Church in Kobe

The Tree of Life is the Center of the Universe

The mind set on the spirit is life and peace.(Rom.8:6)



Experience Of Christ - In Spirit 1141

- 1. We will sing to the Lord with our spirit, We will sing to the Lord from within, We will sing hallelujah to Jesus; And be blent into oneness with Him.
- 2. We have been many years in religion, We have been many years in our mind, We have been many years in emotions, Always seeking, but never to find.
- 3. Now we're learning to turn to our spirit, Now we're learning to take Christ as life; Now we're learning to feed upon Jesus And be freed from all struggling and strife.
- 4. Hallelujah for life in the Spirit, Hallelujah for newness within.

When we turn from our mind to our spirit, We enjoy all the riches of Him.

Hymn 2

Experience Of Christ - As Food And Drink 1145

- God gave His Son to man to be The tree of life so rich and free, That every man may taste and see That God is good for food. Yes, God is good for food! Yes, God is good for food! We've tasted and we testify That God is good for food!
- 2. We eat this feast and take God in, And as we eat we live by Him, For all the elements within This feast are God Himself. Yes, Jesus is our feast! Yes, Jesus is our feast! We eat this feast and live by Him, For Jesus is our feast!
- Christ Jesus is the food we eat; He is our bread, He is our meat; He is our life-supply complete; We daily eat of Him. We daily eat of Him, We daily eat of Him. He is our life-supply complete; We daily eat of Him.
- 4. This feast is so enjoyable; To men it's so available,
 For God said whosoever will May come and freely eat.
 Yes, come and freely eat; Yes, come and freely eat.
 For God said whosoever will May come and freely eat.

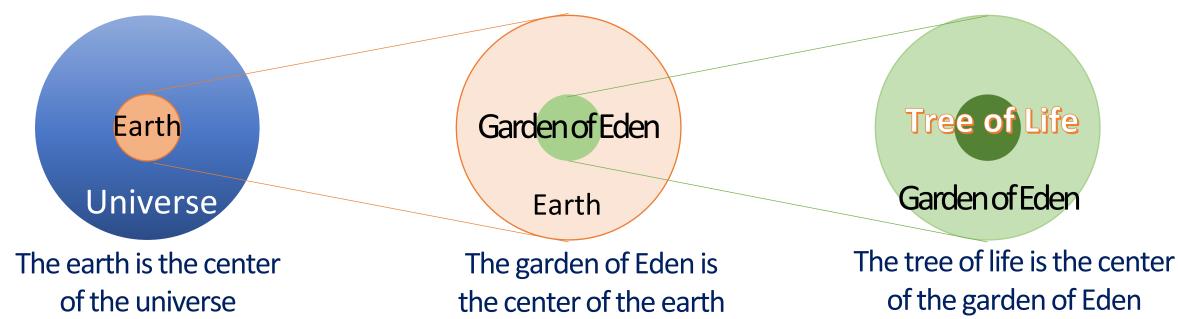


Worship of the Father - His Praise from Many Sons 54

- 1. O God and Father, we our praises bring, For who more worthy of our praise could be Than Thou, who seekest worshipers who sing In spirit and in truth adoringly!
- 2. All worlds Thou hast created by the Son, All things are held by His unmeasured power; Yet we approach Thee in that glorious One: What cause for worship in this holy hour!
- 3. 'Tis He who leads us in this blessed sphere, In the assembly singing praise to Thee; What joy to Him that we should thus be near As suited and in perfect liberty!
- 4. Here we unite, our song of joy is one! And Thou, O God, art fully satisfied. Amidst the praises led by Christ, Thy Son, Thou hast a dwelling ever to abide.

Subject: The Tree of Life is the Center of the Universe

- <u>Gen. 2:9</u> And out of the ground Jehovah God caused to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, as well as the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. <u>17</u> But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, of it you shall not eat; for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.
- 1. The tree of life signifies that Triune God dispenses Himself as life in Christ in the form of food into His chosen people.
- 2. The tree of life is the center of the universe. In God's purpose, the earth is the center of the universe and the garden of Eden is the center of the earth and the tree of life is the center of the garden of Eden. To God and man, nothing is so central than the tree of life.



