Research on Deep Sleep of Adam

Genesis 2: 8, 16, 17, 21-23

At least nineteen times in Mrs. Eddy’s writings she refers to the material creation of Adam and Eve in Genesis, chapter two, as an “allegory.” The word can mean a story with a hidden meaning; a description using fictional characters; an extended metaphor.

8 And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

“Eden” is a name that may mean “pleasure, delight or enjoyment” (*AB Genesis* 16).

9 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. (not in this week’s lesson)

Tree is *ets* in Hebrew which means “a tree; wood, timber. **Its related word is *atsah* which means to fasten or make firm, i.e., to close (the eyes): shut.**

**The tree of knowledge of good and evil, dualism, lies. It claims the tree will open the eyes, but instead it shuts the eyes.**

**“Physiology.” As a representative of the serpent, or material medicine, physiology closes the eyes of mortals and never opens them. Only the light of Christ, operating through Christianity, can show us the true means of healing and thus enable us to demonstrate it.**

**The study of physiology** *(the science that deals with the bodies of living things, how they operate, branch of biology that deals with the functions of living organisms and their parts)* **closes the eyes of mortals, however, the chapter “Physiology” opens them!**

The tree of life is mentioned again in Gen. 3:22, 24. We also find the phrase in Prov. 3:18; 11:30; 13:12; 15:4; Rev. 2:7; 22:2, 14.

There are two distinct trees in the middle of the garden. Verse 9 has the first mention of “evil” in the Bible.

“Tree of life – so called from its symbolic character as a sign and seal of immortal life. Its prominent position ‘in the midst of the garden,’ where it must have been an object of daily observation and interest, was admirably fitted to keep man habitually in mind of God and futurity” (Jamieson 18).

“The Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil was endowed with every physical attribute designed to appeal to man’s taste, imagination and intellect. Man’s physical senses, his imagination and his intelligence may tell him that a certain thing is good, indeed, the very best, and if man partakes of it, this may be an offense that is deemed deserving of death” (*Pentateuch*, textual notes).

Some scholars conclude that this tree symbolizes dualism. And since a tree is known by its fruits, coexistence of good and evil is death (Gen. 2:17).

16 And the Lord God commanded the man saying Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

**“Thou mayest freely eat;**without offence to me, or hurt to thyself. The words in Hebrew have the form of a command, but are only a permission or indulgence. . .” (Matthew Poole’s Commentary, www.biblehub.com).

17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

21 And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

**Sleep** in Hebrew is “*tardemah*” which means a lethargy or trance; a deep sleep. It is related to the word radam which means to stun, stupefy with sleep or death; to be fast asleep; in a deep sleep, a dead sleep. To be unconscious; be in heavy sleep. (7290)

22 And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

SH 585:23-28

**Eve.**A beginning; mortality; that which does not
last forever; a finite belief concerning life, substance,
and intelligence in matter; error; the belief that the hu-
man race originated materially instead of spiritually, —
that man started first from dust, second from a rib, and
third from an egg.

23 This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh, but she shall be called woman because she was taken out of man.

Bone is *etsem* (6106) in Hebrew which means **body**, substance, essence.

The root word of body or bone is *atsam* (1673) which means to **bind fast i.e. close the eye**s; to crunch the bones; break the bones; to be mighty; to shut tightly the eyes.

Corporeal sense, or the belief that life is in a material body, closes the eyes. The serpent claims that the tree of good and evil will open the eyes to the divine method of healing the body: “For God doth know that in the day ye eat of the tree thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”

“tree” comes from a root meaning to “close the eyes” shut”

“Body” or bones means to “bind fast or close the eyes”