



Out of Heaven

I was going to call this out of Calvary. That is the area that Jesus died. Then I realized that Jesus path begins in the beginning. Beginning of what? Some paths are small but if Jesus path does begin a long time ago, then it's a long path time wise. For the sake of argument, lets put some perspective on time. They say that God operates outside of time. They also say that we will be living with God in eternity. Is eternity a thing? What if time had a beginning and end. For humans it begins. Will it end? Is God really outside of this thing we call time?

Suppose Jesus was in the beginning like John 1 says. In Luke 10 Jesus says he saw Satan fall. Fall from Heaven? They called it a spiritual war between Satan and God. Yet, Jesus said he saw it. His path begins long ago in a time far, far away. They say he appears in certain forms along the way. Was it Jesus who wrestled with Jacob? Was it Jesus who spoke to Joshua? I really don't like inferences without fact. Yet, what was Jesus doing while history was making itself?

Then God does a crazy thing. Imagine telling Jesus it's time to go to earth and get the Christian movement going. He says ok, I'll pack a bag. Then God says well, it's not going to be exactly as you thought. Your going to be born from a human woman. Then you are going to die as the last sacrifice for them all. Oh by the way you will also take on all their sin. What a shock in heaven. What a scandal.

Heaven is a holy place right. A place of Gods. Become human? Touch sin? It's a stunning move. Satan probably could not believe his luck. I can kill or entice a baby. It's the unexpected path. Yet, the way God operates, is it really unexpected?

Jesus path is guided by providence to some degree. Prophecy has laid out the plan. They predicted that he would be born in Bethlehem. That Jesus would come from Nazareth. He would die on a tree or cross. His path comes from promises and kings. It's cemented in the lineage. Jesus path comes from sinful women and outcasts. There is nothing conventional about the pathway of Jesus. He even comes down to build more pathways. A road that his followers will travel. The same road as he himself would travel. One of persecution, ridicule, and hardship. Partly a path forged by Satan.

I find it interesting that Jesus let his path be made. The prophets reported the path. I believe Satan monkeyed with the path. The Romans played a role. Fishermen, prostitutes, and tax collectors played a role. Even the present-day religious rulers have helped pave the path. All along Jesus chided them to kill him. He encouraged his death. He pushed his followers. I feel Jesus did not totally know the plan. Yet, he trusted the path laid out before him by God the Father and his enemies. The outcome is all that mattered. The will of the Father.

The story of Jesus is all about paths leading out and in. God first promised a seed to Eve that would defeat Satan. That path wove itself through prophets, Kings, and gentile people. It's a completely messy path. They go out of Eden. Then we travel out and into the promise land. From there we have John prophesying out of the wilderness. Jesus going into and out of temptation in that same wilderness. Jesus comes out of heaven as a baby. He then goes back to heaven crucified. Now we wait for the returning pathway. A pathway that we will walk to come home to heaven. That same pathway will ultimately fulfil Gods promise of Eve's seed (Jesus) crushing the head of the Serpent so long ago.

