

From Orphan to Son

David Yeh, 24 Jun 2018

Whether you realized it or not many of us Christians feel like we are spiritual orphans, completely overwhelmed by stress, anxiety, depression, strife, conflict in relationship, expectation of others and of self. Why are we an orphan? Because we choose that way, we choose to be busy with the world and away from the Father. We don't spend enough time with Him, just like in the earthly father and son relationship, where fathers have been away or absent from home because of work. In husband and wife relationship we see husband is away all the time, even when they are at home there is no heart to heart communication.

Jn 14:18-21

Jesus was getting ready to leave the world, he had a chat with his disciples, and he spoke the most important word. Jesus encouraged his disciples, v1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled," or do not be fearful. V9 "When you have seen me, you have seen the Father." V10-v11 "I am in the Father and I in you."

While he was talking about the coming of the Holy Spirit, the revelation of the truth, V18 Jesus said "I will not leave you as an orphan." Why did John put these words in the middle of the context of what is happening here? The whole reason why Jesus came to earth is to show the Father. He came as the revelation of the Father, the express image of God. Even today people are still asking, "Show us the Father, show us the way to full fill our emptiness, show us the way to comfort and security, because people are lost from the heavenly home."

The whole center of the gospel of John can be said in:

John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

The Father wants his children back. There is an incredible cry through the ages. Like God is saying, "I once released you from my garden, but I will come for you. You can't come to my garden, but I will come for you, I promise you, I will not leave you as orphans."

He is not speaking to natural orphans here. James and John had father and mother, father fished with them and mother wants the best for her sons by asking Jesus to allow her sons to sit one on each side of Jesus. What does it mean that "I will not leave you as orphan?"

It doesn't matter how good the family you have come from. How rich or how high the status of the family you have come from, there is limitation in humans. God is the Father, when he sees us he sees us as an orphan in need, a need of a Father.

Where did the orphan spirit came from?

1. Orphan Spirit Started Before the Fall

Ezekiel 28:12-17 King of Tyre

We know that prophecy can have two-fold message and here it is also about Lucifer. He wanted to replace the Father and assume authority, he thought he had done it when Jesus was hung on the cross.

Imagine the precious stones listed here. He, Lucifer was created before the world. Jesus echoed this in the book of Luke. An angel in heaven, high ranking. What is the atmosphere in heaven like? The presence of God fills the whole heaven, no wonder all the angels continue to have revelation and continue to worship him through eternity. That is why they cry out Holy, Holy, Holy is the God almighty, who was and is to come forever. No wonder Satan was cast out of heaven like lightning. Imagine he rejected anyone to be his father. The essence of fatherless one, the orphan, the NT talks about this as darkness. He released the depth of orphan heartedness over the earth.

Ephesians 5:8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light

We walk in his ways, the world walks in the orphan ways because we walk in the way of Satan. Turn over to the darkness.

When God made the world millions and millions of angels would have seen it, suddenly the creation was made, the word thundered through the universe. "Let there be light...sky, land, water" The Word of the Father brings it forth. The angels were watching. Than he did something amazing.

The Father went down to the dirt of the earth and began to shape something from the earth. The angels were watching, almost feel this pregnant pause, imagine all the massive creation, "What is he doing?" He made man from the soil, mud. From the eternal perspective while God was shaping the man he was shaping you. The diversity is immense, out of all the millions on earth no one looks the same as you, even twins.

This perfect creation, it was good, and all the angels are thinking, "is that it?" But God would say: "This is My highest creation made slightly lower than the angels, crowned with glory." Made in my image, glory, that is why you are different to the dogs.

God breathed on Adam (Man), suddenly life flows through him. God's love pouring into him through those eyes. What the Father breathed on Adam, He was breathing on you. He knew you before the creation. He made you as Caucasian, God likes you to be Caucasian, God made you as Asian? God likes you to be Asians. God made a good job making me and you.

God is an emotional God, he wants you. If you know that the person really loves you, it will not be hard to love back. Your security comes from that relationship. That is why internal healing, emotional, psychological healing is so important, that is why learning how to agree with Him, his word, is so important, drink from him, just take it in.

2. The Orphan Spirit Passed on to Mankind

Genesis 3

V20 After the fall, Adam named his partner Eve. They became two identities after the fall, before that they were one, after the fall they saw their shame. It opened the door to take them down and down. God was their father and he loved them. It was because of that love that he dealt with them the way he did. The only way he could

deal with what had happened, was to banish them from further taking of the tree. Like God is saying we cannot let them live forever like this, because they will just get worse and worse. God's love would not allow this to happen.

V23 What was in Adam's mind? What is the new life like to them? The garden was their home. In the garden there was total love, grounded in the love of the Father. Now the Father was saying "Go!"

V 24 stronger word

Their mind would not comprehend what was going on. Do you think Adam and Eve would have walked out of the garden holding each other's hand? What do you think? Imagine Adam loved Eve; together they were one, she came from him, she was his love his co-worker, the dominion was given to them equally. Would they have left the garden holding hands?

Adam said to God when he was questioned about eating of the fruit, "The woman that you made talked me into eating the fruit." She would be so wounded. I don't think they would be leaving the garden holding hands. The deep wound of blame we put on the woman today. They were pushed out from what they were familiar with, what they understood the most.

What should we do to see the hurt person healed? We simply introduce him to the Father. Be filled with the Father's love once again. When they left the garden, it was as if you and I walked out of that place, every generation has walked out of that place.

Genesis 5:1-3 When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image; and he named him Seth.

Adam was made in the image of God, but that image was broken, now Adam's son has image of Adam, that orphan heart.

