

It's a beautiful Day

# Plants in the Bible

- Wikipedia -alphabetical list
  - Bible reference, Scientific name and OT – Hebrew and NT Greek
- The Bible Garden on Charles Sturt University website  
<https://www.csu.edu.au/special/accc/biblegarden/plants-of-the-garden>
  - Dr Whitehead researched and established a bible garden in Bangor Wales
    - a professor in Botany
    - Around 148 plants mentioned in the bible
    - Planted in order of mention in bible



# The Bible Garden



- Gerald Robinson inspired to establish a similar garden first in Palm Beach Sydney
  - he obtained 143 of the plants found by Whitehead. This was opened in 1966.
- A Bible garden was also established in Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture in Canberra 2008
- The purpose of these Gardens was to educate Christians in the scriptures

- Garden in shape of The Menorah

Menorah represents the burning bush that Moses saw and that he, was to lead the Israelites to the land of milk and honey

Charles Sturt Uni website lists all the plants and bible reference



# Examples of plants

## • Almond

- represents resurrection as it is said to be the first tree to flower.
- Referenced in
  - Genesis 43:11 where there is a famine and Jacob send his sons to Egypt with a gift for pharoah to buy corn.
    - “carry down the man a present, a little balm, and a little honey, spices, and myrrh, nuts, and almonds:”
- Numbers 17 Aaron’s rod that budded and produced almonds overnight.” the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi was budded, and brought forth buds, and bloomed blossoms, and yielded almonds.”



# Almond References

- Ecclesiastes 12:5 Also when they shall be afraid of that which is high, and fears shall be in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail: because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets:
- Jeremiah 1:11. “The word of the Lord came to me: ‘What do you see, Jeremiah?’ ‘I see the branch of an almond tree’, I replied.”
- Exodus 25:33-34
- Instruction on making a Menorah.” Three cups shaped like almond flowers with buds and blossoms are to be on one branch, three on the next branch, and the same for all six branches extending from the lampstand. 34 And on the lampstand there are to be four cups shaped like almond flowers with buds and blossoms.”



# Lily of the field

- Lily appears to be a general term for flowers
- Matthew 6: 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.
- Also Luke 12:27
- Anemone
  - wild field flowers in Palestine thought to be the flower referred to by Jesus in book of Matthew
- they still grow wild near the Lake of Galilee. As do the Ranunculus



# Lily of the Field

- Other flowers that are native to Israel and hence may have been around in Jesus time whilst not mentioned in the Bible
  - Ranunculus
  - Cyclamen
  - Oleander
  - Jonquil
  - Madonna Lily
  - Hyacinth
  - Lupins
  - Rock rose



# Hosea 14 5-7

- Hosea compares plant growth to spiritual growth
- Hope that we can be like this:
- “I will be like the dew to Israel; he will blossom like a lily.
- Like a cedar of Lebanon ...
- His splendor will be like an olive tree,
- his fragrance like a cedar of Lebanon.”



# Cedar of Lebanon

- Said to be over 72 references to cedar trees in the bible
- Strong and durable
- Isaiah 9:10 "The bricks are fallen down, but we will build with hewn stones: the sycomores are cut down, but we will change them into cedars."
- Spreading branches
- Psalm 80 and Ezekial 17
- <https://udayton.edu/imri/mary/c/cedar-of-lebanon-and-mary-the.php>

# Cedar of Lebanon

Numbers 24:5

Baalam blessing not cursing Israel  
How goodly are thy tents, O Jacob,  
and thy tabernacles, O Israel!.....6  
As the valleys are they spread  
forth, as gardens by the river's side  
as cedar trees beside the waters.

- Solomon lined the inside walls of the Temple with boards of cedar  
1 Kings 6



# Pomegranates

- Some appear to be instruction on how to put on ornaments such as Exodus 39:25
- “And they made bells [of] pure gold, and put the bells between the pomegranates upon the hem of the robe, round about between the pomegranates;”
- Deuteronomy 8: 7-8
  - Moses speaks of the land the Israelites will enter:
- “a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey;”
- Numbers 13:23
  - And they came unto the brook of Eshcol, and cut down from thence a branch with one cluster of grapes, and they bare it between two upon a staff; and they brought of the pomegranates, and of the figs.



