

John 19:41

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid.

Analysis

Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid (ἦν δὲ ἐν τῷ τόπῳ ὅπου ἐσταυρώθη κῆπος, καὶ ἐν τῷ κήπῳ μνημεῖον καινὸν ἐν ᾧ οὐδέπω οὐδεὶς ἦν τεθειμένος, ἔν δε ἐν τῷ τόπῳ ὅπου ἐσταυρώθη κῆπος, καὶ ἐν τῷ κήπῳ μνημεῖον καινὸν ἐν ᾧ οὐδέπω οὐδεὶς ἦν τεθειμένος)—Crucifixion occurred at Golgotha (John 19:17); nearby was a κῆπος (kēpos, 'garden') containing Joseph's μνημεῖον καινόν (mnēmeion kainon, 'new tomb'). The phrase οὐδέπω οὐδεὶς ἦν τεθειμένος (oudepō oudeis ēn tetheimenos, 'no one yet had been laid') emphasizes the tomb's unused state—prepared by Joseph but virgin until Jesus's burial.

The 'garden' evokes Eden where sin entered (Genesis 3); now in a garden, redemption is accomplished. The unused tomb fulfills typology: like the unblemished sacrifice, Jesus rested in a 'new' tomb undefiled by prior death. This also eliminates claims others' bones were later confused with Jesus's—no one else was ever buried there.

Historical Context

Garden tombs near Jerusalem were owned by wealthy families—carved from rock, sealed with rolling stones. Joseph owned this tomb (Matthew 27:60), intending it for his own burial. Providing it for Jesus was costly—he'd need another tomb.

Archaeological site Church of the Holy Sepulchre preserves ancient tradition locating both Golgotha and garden tomb.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does the 'garden' setting connect Jesus's death and resurrection to both Creation (Eden) and new creation themes?
2. What's the theological significance of Jesus being buried in a new, unused tomb?
3. How does Joseph's sacrifice of his personal tomb illustrate costly discipleship —giving Jesus what was most precious?

Interlinear Text

ἦν	δὲ	ἐν	τῷ	τόπῳ	ὅπου	ἐσταυρώθη	κήπῳ	καὶ
there was	Now	in	G3588	the place	where	he was crucified	a garden	and
G2258	G1161	G1722		G5117	G3699	G4717	G2779	G2532

ἐν	τῷ	κήπῳ	μνημεῖον	καινὸν	ἐν	ᾧ	οὐδέπω	οὐδεὶς
in	G3588	a garden	sepulchre	a new	in	G3739	never	man
G1722		G2779	G3419	G2537	G1722		G3764	G3762

ἐτέθη
laid
G5087

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 27:60 (Parallel theme): And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.

Luke 23:53 (Parallel theme): And he took it down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid.

Isaiah 22:16 (Parallel theme): What hast thou here? and whom hast thou here, that thou hast hewed thee out a sepulchre here, as he that heweth him out a sepulchre on high, and that graveth an habitation for himself in a rock?

John 20:15 (Parallel theme): Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.

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