

# The Mysteries of Trees – Fir Tree 1 By Kathy L McFarland

Mark 8:22-26 (KJV 1900)

<sup>22</sup> And he cometh to Bethsaida; and they bring a blind man unto him, and besought him to touch him. <sup>23</sup> And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes, and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought. <sup>24</sup> And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking. <sup>25</sup> After that he put *his* hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly. <sup>26</sup> And he sent him away to his house, saying, Neither go into the town, nor tell *it* to any in the town.

Our study first started from the healed blind man who saw men as trees, walking in Mark 8:22-26. We have studied many of the tree "parts" and learned their symbolic representations in Scripture. In the upcoming weeks, we are going to study some different types of spiritual lives, represented by different trees in Scripture. As we mature as Christians, we find ourselves fitting into a very specific place in a very specific way in the Kingdom of God, and we learn about the spiritual lives of others that surround us in our Church led by Christ with each of us having a "path" to walk upon. As we learn to walk expertly as trees walking with Christ, we are developed by the Lord to our full potential. We give up more and more of ourselves and get out of the way of the Holy Spirit as He creates the living works. Knowing our places spiritually walking in the Kingdom of God is an exciting step that grounds us and encourages us to improve our walking even more! Looking forward to the next walking journey with you!

Up to this point, our Scripture text has identified the different parts of a tree specifically. Most references to the different parts came right from our Lord Jesus Christ's teachings. Now that we are moving to specific trees, it will become more difficult to find specific explanations. It is important that mature Christians, interpret conservatively, analyze correctly, and consider reliability when trying to understand the next studies. I will always be honest with you and tell you how likely or troublesome the interpretation is. As mature Christians, you get to figure the weight of Truth for yourselves. But I promise you that everything I teach, I am convinced upon 100% because of my advanced studies, and the Holy Spirit inside me that confirms it to me. I pray that as you study with me, you have that amount of surety also.

From this point on in our studies together, I will add to the chart below, as we study the different trees. I will support all my teachings with the evidence I have to confirm the meaning. Even then, some are lacking in enough firm evidence to confidently declare that as Truth of God. Please refer to this chart each time you study, so you can understand the degree of my certainty in the deep and hidden meanings of the different trees.

## Typology Known as fully God's Truth

# Trees in Scripture identify the different Spiritual Lives that are lived on this Earth

**Righteous Cedar Tree** – The Spiritual Life that is beautiful, politically, and socially powerful, more spiritual growth than all the other trees, many protected followers. Can be goodly and righteous; but risks becoming a tyrant with a very thin line dividing righteousness from wickedness. They must have the shittah, myrtle, and oil trees surrounding them so they can see, know, consider, and understand, to maintain their righteous state.

**Unrighteous Cedar Tree** – The Spiritual Life of a tyrant. He lifts himself in height, he shoots up his top among the thick boughs, and his heart lifts in his height. He is all-powerful but wicked, with no Christian support surrounding him.

**Fig Tree** - The spiritual life that is the arrogant, barren, fruitless lives of the Jewish nation of Israel that are without Christ in them.

**Fir Tree** – A Spiritual Life that assists the dying Christian to passover to Heaven with beauty, peace, and faithfulness by supplying the materials to build a strong ship of permanent memories of God's Truth and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

# **Typology Known Confidently**

**Almond Tree** – The Spiritual Life of an almond tree is the greatest spiritual role a believer can have on this earth. The believer, as an almond tree, is a Christian leader, chosen by God, that watches over the works of Christians guided by the Lord, and the people he serves. He ensures the very best spiritual works of the Lord are accomplished and lets the lights of the Lord Jesus Christ shine the brightest.

**Almug/Algum Tree** – A Spiritual Life level that honors the LORD God and guides Believers to come closer to Him toward the beauty of His Holiness through the Lord Jesus Christ. Musical worship and high praise are often expressed through these types of Believers.

**Apple Tree** – A Spiritual Life that can comfort those that love God, regardless of their status of sin. These Spiritual Life Christians provide protection, sweetness of life; they are beloved amongst the receivers. (Believers from the Salvation Army, and other denominational efforts to house the homeless, feed the hungry, and provide comfort in despair are excellent examples of this type of spiritual lives lived in duty toward their works for God.)

**Ash Tree** – A Spiritual Life with a deceived heart, that stands amid the Christians and worships false gods created by humans.

