account of what they owed. After the King forgave one of his servants a very large debt, that servant went to another who owed him a very small debt, and would not forgive him. The King, when he found out what that servant did, called him back and **“...delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him”** (Matt. 18:34). Jesus then said to His disciples, **“So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses”** (Matt. 18:35). When we understand who the tormentors are that Jesus was speaking of (the demons in hell), we need to be sure we forgive those who trespass against us.

Jesus also spoke about those who pray to the Father, expecting that their prayer will be answered. In Mark 11:25,26, Jesus said, **“And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses....But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.”**

Many Christians today are not getting their prayers answered, simply because of not forgiving

others. What they do not understand is that when they do not forgive others, they are eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. This is what Adam and Eve did in the garden of Eden. They ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

Adam and Eve listened to the voice of another, rather than obeying the voice of the LORD God, which had told them, **“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”** (Gen. 2:17).

After they ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, Adam and Eve did two things that Christians should not do. One thing was, Adam and Eve did not “confess their sin and ask for forgiveness.” The other thing Adam and Eve both did was, they tried to push the blame upon someone else. Adam blamed the woman, and Eve blamed the serpent (Gen. 3:12,13). This does not work in the kingdom of God. Those who do those things cannot eat of the Tree of Life.

Because of what Adam did, Genesis 3:23,24 says, **“Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken....So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.”**

Adam was not permitted to eat of the Tree of Life at that time. Christians, who do not forgive others may not be permitted to eat of the Tree of Life. They may need to repent first and be restored to fellowship with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit before they can eat of the Tree of Life.

The source of the Tree of Life is God. Unless Christians are in fellowship with God, they may not be able to eat of the Tree of Life. Just as the Prodigal son in Luke 15:11-32 could not receive anything from his father while he was off in a far country, many Christians cannot receive anything from their Father when they are out of fellowship with God.

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