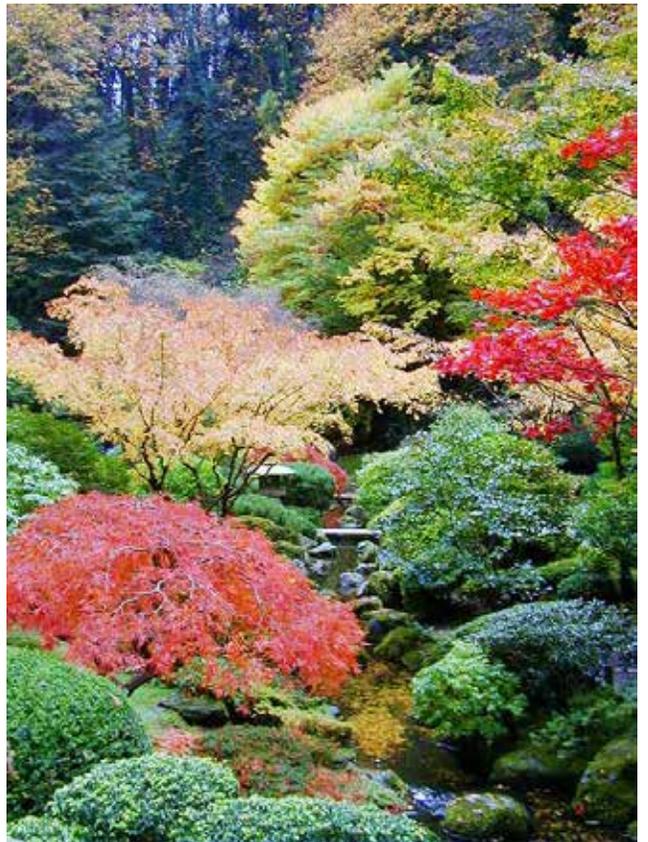


*"And the LORD Shall Guide thee continually, and Satisfy thy soul in drought, and Make Fat thy bones: and Thou Shalt Be Like A Watered Garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not." Isaiah 58:11 KJV*

The Garden of Eden was the handiwork of Almighty God. *"And the LORD God Planted A Garden eastward in Eden; and there He Put the man whom He Had Formed. And out of the ground Made The LORD God To Grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the Tree of Life also in the midst of the Garden, and the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. And a River went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads."*

We know three of these rivers to this day; The Nile, The Tigris, and The Euphrates. These are not small rivers. They are among the largest in the world. You can imagine what the source must have been like. The Garden must have been a spectacular sight to behold. We have some very beautiful spots cultivated today even under "The Curse." I can only imagine how lovely Eden must have been! We can be quite sure that when God Speaks of a "Watered Garden," He Knows what He's Talking about: He Planted the first one. To be able to grow freely, with nary a thought given to sustenance, means living a stress-free life.



God can only Guide us if we follow Him. He Is Invisible to the human eye, so we must use our eyes of Faith and Love to follow His Direction from His Word. He Has Written Detailed Instructions concerning our path and how we ought to conduct ourselves upon it. *"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed (obeying) according to Thy Word. Thy Word Is A Lamp unto my feet, and A Light unto my path. Thy Word is Truth"* We're even told what protective gear to wear. *"Put on the Whole Armour of God."* The dangers are clearly defined, and the Path is well marked by our Guide for us to follow. *"When He, the Spirit of Truth, Is Come, He Will Guide you into all Truth. God is a Spirit and those that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in Truth."* The trail is sometimes steep and hazardous, and we are fearful to proceed. That's when obedience to God's Word holds on to us and keeps us from falling off the precipice of temptation. *"When lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."* Many would discourage us from the Way, because they are too afraid to go themselves. Misery ever loves company, and the thought of someone successfully following irks them to no end. If we obey, we will have "good success" in this life. Following our Guide means always obeying His Word. There are some that would try to heap burdens of "much serving" upon us. Jesus said, *"Take My Yoke upon you and learn of Me."* Learning from Him is far more desirable than laboring for Him. Pulling in the yoke with Him makes any burden lighter!

A watered garden knows no lack,  
It will flourish when attacked,  
Its blooms belie the spring beneath,  
Upon whose boughs doth life bequeath. –CGP

A hungry man will not stray far from the table. In the desert there is abundant growth, where there is water. Find the Spring of Living Water and you will stay well watered. Abundant fruit is evidence of a well "watered garden."

*"Looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith; Who for the Joy That Was Set Before Him Endured the cross, despising the shame, and Is Set Down at the Right Hand of the Throne of God. For consider Him That Endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds." Hebrews 12:2-3 KJV*