# **Typology Known Probably**

Bay Tree – Native spiritual life that develops naturally.

**Fake Bay Tree** – Evil spiritual life forced upon believers through powerful coercion, trickery, or control.

**Box Tree** - Spiritual life that stands in the midst of dryness. The location the Box Tree stands is empty of both worldly people and the flowing grace of the LORD God. Here stands the lonely Christian as a beacon for the uncommon seeker of God. Eventually, the Box Tree is combined with the other beautiful spiritual life souls that serve in the world and in the dry places and perform, coming together in the Sanctuary of the Lord. A possible identity of a Box Tree is a missionary that serves in extreme conditions with few common people, the lack of Christian presence and the lack of the movements of God.

## **Typology Known Not**

**Chesnut Tree** is not necessarily a beautiful spiritual life but serves a distinctive purpose in the spiritual world. (Uncertain of typology)

## **Beginning of Fir Tree Study**

## **Teachings of Kathy L McFarland**

In our next series of classes, we will be learning a great deal about death. Typological representation of "death" in Scripture is the "sea", and the journey from life to death to life, the "passover." Those that lose faith during the dying process are known typologically as "shipwrecked." The vessel used to transport the dead to the other side of Heaven are known as "ships." As we study the fir tree, which is used to construct the ship, which as the spiritual life that prepares to assist the dead to help in the passover process, we must jump ahead to our next lessons just a little bit. I promise that when we do that very detailed lesson on death, not only will this typology be proven to you, but it also will remove any fear of death that you have lingering that causes your faith to quiver. But right now, let us move on to the study of the fir tree that is used to construct the beautiful ships on the islands.

#### **Ezekiel 27 (KJV 1900)**

The word of the LORD came again unto me, saying, <sup>2</sup> Now, thou son of man, take up a lamentation for Tyrus; <sup>3</sup> And say unto Tyrus, O thou that art situate at the entry of the sea, which art a merchant of the people for many isles, Thus saith the Lord God; O Tyrus, thou hast said, I am of perfect beauty. <sup>4</sup> Thy borders are in the midst of the seas, thy builders have perfected thy beauty. <sup>5</sup> They have made all thy ship boards of fir trees of

Senir: they have taken cedars from Lebanon to make masts for thee. <sup>6</sup> Of the oaks of Bashan have they made thine oars; the company of the Ashurites have made thy benches of ivory, brought out of the isles of Chittim.

- 1. Ships are vessels of strong protection against drowning in the waves of a violent and stormy sea.
- 2. Ships cross the great divide between Heaven and Earth, to carry the faithful to their LORD God.
- 3. Fir trees from Senir are used to make the boards the ships are built with.
- 4. Cedar trees from Lebanon are used to make masts to hold rigging and sails.
- 5. Oak trees from Bashan are used to make oars to help move and steer the ship.

## **Teachings of Kathy L McFarland**

Let us examine the "boards" from the fir trees that are used to build the ship. The Hebrew exact meaning reveals a great deal of mysteries to the use of the fir tree to build a ship.

Erdugv##5; 6 לוֹס ( $l\hat{u}^ah$ ): n.masc.;  $\equiv$  Str 3871; TWOT 1091a—41LN 6.54—6.67 vwrqh#dednw, i.e., a stone surface for inscribing words with a chiseling tool (Ex 24:12); 51LN 7.77—7.79 erdug, panel, i.e., a finished piece of wood used in construction (Ex 27:8; 38:7; SS 8:9; Eze 27:5+); 61LN 6.188—6.196 p hwddsdwh, i.e., a metal surface used for ornamental carving for ornamental adornment of a building (1Ki 7:36+); 71LN 29.16—29.18 unit: בוֹס ( $l\hat{u}^ah$   $l\bar{e}b$ ) permanent memory, formally, tablet of the heart, i.e., a remembering and keeping of something, with an implication of remembering a prior relationship as in a covenant, as a figurative extension of a stone-writing tablet (Pr 3:3; 7:3; Jer 17:1+) $^1$ 

The boards used to make the ship are "permanent memories" described as a "tablet of the heart." The heart remembers and keeps the covenant and promises of the LORD God that is as sure as the writing on the stone tablet. Think deeply about this and consider the process of death for a Christian that you learned from the death study last week:

As your physical body dies and your soul is released, you will immediately find yourself in a little ship. You will see other little ships floating around you; those are floating the souls of the other Christians that have died at the same time you have. The wind will pick up ferociously, and the waves will become bigger and bigger and pound your ship back and forth. It is a test of your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Do you trust Him to be Lord over all? Do you trust Him to have peace in the midst of the terrible storm? Do you have confidence in His presence with you as the storm builds? Do you have certainty that you will reach the other bank and exit your ship into Heaven? Do you have the deep knowledge of Mark 4:35-41 to prepare you for your physical death and encourage your active strong faith at the moment your soul leaves your body?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> James Swanson, <u>Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Hebrew (Old Testament)</u> (Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997).

