

Between the Trees

Romans 1.24-32

“God saw all that he had made, and it **was very good**. And there was evening, and there was morning – the sixth day.” Genesis 1.31

“Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. And the LORD God made **all kinds of trees** grow out of the ground – **trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food**. In the middle of the garden were the **tree of life** and the **tree of the knowledge of good and evil**.

A river watering the garden flowed from Eden.” Genesis 2.8-10a

“The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the LORD God commanded the man, ‘**You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.**’” Genesis 2.15-17

Genesis 3.6-11

“Then the LORD God said to the woman, ‘**What is this you have done?**’” Genesis 3.13

“So the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, **‘Cursed** are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! **And I will put enmity** between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”” Genesis 3.15-16

“Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator – who is forever praised. Amen.

Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.

Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity.

They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless. Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.” Romans 1.24-32

“As it is written:

‘There is no one righteous, not even one;

There is no one who understands, no one who seeks God.’” Romans 3.10-11; Psalm 51.1-3

“There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.” Romans 3.22b-24

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6.23

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Romans 5.1

“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.” Romans 8.1

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship.” Romans 12.1

“Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the **tree of life, bearing** twelve crops of **fruit, yielding** its **fruit** every month. And the **leaves of the tree** are for the **healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse**. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.” Revelation 22.1-5; Revelation 21.1-4