

The Apple of Eden



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Did you notice the assumption?

The Bible does not say “Apple” but the average person thinks it does.

There are many things that are assumed to be in the Bible, but are not.

Let’s examine a few

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Morality Saves

**Many assume that if you are a good person
you will go to heaven**

But that is just another “Apple of Eden”

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Morality Saves

Notice Cornelius Acts 10

Acts 10:1-2

“There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment, a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always.”

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Morality Saves

Notice Cornelius Acts 10

Acts 10:48

“And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord...”

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Morality Saves

The only way to Heaven is through Jesus

John 14:6

“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

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Morality Saves

The only way to Heaven is through Jesus

Acts 4:10-12

“let it be known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by Him this man stands here before you whole. This is the 'stone which was rejected by you builders which has become the chief cornerstone.’ Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

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Morality Saves

Morality is desirable, but it alone will not save us from our sins!

Along with morality we also need obedience.

Matthew 7:21

“Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.”

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Signs Point to Jesus Immediate Return

Many believe that Jesus is coming soon to establish an earthly kingdom.

But that is just another “Apple of Eden”

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Signs Point to Jesus Immediate Return

**The “Signs” they refer to are found in
Matthew 24**

**As with any passage we must do as
Paul told Timothy in II Tim. 2:15**

**“Be diligent to present yourself approved to
God, a worker who does not need to be
ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”**

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Signs Point to Jesus Immediate Return

“Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.” Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?”

Matthew 24:1-3

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Signs Point to Jesus Immediate Return

There were two issues under consideration

- 1. The destruction of Jerusalem, vs. 4-35**
- 2. Jesus coming and the end of the world, vs. 36-51**

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Signs Point to Jesus Immediate Return

The key to understanding Matthew 24 is found in verses 34-36.

“Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place.

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.”

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Signs Point to Jesus Immediate Return

Peter says there will be no signs or warnings telling us of Jesus return.

“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.”

II Peter 3:10

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Signs Point to Jesus Immediate Return

There are no signs that tell us of the time of Jesus return.

There will be no earthly kingdom because the world will be destroyed.

We must live so as to be ready for whenever Jesus returns.

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One Church Is As Good As Another

Many people think that what church a person belongs to doesn't matter.

But that is just another "Apple of Eden"

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One Church Is As Good As Another

Jesus built only “one” church!

Matthew 16:18

“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”

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One Church Is As Good As Another

Jesus built only “one” church!

Ephesians 2:16 & 4:4-6

“...that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross...”

“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

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One Church Is As Good As Another

Jesus built only “one” church!

Ephesians 1:22-23

“And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.”

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One Church Is As Good As Another

Jesus built only “one” church!

Jesus prayed that we would all be one!

“I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.”

John 17:20-21

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One Church Is As Good As Another

Jesus built only “one” church!

Jesus prayed that we would all be one!

**But soon after the church was established,
“men” were dividing the Lord’s church.**

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One Church Is As Good As Another

“Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you. Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ.” Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?” 1 Cor.1:10-13

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One Church Is As Good As Another

Is one church as good as another?

NO! There is only ONE true church!

When we read God's Word, believe, repent, confess, and are baptized (immersed) for the remission of sins, then we are added to the Lord's church. The only church where the saved are added. The only church that Jesus died for and built. Acts 2:47

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These are just a few of the “Apples of Eden”

May this lesson serve as a warning that we don't accept what “men” say, but what God says through His Word!

“Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus...” Col. 3:17

A photograph of a vibrant rainbow arching across a sky filled with soft, grey clouds. The bottom of the image shows a dark green field. The text is overlaid on the sky portion of the image.

Who are you following?

God! or Man!

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