Pretty exciting isn't it! You now have learned how it will feel and what you will see and hear when you experience physical death. And you now know that it is a faith test, and as a strong Christian, you are not going to fail that little test now are you?

The revelation of the deep meaning of the Hebrew word that describes the meaning of the fir tree boards used to build a ship gives us a giant clue to the typology. Permanent memories, that are not forgotten or lost through the death process, are seared into the soul of Christians to help them pass over the great divide between Heaven and Earth in the little ship. Just as the words written in stone are always there, so to the tablet of the heart, that has heard and recorded the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Thus, we already have our answer of the spiritual life of a fir tree through the first Scripture we study:

**Fir Tree** – A Spiritual Life that assists the dying Christian to passover to Heaven with beauty, peace, and faithfulness by supplying the materials to build a strong ship of permanent memories of God's Truth and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Let us discover more about the Fir Tree if we are able:

## Isaiah 41:19-20 (KJV 1900)

- 19 I will plant in the wilderness the cedar, the shittah tree, and the myrtle, and the oil tree:
  - I will set in the desert the fir tree, and the pine, and the box tree together:
- That they may see, and know, and consider, and understand together, That the hand of the LORD hath done this, And the Holy One of Israel hath created it.
- 6. The fir tree is planted by the LORD God with the pine tree and the box tree so that those in the desert "may see, and know, and consider, and understand together."
- 7. It is the LORD God that creates the solid memories of the teachings (even after physical death) of His Word, through those spiritual lives dedicated to His service in teaching, preaching, sharing, writing, and evangelizing.

#### **Teachings of Kathy L McFarland**

Here is one just for fun, and to remember one day when you learn the meanings of "sap" and "stork:"

#### Psalm 104:16-17 (KJV 1900)

- The trees of the LORD are full of sap;The cedars of Lebanon, which he hath planted;
- Where the birds make their nests:

  As for the stork, the fir trees are her house.

There is no way we can learn the deep mysteries and meaning of typological words all at once. It is a matter of time, study, and God's revelation that allows us to know deeper things. But, when we

see key words that we know inside ourselves that they must mean something, we write them down, and plant them in our minds. One day, we will be studying the Word of God, and the word "sap" and the word "stork" will be revealed. If we have done our study correctly, we will hurry over to the Scripture Psalm 104:16-17 and figure it out, leap for joy, and give new thanks to our LORD God, Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

What is the "stork" that lives in the fir trees? We know what fir trees are:

A Spiritual Life that assists the dying Christian to passover to Heaven with beauty, peace, and faithfulness by supplying the materials to build a strong ship of permanent memories of God's Truth and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

What could possibly live within the spiritual life that is represented by a stork? You can find that how when we study the different birds!

But wait! There is more than just ships built out of the fir tree!

## **Song of Solomon 1:16–17 (KJV 1900)**

- Behold, thou *art* fair, my beloved, yea, pleasant: Also our bed *is* green.
- <sup>17</sup> The beams of our house *are* cedar, *And* our rafters of fir
- 8. The tops of house are made from rafters of fir. Since the house contains the soul typologically, the roof structure being at the top give credence to our mind, our memories being permanently carried over at the time of our death.

We have many fir trees in our Facebook gathering places at Becker! Our obedient fellowship with preachers, evangelists, and witnesses of Christ and His Gospel message are given to the memories of those that God has chosen to hear. What an honor it is to be in the midst of great fir trees! We know from your presence that you are giving information to seekers of Christ that goes right into their permanent memory that will become their ship at their death if they choose to become a Christian. Please take care with your teachings, and make sure only the Truth of God goes into their memory! After knowing most of you for almost a half-a-year, I am confident that you are serious about your ministries. Thanks be to God!

