

THE TREE OF LIFE

According to (Gen.2:9), there were four categories of trees in the Garden of Eden. What were they called?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Adam and Eve were permitted to eat from all the trees except the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil (Gen.2:17) (Edenic Law).

As a result of violating the Edenic Law, they were banished from the Garden of Eden and from the Tree of Life (Gen.3:24). In Hebrew, it is called the **Tree of Lives**.

The same Hebrew word for “lives” is used in (Gen.2:7) – “God breathed into their nostrils the breath of lives (neshamah chayyim) and man became a living being.”

This lesson will study FIVE aspects of the Tree of Life and how it functions to those with the breath of life.

1. The Tree of Life is associated with three different biblical gardens of human history:

Garden of Eden (Gen.2:9)

A Period of innocence of man when he was neither saved nor lost. After Adam’s Original Sin (AOS), they were banished from it (Gen.3:21-24).

Garden of Divine Wisdom (Prov.3:13, 18; 11:30; 13:12; 15:4)

The Period of human history between the Garden of Eden and Garden of Paradise.

Garden of Paradise of God (Rev.2:7; 22:2, 14, 19)

The Period of resurrected believers in the New Heavens and Earth.

2. During the Period of Innocence, Adam and Eve could eat from the Tree of life. After AOS, they were not permitted to eat from it (Gen.3:21-24).

Therefore, the Tree of Life did not have anything to do with immortal or mortal because there was no death.

Rather it was associated with the breath of life (chayyim) (plural) in the period of innocence (Gen.2:7-9, 17). Believers will return to this principle in the eternal paradise of God (New Heavens and Earth) (Rev.22).

It was designed to perpetuate neshamah chayyim (the breath of lives) to correct muth, muth (dying you shall die).

It was designed for those who had ‘the breath of lives’ (neshamah chayyim) and ‘made in the image according to the likeness of God’ (tselem Demuth) and without the sentence of death (Gen.6:17; 7:15, 22-23; Job 27:3; 34:14-15).

3. In Adam's fall, both the body and soul were affected. The body lost immortality and the soul lost eternal life (1 Cor.15:38-40, 54; John 3:16; 5:24).

- Directive will of God Gen.2:17
- Permissive will Gen.3:11
- Over-ruling will Gen.3:21-24

“God stationed a cherubim and the flaming sword (rhomphaia / LXX) which turned in every direction to guard the way to the tree of life.” (Gen.3:24)

(Gen.3:22b) “And now, he might stretch out his hand, and take also from the tree of life, and eat, **and live forever.**”

The sword of God judgment stood between fallen man and the tree of life until the end of the antediluvian civilization. It was a symbol to that civilization of what was lost in AOS.

4. God designed another tree for fallen man through-out human history called the Cross.

(1 Cor.1:18) “For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Col.1:20)

(1 Pet.2:24) “And He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross (xulon) (Matt.27:32), that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.” (Acts 5:30-31; 10:39-40; 13:29-30)

The cross of Christ removes the transgression of AOS in those who believe the gospel of Christ (Rom.4:25; 5:12-21).

Only the cross of Christ can remove spiritual death and at the same time give eternal life (John 5:24; 1 Tim.1:10). His resurrection establishes our resurrection body (1 Cor.15:20-24).

If you have the tree of the cross in time, than you will have the tree of life in eternity (Rev.2:7; 1 John 5:5; 2 Cor.12:2).

5. Paul gave a six-fold comparison of the physical body under AOS to resurrection body under salvation in Christ (1 Cor.15:42-50, 53).

Physical Body

Sown
Perishable
Dishonor
Natural
Earthy
Mortal

Resurrection Body

Raised
Imperishable
Glory
Spiritual
Heavenly
Immortal

(Rev.22:14) “**Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city.**” (Rev.7:14)

(1 Cor.15:57) “**But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**”