In the garden they knew that they were sons of God, but after they left the garden, they would be asking "Who am I? What is my identity? Where am I going?" Through the generations people have been asking "What is my purpose, why am I here? What is my significance, my value? Am I loved? Who will look after me?" God has given a name to them but they lost it. When you look at the children at the orphanage they feel lost.

When you ask them who is your father?" "I don't know" they feel they are only hanging on part of the world history. The orphans have to build something for himself. Try to build an identity. Whatever it is, whether in business, education, to put our name on something.

The orphan will always look for the place of acceptance, because my acceptance and my value comes from what I do. That is what the orphan is speaking. The orphan heart will take you, from a servant to a master, but a son will take you to a father. Because orphans don't have a family, they don't know how to relate in a family. They ask the question "where do I fit?" They don't feel there is oneness there. We sit in church as family, yet we could feel alone. How do you feel alone in the midst of a big crowd? Many are feeling lonely in their home in the midst of family.

Donna has a son who is a professor of law, very clever, but he will tell you "I am a son," He knows his identity. He says, "My lawyer work is something that I do, but not who I am"

"Donna's son the professional lawyer went to a business conference in Toronto. The children of other lawyers were also there. Big business was dealt with there." Donna's son heard other lawyers talking about how much money they were putting away for their son's education and what school they were planning to put their children to, because that is how their parents did for them, they can feel a competitive spirit there. Then someone asked Donna's son, what are you going to do, how did your parents prepared for you and what are going to prepare for your children? The son said he believed it was Holy Spirit that gave him the word. "My parents came from nothing, they are from street. One thing that my parents give me, is love, they love me, and that is how I will prepare my children" Imagine saying something like this in big business meeting. The son said, "The room went silence." This is a man who knows his identity. Secure in that identity.

3. The Father is Calling You Home John 14:18

John 14:18 I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

When Adam and Eve left the garden, how did the Father respond? What was the pain in his worn heart? It was because of his love that they need to be released. Love is the nature in God; we can't even begin to comprehend what is in there. I believe there was a deep cry born in the Father's heart at that time, which continues to reach out to humanity today.

Jeremiah 3:19 "I myself said, "'How gladly would I treat you like my children and give you a pleasant land, the most beautiful inheritance of any nation.' I thought you would call me 'Father' and not turn away from following me.

The Father is still calling out, it is still the same calling. I am not saying we are not to work hard, because the Bible talks about we need to be faithful of what the Lord has given us. We are called to live the great commandment, out of which flows the great commission.

He wants our eyes to be open right now, just like what Adam did. Adam was looking in the eyes of perfect love. Still breathing into our spirit the cry, "my Father" you are my "Father" and "I am your son, your daughter."

The prophet could not speak in this way, only Jesus could. I came to rescue you, not just to bring forgiveness, but to rescue you. I will not leave you as an orphan. I will come to you. The Father's commitment to us is far greater than our commitment to him.

He is still running out, still looking for us every day, "Let my hand wrap around you." Even you feel you can't bear your burden, let my hand hold around you, kiss you," because he is the father. He is wonderful. Father looking for pain in the heart of orphan ways, the loneliness of life, the incredible pressure that is on you, just let me be your father. No more orphan, let me take your loneliness, let me take the anguish in your heart. Let me show you my heart. That is the Father. My Father and I want to

make a home in you and live in you. The kingdom of God is within you.

Don't be dragged around with your life, your work, your family, he said come to me and I will show you how much I love to you. When you know you are being loved by God, no matter how big the wave or problem might be we will not be moved because He says "My hand is upon you, my favor is upon you." God is God of justice.

You may feel you are being put down by others, your husband, your coworker, your superior. In your quietness and while you close your eyes you in spirit cross over to the God's kingdom and hear God says "I am so proud of you, you are honored, I am still working on you, I love you because that is the reason I send my son." Maybe you have been humiliated, God says, "I want to put my son Jesus' spirit in you." You will not feel any wrong in you, because you will not feel humiliated when you are already being humbled. That is the father, he moves us he draw us close to him.

1 John 3:1 How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

You don't need to find your identity in the world. You are his sons.

E.g. I try to find my identity through success because my father was a shop owner.

One day a rich class mate invited me to his home. He hardly invite people to his home, he thought I was an ambassador's son. "I said my father owns a food shop." I felt so ashamed, wish I could just hide under the car seat, he never invited me again.

But when I saw my father love God more and more, when I see him from the spiritual eyes I see God's likeness in him. He pioneered 5 churches, all the Chinese pastors in Auckland knows him (around 60 Churches in Auckland), yet there is that humility and love in him. I am proud of him.

You are not an orphan, you are a son. As we learned that, there is an incredible deep rest in that. Incredible peace in that, I just know I am a son of my Father. I have been created by him. Like God is saying "Let me draw you out of the orphan heart, when you see me who I am. Open your heart to my ways."

Few weeks ago as I was having quiet time, I had an interesting revelation. We are like a lost prince wandering in the dump until the servant of the king found us and restored the title to us. But because we have been living in a dump we don't know about the family, the protocol of being a royal family, we need to be taught and change the way we are. So the servant would explain about the family, the protocol of being the royal family and how to act to prepare our life for the new life in the castle.

The Bible is like God introducing himself, the three Godhead to us. In the OT we get to know God the Father, in the New testament, in the gospel we get to know Jesus, God the Son, and the early church time, we get to know God the Holy Spirit, the three members of God's family, who are waiting for us to return home. We are not an orphan but precious sons and daughters of God. Through God's word we are being prepared and getting ready for eternal home. So allow more of the Father in us, allow him to work in our life so that we are ready for the eternal home in heaven.