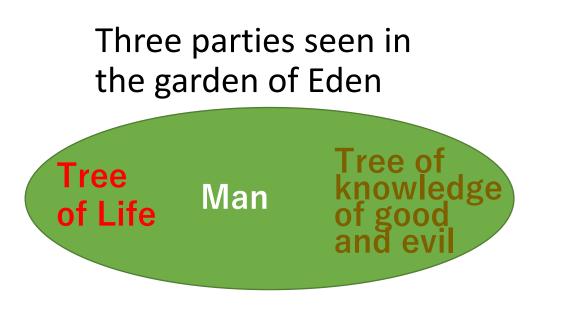
What is the center of the universe?

(General term for the four big companies of the world) Tree Google of Life facebook amazon

- 3. The two trees in Genesis 2:9—the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil—represent two principles of living.
- 4. When we received the Lord Jesus and gained a new life, we obtained the principle of life. The sense of life on the negative side is the feeling of death. The sense of life on the positive side is the feeling of life and peace, with a consciousness of strength, satisfaction, rest, brightness, and comfort. we will care not for good and evil but for life, and we will discern matters not according to right and wrong but according to life and death.
- 5. The difference between the knowledge of good and evil and God as the genuine good: The genuine good is God Himself; hence, gaining God equals gaining the genuine good. When the rich young ruler came to the Lord Jesus and called Him, "Good Teacher," the Lord Jesus said, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good except One—God" (Mark 10:17-18). If besides God we gain any other good, that is terrible. If we touch the good things outside of God, this means that we touch Satan.

	The good in the realm of knowledge of good and evil	The good in the realm of life
Source	The tree of knowledge of good and evil, Satan	The tree of life, God
Inside	Filled with Jealousy, envy and rivalry etc.	Christ is living inside
Outside	Superficial good. Discrepancy between inside and outside	Express God as good from inside to outside

- 6. Every genuine believer in Christ is a miniature garden of Eden, with God as the tree of life in his spirit and Satan as the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in his flesh. Our spirit is mingled with the Triune God, and our body, which has become the flesh, is mixed with the sinful element of Satan; this makes the Christian a miniature garden of Eden.
- 7. Romans 8:5-6 shows a miniature garden of Eden, with the flesh and death on one side, the spirit and life on the other side, and the mind in the middle. When we set our mind on the spirit, we have life, peace, light, comfort, and strength. <u>Rom. 8:5</u> For those who are according to the flesh mind the things of the flesh; but those who are according to the spirit, the things of the Spirit. <u>6</u> For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.



Tree of knowledge of good and evil

Tree of life Spirit Soul (mind) Body

Every believer is a miniature garden of Eden

The main organ of the soul is the mind

Conclusion: According to the divine revelation in the Scriptures, there are two trees (two sources, two principles), two ways, and two consummations

These two ways, the way of life and the way of death, lead men to the two Godordained ends—the New Jerusalem and the lake of fire—respectively. The two ways, the way of life and the way of death and of good and evil, constitute the two controlling, ruling, and regulating principles by which men have their relationship with God.

The first principle is the principle of life, according to which all men in the way of life keep their contact with God, and by which they seek God, gain God, possess God, and enjoy God, step by step, until they reach the fullest extent.

The second principle is the principle of death and of good and evil, in which all men in the way of death follow Satan either consciously or unconsciously, and through which they reject God and His way of life to be Satan's companions unto death and eternal perdition.

