TED DEKKER

THE FORGOTTEN WAY

MEDITATIONS

THE PATH OF YESHUA FOR POWER AND PEACE In this life

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I

THE TRUTH

Yeshua made it plain: I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

In the first section we will enter seven meditations on the simplest *Truth* about, first, who the *Father* is (meditations 1-3) and, second, who *you* are, as the son or the daughter of the Father through Yeshua (meditations 4-7).

These constitute the first and second declarations of The Forgotten Way.

THE FIRST DECLARATION

God is infinitely good, far more loving and gentle and kind to His children than any earthly mother or father imaginable. God is infinitely complete; nothing can threaten or disturb Him. Nothing can be taken away from Him, making Him less than complete, nor added to Him who is already complete.

THE SECOND DECLARATION

You are remade in the likeness and glory of your Father, finite yet already complete in union with Yeshua—you in Him and He in you, risen with Him and seated in heavenly places. Nothing can separate you from His love.



ONE

LOOK! HOW MAGNIFICENT IS YOUR FATHER!

Then God said, "Let us make man in Our image, in Our likeness . . ." Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

GENESIS 1:26; 2:7

For in him we live, and move, and have our being.

ACTS 17:28

MEDITATION

Let me tell you a story. A spiritual teacher is walking with a small boy in the savannah one sunny afternoon. He uses a walking stick because his bones aren't as strong as they once were. The child holds the old man's free hand because in the boy's eyes, the teacher is a giant and can save him from any danger.

Today's lesson is on God the Father. The teacher has brought the boy to a field frequented by lions. Seeing a pride under a tree, the teacher stops and points to a lion who stands alone, watching them. He turns to the boy.

"Imagine that God is a strong lion, and the accuser, representing all of evil, is a hyena," he says. "Tell me, can the hyena hurt the lion?"

"Yes," the boy says. "He can chase him and with many others, take him down."

"Well then, let's make the lion bigger, because God is infinite. Let's make him as big as the field. The hyena, being finite, does not grow bigger. It is still the same size. Now can the hyena hurt the lion?"

The boy thinks for a moment. "Yes, he could bite the lion's foot," he says.

"Then let's make the lion bigger. As big as the whole savannah. Can the hyena now hurt the lion?"

The boy thinks hard for a long moment. "Well . . . Maybe . . ."

"Let's make the lion as big as the whole world and the hyena now only a tiny speck on the field. In fact, let's make the lion as big as all the worlds. As big as the whole universe. Now . . ." He turns to face the boy, staff planted in the dirt before him, his gaze steady. "Can the hyena on that field, who is still the same size, much smaller than a single atom on the surface of a billion suns, hurt the lion?"

"No," the boy says, eyes wide with wonder.

"Can the hyena threaten the lion?"

The boy shakes his head. "No."

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The teacher looks off to the horizon and draws a deep breath through his nostrils. "Can the hyena even *bother* the lion?"

The answer is plain to the boy. "No," he says.

The teacher looks down and offers an approving nod. "Always remember, this is how big and powerful your Father is. The only thing bigger is His wisdom and His love for you, because God *is* love and you are His son. The hyena can only bother those who do not know who they are."

Where did you come from? What is your origin? But more, *who* is your Father? You must know the answer if you wish to experience your true identity on this earth.

You were fashioned in the image of God, who is Father, Son, and Spirit, and who spoke to *Himself* at the foundation of the world, saying, *Let us make man in Our image.* And thus, the Scripture tells us, you were made in the *likeness* of God.¹

God is both infinitely transcendent and infinitely close, closer than your own breath. This we know when we taste and see that He is good. This we know from countless Scriptures.

But who was God before He first created the fabric of time and space and all that is in this universe? If God is infinitely perfect and complete now, has He not always been? Was He lacking before He created the world? Was He ever like so many false gods, frail and in need of completion, or lonely and in need of followers? No.

Furthermore, can anything be *added* to what is already infinitely complete and perfect? The answer is plain even to the old mind.

But even more, can anything be *taken away* from the One who is infinitely complete and powerful? Can God be compromised? Can any power anywhere make Him less than perfectly complete?

No. Nothing can be added to God, who is already infinite and complete in perfect love, and nothing can be taken away to diminish Him in any way. Ever.

Can anything even pose a true *threat* against such an infinite Being? Can He *feel* threatened? Can He *be* threatened? Is your Father vulnerable in any way? Does He fear and fret for His safety?

