The Forgetful Prince

Imagine if you will, coming from a royal family, but you became separated from your family soon after birth and you have no remembrance of your true family of origin. Your past has become obscured and now you desire to seek and find your origin without the help of anyone. All you have is this small nagging feeling that was planted deep within your soul that there is something marvelous and wonderful about your family of origin.

Despite many attempts to forget and move on, the thought remains: you have a father that loves you beyond measure and he has been waiting for you to find him. He cannot come to you, and there are forces at work that are diligently keeping you separated from your Father and preventing you from ever finding out who you really are … so now, what do you do?

This story is analogous to who we are as sojourners and man's spiritual reality having been sent to earth. We have a heavenly Father who keeps calling out to us to come home, but all we can remember is the faint recollection of His deep love that created a void within us that only He can fill. It is a profound mixture of "Job" and "The Prodigal Son." Our sole purpose in life is to **make contact** and embrace the oneness of who we are in relation to Him. Nothing else matters.

God, our Father, has been reaching out to us since the beginning, and has been speaking one simple message to us: I love you… turn around… come home. Jesus is the still, small voice you keep hearing within the secret place within your heart that whispers: "Listen to Me."

Our story of the young boy in search of his family took an interesting turn one day. While at the market, a stranger approached him and asked him who he was. The stranger kept asking questions as the boy headed back home. Then the stranger said, "You forgot who you are" and told the boy he would return to his house tomorrow.

The next day, the boy heard a knock at the door. He opened it to see the stranger again, who asked if he could come in. That is when the stranger introduced himself as a servant of the king who has been looking for a son that became lost many years ago. As the servant described the king, he told the boy, "You are the kings lost son" and I can prove it to you. He immediately got up and went out the door for a brief moment, and then came back in with another person.

The boy looked at this man and then his eyes got wide. The servant then told the boy, "This is your true father, the king." The boy knew it was true because – they had the same image. The son looked exactly like the father.

This story is analogous to our sojourn on earth. All of us became lost prodigals and we forgot who we are. Then the Holy Spirit began speaking and telling us there is more to our family of origin, and thus – the search begins. The nagging feeling we all have regarding being more than we are in this world – is real – because we have a heavenly Father who loves us and "created us in His image according to His likeness" (Gen. 1:26). You have the Father's image in your heart, and that's where the journey begins – to discover who you really are.

"And you will seek Me and find Me,

when you search for Me with all your heart” (Jer. 29:13).