<u>Two Trees</u> $\Rightarrow \Rightarrow =$	$\Rightarrow \Rightarrow \Rightarrow$	<u>Two Ways</u> ⇒ ≓	$\Rightarrow \Rightarrow \Rightarrow$	⇒Two destination	١S
Tree of Life	\Rightarrow	Way of Life	\Rightarrow	New Jerusalem	
Tree of knowledge of good and evil	\Rightarrow	Way of Death	\Rightarrow	Lake of Fire	

<u>Testimony of "setting mind on the spirit" 1</u>:

When I decided to take the exam for the master's program and was studying, I was frustrated because my studies were not going well. I was worried that I would not pass the exam, so I often prayed like this, "Lord Jesus, I have been so absorbed in club activity for three years and I did not study much, so it is difficult for me to study for this exam and is not going well. However, since I haven't been looking for a job, if I don't pass this exam, it will be a very serious problem. If I pass, I will be able to manage, so please let me pass the exam". (At that time, there were almost no mid-career hires, so if I couldn't pass the graduate school, I had to spend a year of jobhunting or study for another exam). There was no one to do such a thing.) No matter how many times I prayed in this way, I had no peace. One day, after praying, the Lord said to me, "Do you love me or do you love the blessings I give you?" I immediately replied, "Don't be so rigid, I will love you as long as you let me pass, just let me pass". We had this conversation three times. And each time, I was filled with anxiety inside. Then I realized that I could not change the Lord, and finally I set my mind on the spirit and prayed, "Lord, I repent. Forgive me for the impurity of my heart. Regardless I will pass or not, I still love You". Immediately I prayed this way, I was filled with the peace of God that surpassed human understanding. At the same time, I had the sense that the Lord was leading me to higher education. Then, contrary to the prediction of all the people around me, I passed the exam. I could learn a lot because I was desperate for graduate school. **1**You need to have a pure heart toward the Lord Jesus, so you need to love the Lord Himself, not His blessings outside. 29 When you set your mind on the spirit, there is peace that is beyond human understanding. In this sense of life, we have the Lord's leading and blessing, and we can move on. 🕄 If you set your mind on the flesh and pray, there will be no peace, only the sense of death, such as frustration, anxiety etc., and there is no leading nor blessing. (4) realized that the center of the universe is the tree of life and I cannot change this divine plan ordained by God.

Testimony of "setting mind on the spirit" 2: When I was working as an executive at one of the world's largest foreign companies in my industry, I was one of three people selected from employees around the world to be included in a 50th anniversary commemorative book. At that time, a foreign company in Osaka strongly invited me through a headhunter, so I had an interview with the president of the Japanese subsidiary. Afterwards, I declined the offer, explaining to the headhunter that I found no reason to change jobs. However, the headhunter ignored my story and requested to have a phone interview. And his enthusiasm pushed me to do a phone interview. Then, when I decided not to change jobs, I immediately lost my inner peace. I wondered, but since it was true that I had lost my peace, I thought, "Maybe the Lord is leading me". After that, I went to the U.S. for an interview with the executives of the U.S. headquarters. On my way to the U.S., when I changed planes in Seattle, I was so tired that I fell asleep right in front of the gate and missed the timing and was denied boarding. I was stunned. But later, the departure was greatly delayed due to an aircraft inspection, so I was eventually able to board. I have been abroad more than 70 times and this has never happened to me again. When I arrived at my hotel on the East Coast, I asked myself, "What am I doing?" I repented that I had come to the U.S. without motivation and prayed, "Lord, since You even used an aircraft inspection to get me to this hotel, I will go for interview with serious commitment tomorrow." When I arrived at the company next morning, I realized that the Lord was leading this as He opened my eyes in spirit. I prayed briefly, "Thank the Lord. I will be interviewed with the Lord, in the Lord, for the Lord, in oneness with the Lord" and was interviewed by five executives of the headquarters. I passed all the tests with perfect scores. I later found out that the company had the highest stock price in the industry due to its ability to develop new products in the U.S. market, and it was a company that could benefit from my experience. I also found out that I was removed from the executive treatment at my previous company, due to the jealousy of my boss.

I was following the common sense of my notions, setting my mind on flesh, losing my peace, and deviating from the way of life. If I had followed the common sense of business, this career change would not have been possible. However, because of God's mercy, I was finally able to set my mind on the spirit and take the way of life and peace. By taking the way of life, I was able to take on more responsibility than before, experience a greater Christ, experience more reigning in Christ, and move forward.