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Can your all-knowing and complete Father ever expect one outcome and yet be surprised by another, as a god made in man's likeness might? Hoping for one outcome but getting something less brings disappointment. Your Father has known from eternity past all that will ever happen—so can He ever be disappointed?

Is this the weak Father you belong to? Never. Do you see how powerful and complete your Father is?

But let's take it even further. You know that God intimately knew you before the foundations of time and space. Before the beginning, He knew everything there is to know about you for all of eternity.²

Even at the foundation of the world, you existed in the mind of God as a thought. And God's thoughts are as real as any physical manifestation of them. Thus, outside of time and space, you have always existed. And in that same way, you were predestined before the foundations of the earth to be His son, his daughter.³

In the beginning was the Word. A word is the expression of thought. Everything that has ever existed (including you) was made by and through Him. In Him was life, and that life was the Light.⁴ Thus, as Paul put it, in Him you live and move and have your being.⁵

Do you begin to see just how infinitely powerful your Father is? He is not a lesser god that has been made in the image of man's religion.

And as for evil, it is like that tiny, tiny, tiny hyena, barking its accusations against you and your Father, stalking those who will listen to its lies, consuming them with misery.

Don't try to comprehend God's magnificence—your brain is too small. Instead just rest in this one thought today, because it is enough to radically shift your perspective from anxiety to confidence that fills your life with joy.

Come to your Father as a child full of simple faith in His goodness. Be in awe. Be glad and rejoice. Do not fear. Nothing can hurt your Father nor you as His child.

CONTEMPLATION

Imagine that you are with your Father high in a castle. Together you sit at a banquet table spread with a feast of delights. But before you can eat, you hear the snorting of horses outside. Startled, you throw your chair back and hurry to the window. There you see marauders in black cloaks like wraiths, rushing for the walls.

Frantic, you run from window to window. "Father," you cry, trembling in fear. "The enemy is at the gate to destroy us!"

He looks over without rising and sees what you see. "Those?" He says with great calm. "They cannot hurt me." Your Father looks into your eyes. "And you are my son." He lets the statement settle and then nods at the table. "Sit with me."

You blink once, remember who He is and who you are, and the sound of the rushing horses suddenly fades. By the time you reach the table, they are gone.

But of course! Who can prevail against your Father? Who can threaten Him? Who can even bother Him? No one. And you are His son; you are His daughter.

So be at peace. Return to sit with your Father at His banquet table once again.

PRAYER

Father, I come before you in humility and ask you: Are you vulnerable? Are you infinite? Are you afraid of what might attack and threaten you? I am often afraid. Am I safe as your child, or do I need to protect myself? Can I trust you?

I thank you, Father, for your glory and power. Nothing can change your infinite intentions, nor threaten even a single desire in your mind! I am in awe of you and what you have done in making me in your likeness. What a beautiful, beautiful Father you are.

ALIGNMENT

That I might know my Father who cannot be threatened

As an analogy, think of alignment as you might resonating with a tuning fork. When you have two tuning forks in a room and one begins to vibrate, the other will also begin to vibrate if it's tuned to the same frequency. They resonate. They abide in each other's frequency.

As you align yourself with your infinite Father, you will resonate with His frequency—His character, His Being—as His son or daughter. This, now, is your journey of awakening to who you are. This is joining with His song in resonance.

As an illustration, think of your Father seated on a high mountaintop. There, His presence is like a tuning fork that vibrates in the frequency of infinite love and power.

We will call the valley below the mountain *the valley of the shadow of death*, in which darkness, although but a shadow, is experienced by you in the low frequency of a thousand fears and self-condemnation.

Your journey is to align yourself with Him, high and lifted up. On that mountain peak, there is no threat. No malice. No lack. Only light, love, joy and infinite creative power. On the mountain peak, your perspective of the valley below shifts dramatically. Peace floods your heart and mind.

In truth, your purpose isn't to escape this world by running up a mountain. Rather, your purpose is to experience your Father *in* this world. It's why you are here. Though you are not *of* this world, you are still *in* it and for good reason. Our illustration of a mountain is only a useful way to think of alignment.

Align with your Father today. Join in His presence and resonate with His power and love today. In aligning yourself with Him, you will see that you, who are hidden in God with Christ, cannot be harmed.

Say this today: Today, I say 'yes' to aligning myself with my infinite Father who cannot be threatened or ever compromised in any way. Today, I know that I am made of His fabric as an aspect of Him, in the world but

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not of it. As I align with my Father, I know myself as the son, the daughter, of the Father.

Oh, what manner of love is this that I should be called the son, the daughter, of such a Father!⁶