

THE LORD'S GARDEN IS YOU

By Rick McKinney, 2026,

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It is said that God's people are both corporately and individually His beloved garden or His cherished vineyard, and that He expects to find fruit in His garden which He gives us, His people, to nurture, tend, and protect, with His help. For it is written;

“And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden ... and He took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it” (Gen. 2:8, 15). “Let my beloved come to His garden that He may eat its choicest fruits ... I am my beloved and He is mine; He pastures His flock among the lilies ... My vineyard, my very own, is for myself; (to give) you, O Solomon” (SS. 4:16, 6:3, 8:12). “I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill ... For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden ... And you shall be like a watered garden” (Is. 5:1, 5:7, 58:11). “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none (Lk. 13:6). The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Gal. 5:22-23).

The fruit that the LORD is looking for in His people is His own character with a nature that only He can produce in a humble or humbled people earnestly desiring His life within them as they are asking, seeking, finding, thanking, praising, trusting, loving, and obeying Him, their beloved.

Can we not come to our beloved in our prayer garden every day, and throughout our day knowing that we are His beloved and know that those whom we meet on the way and pray along the way are His beloved ones as well? Can we not tend, nurture and protect our thoughts, our attitudes, our emotions, our spirits, our wills, our speech, our actions and those entrusted in our care so that they conform to those of our beloved through His name and His Spirit and power?