

What would life look like when your soul is in constant fellowship with God?

No matter how complex a food is, whether Burger and Fries or Eba and Egusi, it all comes down to the basic food nutrients: Carbohydrates, protein, and fats. Similarly, no matter how complex a word is, we must break it down to its essence or meaning of the word for it to benefit us.

What does living a life filled with the Holy Spirit look like? Consider Jesus. He was calm and sleeping amidst a storm (Mark 4:35-41). It is one level to be awake and calm in such a situation, but it's another greater level where you are calm enough to sleep. This tells the level of faith in Jesus.

We need this level of faith and peace, which we can experience now and not in some unknown future. There is the ability to live like the Lord Jesus, not just in power, but in the state of our inner man (John 1:12).

Let's go to Genesis - The Creation Story

Key Scripture: Genesis 2:1-18

Moses wrote the book of Genesis, which contains history of several generations before him. Yet, the book looks like it was written by a first-hand observer. This makes one suspect that there could be more to the story than a literal meaning. This does not license us to imply just anything but glean into what we can. We see in verse 7 and 8 of Genesis 2, God formed man and made him a living soul and *afterwards* planted a garden eastward in Eden.

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. [8] And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed (Genesis 2:7-8 KJV)

An Influencer to the World

As an aside, one can interact with some books in the bible like Kings and Chronicles as stories, while Psalms to Malachi as a dictionary. One can interact with Matthew to John as stories with deep truths and Acts as a documentary. Then Romans to 3 John as teachings, while Revelation is purely prophetic.

However, about 80% of the interpretation of Revelations can be found in Psalms through Malachi. Recall the question we asked earlier is: *How will your soul look when your life is in sweet fellowship in the Holy Spirit?* Your life could be as Jesus who was unperturbed by the storms (of and in life). He was not scared of being influenced by the world as some Christians are; he was an influencer to the world.

The Soul as a (Well-Watered) Garden

Further interpreting Genesis 2:7, we see God made Adam a living soul and placed him in Eden. Jeremiah and Isaiah help us understand the soul is synonymous to a well-watered *garden*.

Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, and shall flow together to the goodness of the LORD, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young of the flock and of the herd: and their soul shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not sorrow any more at all (Jeremiah 31:12 KJV)

And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not (Isaiah 58:11 KJV)

Based on the two scriptures above, we can denote the formula that the soul equals a garden.

Soul = Garden

Eden; the Garden of God (Paradise, Heaven)

Interpreting Genesis 2:8, where God planted a garden in Eden, using scripture, a passage in Ezekiel may come to mind. We see how Ezekiel 28:13 calls Eden the garden of God.

Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. [14] Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. [15] Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee (Ezekiel 28:13-15 KJV)

Another scripture that gives more light to Eden is 2 Corinthians 12:1-4.

It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord. [3] And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) [4] How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter (2 Corinthians 12:1,3-4 KJV)

This passage references a paradise. The Greek word for paradise is “Paradisos” which means Eden, a park, a grove or a pleasure ground. The Hebrew word Eden means pleasure. In essence, Eden could mean an environment or state of being that is heaven. As we are equipped to see that in the prophetic books of Ezekiel and Isaiah, the soul is seen as a garden. And Eden is heaven.

Eden = Heaven

This then suggests an interesting aspect of life that Adam was living in. In conclusion, if the soul equals a garden and Eden is synonymous to heaven, then ***garden in Eden (from Gen 2:8) can be substituted for soul in heaven.***

What is the Soul?

The soul comprises one's will, emotions, mind and desires. So what does it mean to have your will, emotions, mind, and desires in heaven?

If the soul is in heaven, it is able to receive heavenly communications that euphorically affects its mind, desires, will, and emotions. Because the mind and thoughts are interconnected, thoughts are a medium to receive communication in the spirit. These thoughts may not be necessarily channeled at you, e.g sensing an unclean spirit or the glory of God. Simply because you were there (in heaven), you picked it up.

What does it mean for your will, emotions, mind and desires to be in heaven? Adam was asked to name animals and it just so happened that Adam got the animals correct. God brought the animals to see what He would call it (Gen 2:19) This was not verifying Adam's physical intellectuality, but to see if Adam's spiritual antenna was on. God already knew what He wanted to call the animals. Adam was Adam, but the wisdom expressed in him was God's. This was what we saw in the first Adam. In the

second Adam (Christ Jesus), we see a better picture of his soul in the heavens even though he was physically on earth.

*Therefore Jesus answered and was saying to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner **John 5:19 NASB***

Second Adam - Jesus, The Perfect Pattern

Jesus, the second Adam, was always in communication with God. This was the means by which the first Adam was to have dominion, by being a conduit. However, the first Adam fell from this estate. The Adam template was that a person sees Father's will, mind, emotions, and desires and does in accordance. This means that there is no basis for lust, no basis for worry etc because none of these conditions exists in the heavens. This means you may see a dead situation on earth and not despair, but speak life to it as seen in heaven. Sometimes, you need to wait four days as in the case of the resurrection of Lazarus (John 11:34-36). You may cry, not because you do not know what to do, but simply because you do not like to see someone you love go through pain.

Soul in Heaven

When Gabriel came to tell Zacharias that he would have a child, he had to recite his status as one who stands in the presence of God (Luke 1:19). The same is the confidence with which we are to live. Our conduct and our disposition is to be consistent with heavenly communication. Imagine yourself as a news attendant in heaven. Zacharias unbelief shocked Gabriel and that caused the angel to remind him where He was coming from.

While speaking to Daniel, angel Gabriel referred to him as "a man greatly beloved." That was a heavenly observation. By design, the garden is in Eden. Just as Gabriel brought news to Zacharias, we are also in the community of heaven. We follow the news in heaven. If heaven is calm, even if the world is perturbed, we are calm. If heaven says danger, even if there is peace on earth, we are alarmed.

Rivers of Living Water

If your soul is in heaven, your current affairs will be from heaven. As a result, you will have the boldness to neither say confederacy with them that do nor fear as they that fear (Isaiah 18:12). The

Lord orchestrated that the garden is supposed to be in Eden, the soul in heaven, not some place else. And have four great rivers water the whole garden (Genesis 2:10). This also brings to mind Revelation 22:1 and Isaiah 66:1, which speaks of a river flowing from the throne of God. This means the rivers flow from heaven to our souls. Hence, Jesus said “out of your belly (soul) shall flow rivers of living water (John 7:38).

In the natural, there are gardens rooted in the earth and raised bed gardens (portable gardens). It is an aberration then for the floods of the dragon's heart to be making its way to your garden, when the river of life is flowing in. This means that someone may have come in the night and placed tires on your portable garden, pulling you away from the pure river in Eden.

Ideally, there is a holy peer pressure in heaven that will cause you to desire things of heaven. It can be by some aberration that your soul (garden) has been dragged out of eden. In such cases, you just notice that your thoughts and the streams you are receiving are not of life. If you are properly situated where you should be, your emotions will be in tune with heaven. Same goes for your will, emotions, mind, and desires. These are KPIs (Key Performance Index) and pointers to evaluate your current location. What do you apply yourself consciously? How much ease do you have to rebel against heaven's command? Ordinarily, being in heaven, it is not easy to have a contrary will to God's when you are hearing thunder and lightning of the will of God. It might be that someone has put tires under your raised bed garden to send you away from Eden.