



Cawdor Castle Scotland



Kew Gardens



The Garden of Life

I love the gardens of our country. Gardens are wonderful places – whether it's the formal gardens of a great house or someone's pride and joy on a windowsill.

At flower shows we enjoy the best and most beautiful that gardens produce.

What do you like about gardens?

Is it the structure of the garden, the scent of the flowers, the vegetables produced, or the satisfaction of making something lovely and productive?

In some ways our lives are like gardens. How would you describe yours?

Better yet, what does God have to say?



Walled Garden

The best thing about a walled garden is that it is protected from many of the outside things that would spoil it and it also has a nice environment.

Our lives could do with that kind of protection as well as freedom from the worst that comes from this world.

In a loving way God offers this for each person. He says in poetry...

A garden enclosed is my sister, my spouse; a spring shut up, a fountain sealed.

Song of Songs 4:12

Jesus Christ also said that a Christian has this security.

I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.

John 10:28

Is this a life you would like to look at?



Holland Park London



Southport Flower Show

Great Gardens

Please send me more details on finding a personal relationship with God

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

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Neglected Garden

When you come to a garden and find it overgrown and a mess –the effect of time and weeds –what a disappointment!

Lives can be like that too. We all show the signs of problems and failure. In fact, God says...

...all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Romans 3:23

The garden that God put the first people into was perfect, as were the people. Then as a result of their disobedient actions God said

It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food.

Genesis 3:18,19

It is still true today in our world and in everyone's life.

Can our lives be reclaimed?



Reclaimed Garden

Reclaiming a neglected garden takes hard work and time as any gardener knows well.

God saw the state we were in, so He took on humanity in the person of Jesus Christ and did the work needed.

Jesus said...

I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.

John 15:1

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

John 15:13

Peter says that this is what Jesus did...

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness:

1 Peter 2:24

What a cost to God, but it is free to you and me.



Spring Garden

Over the winter the garden is left and it dies back, then in the spring it bursts into life. First the snowdrops then the rest of the flowers and shrubs in their turn.

The change is amazing! God also wants people to flourish.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

Here is what He says about the change that could be brought into your life.

...if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!

2 Corinthians 5:17

Such a radical change in life means that other things will then go. Weeds and flowers compete for the same space!



Contrasting Gardens

There are many great gardens throughout the country and many flower shows demonstrating what great gardens can produce. But every gardener knows that weeds are never far away. Walking down a street the attention to the garden of each householder can be clearly seen. So too each of us is very different –each with great potential for God. The Lord Jesus says there are two types of people.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

John 15:5, 6

Will you ask and allow God to make your life productive?

It is a change that lasts forever. But God also says that...

"...now is the time of God's favour, now is the day of salvation.

2 Corinthians 6:2

Who is in charge of the garden of your life?

