

Carolyn Roth Ministry

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Newsletter



Oak Tree Myth

Symbolism for the oak is might and strength.

In the gold age, oaks dripped honey, and men lived in peace and comfort under these mighty trees. Mankind used no other shelter but oak boughs.

In the silver age, mankind left the comforts of the oak boughs. They stripped oak branches and made huts. They isolated themselves from each other.

In the bronze age, mankind shaped wooden handles from the oak for the ploughs and weapons as they attempted to conquer the earth and each other.

The iron age was an age of greed, crime, and violence. Oaks were cut for battle ships, railroad ties, etc. Where once oaks were mighty and blessed, now they were cursed because of their might.

GARDENING GENESIS

MEDITATIONS TO LIVE BY



Dr. Carolyn A. Roth

What's this book about?

40 devotions on characters and plants in Genesis to help get through sheltering in place.

Eating from the Tree of Life

God gave no prohibition against Adam and Eve eating fruit from the tree of life (Genesis 2.16). All trees in the Garden of Eden were attractive to the eye and/or good for food, so it is likely that Adam and Eve ate fruit from the tree of life while they lived in Eden. After Adam and Eve disobeyed God, they were expelled from the Garden of Eden.

Adam and Eve's access to the tree of life was based on a proper relationship with God. After God expelled them from the Garden of Eden, they didn't have access to the tree of life. They couldn't eat its fruit. They couldn't live forever with God, nor could their offspring. Further, God didn't allow Adam and Eve to reenter the Garden of Eden after expelling them.

Although the Garden of Eden was destroyed before or during the great flood of Noah's time, the tree of life wasn't destroyed. It was transplanted to Paradise.

The tree of life is destined to return to earth. In the new Jerusalem, a river of water will flow from the throne of God down the middle of a great street. The tree of life is located on both sides of the river that flows from God's throne. It will produce fruit. Believers who overcome evil will eat fruit from the tree of life; thus, they will experience eternity with God.

Sometimes I ponder why mankind identified the tree species for the tree of knowledge of good and evil (an apple tree), but not for the tree of life. Perhaps, mankind thought that the tree of life was too sacred to reduce it to a species' name.

The Hebrew word "*chay*" means alive, living thing, and life that lives. *Chay* (life) is contrasted with death. Most of us want to live now as well as have an immortal life with God.

Reflection Have you symbolically eaten from the tree of life, or are you dead?



This photograph was taken in Israel 's Biblical Landscape Preserve on one of our trips.

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