# Worksheet #1

What is the typological representation of "death" in Scripture?     a. Ships     b. Sea     c. Passover     d. Shipwrecked
<ul> <li>2. What is the typological representation of "life to death to life" in Scripture?</li> <li>a. Ships</li> <li>b. Sea</li> <li>c. Passover</li> <li>d. Shipwrecked</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>3. What is the typological representation of "those that lose faith during the dying process" Scripture?</li> <li>a. Ships</li> <li>b. Sea</li> <li>c. Passover</li> <li>d. Shipwrecked</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>4. What is the typological representation of "the vessel used to transport the dead to the other side of Heaven" in Scripture? <ul> <li>a. Ships</li> <li>b. Sea</li> <li>c. Passover</li> <li>d. Shipwrecked</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul><li>5. What type of tree is used to construct the ship boards?</li><li>a. Oak</li><li>b. Pine</li><li>c. Fir</li><li>d. All the above</li></ul>
6. What type of tree is used to construct ship masts? a. Oak b. Pine c. Fir d. All the above

- 7. What type of tree is used to construct ship masts?
  - a. Oak
  - b. Pine
  - c. Fir
  - d. All the above
- 8. What are the ships on the sea in Scriptures used for?
  - a. Vessels of strong protection to guard against drowning in the violent waves
  - b. A conveyance between earth and Heaven
  - c. The container that baptized Christians will find themselves atop the sea at the moment of death
  - d. All the above
- 9. Where are the cedars harvested from in Ezekiel 27:1-10?
  - a. Lebanon
  - b. Garden of Eden
  - c. Senir
  - d. Bashan
- 10. Where are the oaks harvested from in Ezekiel 27:1-10?
  - a. Lebanon
  - b. Garden of Eden
  - c. Senir
  - d. Bashan
- 11. Where are the firs harvested from in Ezekiel 27:1-10?
  - a. Lebanon
  - b. Garden of Eden
  - c. Senir
  - d. Bashan
- 12. What is the purpose of the fir boards?
  - a. Build a ship
  - b. Steer a ship
  - c. Brace a ship for sails
  - d. All the above
- 13. What is the purpose of the oak oars?
  - a. Build a ship
  - b. Steer a ship
  - c. Brace a ship for sails
  - d. All the above

- 14. What is the purpose of the cedar masts?
  - a. Build a ship
  - b. Steer a ship
  - c. Brace a ship for rigging and sails
  - d. All the above
- 15. According to the meaning of Hebrew for "boards" what does it mean?
  - a. Mast
  - b. Sails
  - c. Ship
  - D. Stone tablets
- 16. What is the deeper meaning of the Hebrew word for "Boards?"
  - a. Permanent memory
  - b. Tablet of the heart
  - c. Remembering a prior relationship as in a covenant
  - d. A stone-writing tablet whose words will not disappear
  - e. All the above
- 17. Where do Baptized Christians find themselves when their physical body dies and their soul is released?
  - a. The entrance of Heaven
  - b. Purgatory
  - c. In a great white tunnel
  - d. In a little ship
- 18. What do Baptized Christians see around them when their physical body dies and the soul is released?
  - a. A great white light
  - b. A long tunnel
  - c. Other little ships
  - d. None of the above
- 19. What is inside the other little ships that are seen floating around a Baptized Christian at death?
  - a. Ships in alternate universes
  - b. Other Baptized Christians that died at the same time
  - c. Angels
  - d. None of the above

20. What will the sea be like when passing over from earth to Heaven?
a. Calm b. Peaceful c. Ferocious wind and pounding waves d. Comforting
21. Why do the Baptized Christians face this unfolding drama at their death?
<ul><li>a. It is a test of faith in Jesus Christ</li><li>b. It is a test of courage in the Christian</li><li>c. It is a wonderful drama to welcome the Christian</li><li>d. All the above</li></ul>
22. (True or False) Permanent memories, that are not forgotten or lost through the death process, are seared into the soul of Christians to help them pass over the great divide between Heaven and Earth in the little ship.
a. True b. False
23. (True or False) The deep meaning of Fir Tree is "A Spiritual Life that assists the dying Christian to passover to Heaven with beauty, peace, and faithfulness by supplying the materials to build a strong ship of permanent memories of God's Truth and the Gospel of Jesus Christ."
a. True b. False
24. What else is made of fir trees in Scripture?
a. Foundations b. Rafters c. Columns d. Flooring
25. (True or False) We definitely have some "Fir Trees" in the midst of our Facebook fellowship!
a. True

b. False