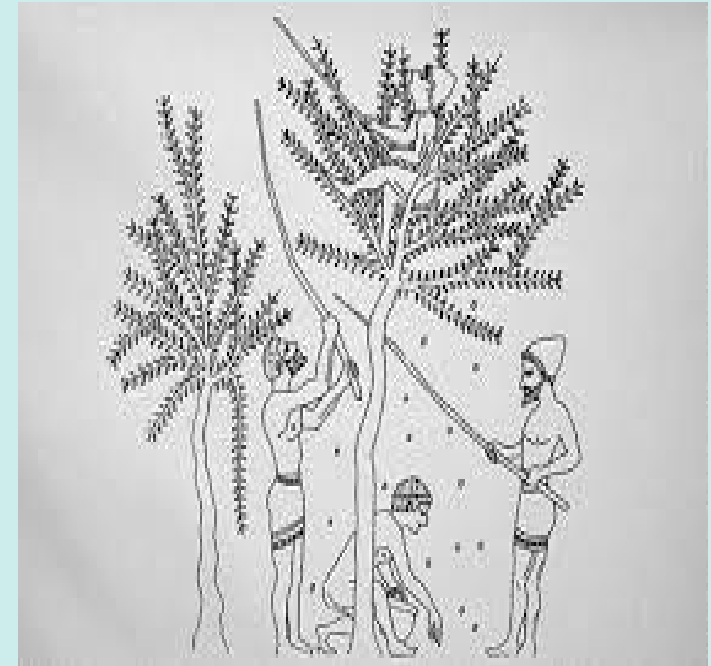
# Pomegranates

- Jewish tradition it is a symbol for righteousness
- said to have 613 seeds that corresponds with the 613 mitzvot or commandments of the Torah
- In some artistic depictions, the pomegranate is found in the hand of Mary, mother of Jesus.
- as a symbol of life and fertility owing to their many seeds but also as a symbol of power (imperial orb), blood and death. ...



# Olive trees

- Long living. Some trees in Israel believed to be over 1000 years old and still producing fruit.
- Encyclopedia Judaica, “The olives were beaten down from the trees with poles (Isa.17:6), and were pounded into pulp in mortars or by the feet (Micah 6:15). The pulp was placed in wicker baskets from which the lightest and finest oil could easily run off This grade of oil, known as beaten oil (Heb. Shenen katit), is mentioned five times in the Bible
- **Uses**
  - fuel for the lamp in the Tabernacle (Exo.27:20; Lev.24:2)
  - Used in daily meal offerings (Exo.29:40; Num.28:5).
  - King Solomon traded this oil for cedar and cypress wood (I Kings 5:10-11)
  - For anointing Ex 30
- . After the removal of the beaten oil, a second grade was produced by heating and further pressing the pulp. . . .



# Olive trees in Bible

- Dove brings olive branch back to Noah Gen 8:11
- A symbol of peace, the righteous man
  - Psalm 52: 8 But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God: I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever.
- Symbolism
- For if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, who are natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?" (Romans 11:16-24).
  - Natural Olive referring to Israel and Wild Olive the Gentiles



# Song Solomon 4

- 10 How fair is thy love, my sister, my spouse! how much better is thy love than wine! and the smell of thine ointments than all spices!
- 11 Thy lips, O my spouse, drop as the honeycomb: honey and milk are under thy tongue; and the smell of thy garments is like the smell of Lebanon.
- 12 A garden inclosed is my sister, my spouse; a spring shut up, a fountain sealed.
- 13 Thy plants are an orchard of pomegranates, with pleasant fruits; camphire, with spikenard,
- 14 Spikenard and saffron; calamus and cinnamon, with all trees of frankincense; myrrh and aloes, with all the chief spices:
- 15 A fountain of gardens, a well of living waters, and streams from Lebanon.

This is the day that the Lord hath made we will rejoice and be glad in it . Psalm 118:24

- Remember today is a beautiful day
- Remember to thank God for it

