

Pastor Brian's
Midweek Message
August 3, 2022

"TRAVELLOGUE PART DEUX"

Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. (Genesis 2:8)

Last Week I chronicled some of our Alaskan Cruise adventures. After getting off the ship for the final time on Sunday July 17th we spent a few days in Vancouver British Columbia, including a day trip by ferry boat over to Vancouver Island in the area of the City of Victoria, the provincial capital. Upon arriving on the island, our bus took us first to Butchart Gardens just north of Victoria. I had heard of these gardens, and Kay had visited once before (about 14 years previous) but I had no idea how incredible they are!

Back in 1904 Robert and Jennie Butchart moved from Ontario, Canada to Vancouver Island and Robert opened a cement factory on their property mining the rich limestone deposits of Tod Inlet. By 1912 his limestone had run out, and the factory closed, Jennie envisioned a beautiful garden in the place of the quarry and started to bring top soil in by horse and cart. Little by little the scarred rock walls turned into a sunken garden.



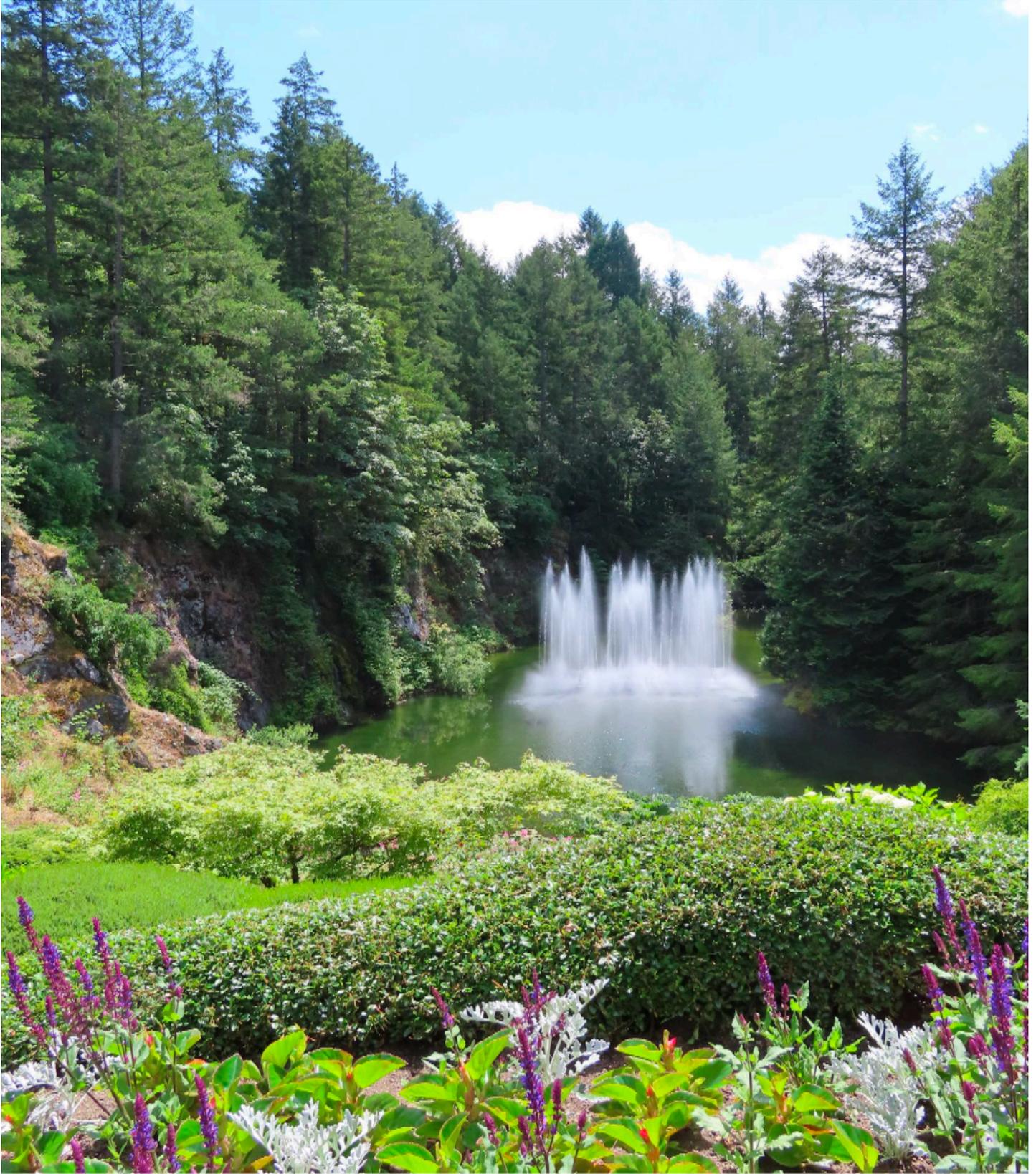
(I did NOT take this picture)

Pastor Brian's
Midweek Message
August 3, 2022

Hanging from ropes suspended from the trees above Jennie planted vines and flowering bushes in the quarry walls. The results over 100 years later look like this on a beautiful mid-July afternoon.



Pastor Brian's
Midweek Message
August 3, 2022



Pastor Brian's
Midweek Message
August 3, 2022

By 1929 a Japanese Garden, an Italian Garden, and a Rose Garden had been added, and in 1939 Robert and Jennie's grandson Ian Ross turned the family's treasure into a world renowned tourist attraction which it is to this day. Butchart Gardens is a National Historic Sight of Canada.



Now I haven't been to all of the wonderful gardens that are in the world today, in fact, only a few, but in all of their splendor, including Butchart Gardens, I'm sure that they pale in comparison to the garden that God planted for the first man, and woman, on earth, Adam and Eve, the Garden of Eden. That being the case, I'm also sure that I will see something that is just as grand or even better once I am welcomed into heaven by faith in my Savior Jesus Christ. Heaven is also termed "Paradise" ...a perfect world! As God creates new heavens and a new earth upon Christ's return in glory all creation will be restored to its original sinless perfection; without any defect at all, and I believe that we can get an idea of its beauty by looking back to the paradise that Adam and Eve beheld before their fall into sin. The best part about this is that we won't have to travel by air and put up with clearing customs to see it all!