



The Road to Emmaus

Luke 24:17, 18, 27-34

Prince Loves-a-lot swung down from the saddle of his horse, Violet. He had enjoyed his visit but it was time for him to head back to the faraway Kingdom of Agape. Before he left his cousin, Sir Praise-a-lot had given him a gift of his own Bible in a carved wooden box. He took it out of his saddlebag along with a bag of carrots. "Violet, this looks like a perfect place for a snack."

Before he could sit down, a loud greeting came from behind a nearby tree, "'Allo, 'allo, Monsieur!"

"Oh hello, fellow traveler," the prince returned the greeting. "Would you like a carrot stick?"

"No, thank you," the mysterious traveler said in a low, sneaky voice. "But, I may have something you might want. I couldn't help but notice that crown."

"Thank you. I'm a prince, you know," Prince Loves-a-lot pointed out.

"Of course you are! So surely you know what all of the fashionable princes are wearing these days," the traveler said.

"A raspberry beret? The kind you find in a second-hand store?" guessed Prince Loves-a-lot.

"Oh no, that is so 1985. Today's well dressed prince wears this," the little traveler said pulling out an orange hat with purple ribbons.

"A party hat?" Prince Loves-a-lot exclaimed in surprise.

"Oh no, zis is a chapeau de soiree! And it iz on zale for one gold coin!"

"I happened to have a gold coin right here!" said the prince.

Suddenly, the traveler pulled a sword out of his bag and waved it in front of the prince. "Hold it right there! Give me all your gold, Prince Charming!"

Prince Loves-a-lot jumped, "Oh no, my name's Prince Loves-a-lot."

"I met a Prince Loves-a-lot once," said the thief.

"I thought you looked familiar! You are that famous thief, Robespierre!"

"It is so good to see you again my friend! Now, I'm afraid I must ask you to hand over all your treasure!" the traveler growled.

"I really didn't bring much," said the prince. "I've only got these carrots and a few Capri Suns and my Nintendo 3-D.S."

"Wait! What is in that box?" asked Robespierre.

Prince Loves-a-lot gently lifted the Bible out of the box. "Oh, this is the greatest treasure of all, God's Word!"

The villain grabbed the box, "A magic box! I must have it!"

Prince Loves-a-lot laughed, "Silly fellow, the box is not the treasure. The treasure is found inside God's Word! Every word in it is true. That's a promise from God. Shall I read some to you?"

Robespierre sat on a nearby log, "Why not? I love story time!"

Prince Loves-a-lot sat down beside him. "This is a perfect story! It's about two men who were walking along a road to a town called Emmaus, when who should start walking with them but Jesus, Himself?"

Robespierre's head popped up. "I have heard of this Jesus! Some people call Him their Lord and Savior!" he exclaimed.

Prince Loves-a-lot smiled. "Yes! I call Him my King! But this Bible story takes place after Jesus had died."

"What? How can someone appear after they are dead?" Robespierre asked.

"God had raised Jesus from the dead," the prince explained.

"Is that possible?"

"With God, nothing is impossible! The men didn't know that Jesus had risen. They were sadly talking about how they had hoped that Jesus would be the Redeemer who would save their people," the prince said.

"Did they jump all over Jesus and hug Him when they saw Him?"

Prince Loves-a-lot shook his head. "No. At first, they didn't know it was Jesus. God had kept them from recognizing Him. Jesus told them all of things the Bible said about Him. The whole Bible all the way back to Moses points us to Jesus! It even predicted how Jesus would suffer before He entered into His glory!"

"Did Jesus tell them who He was?" The traveler asked.

"No, but they invited Him to dinner."

"Did they have French toast?"

"No, just bread. Jesus broke bread with them, just as did with His disciples at the last supper."

"Ah, Jesus had done this before?"

"Yes," Prince Loves-a-lot answered as he searched for Luke 24:31 in the Bible and read, "Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him, and He disappeared from their sight."

"He disappeared? Where did He go?" the traveler asked.

"They didn't know," Prince Loves-a-lot replied. "But they knew He was the Lord and He had risen. They said their hearts burned inside them as they talked to Him."

"Maybe it was the French toast..." the traveler pondered.

Prince Loves-a-lot chuckled. "Maybe it was the excitement of meeting Jesus and knowing they would see Him again."

"How did they know they would see Jesus again?" asked Robespierre.

"It's another promise from God found in the Bible. It says if we believe in Him one day we will see Him with our own eyes!" Prince Loves-a-lot stood up and put his snack back into the satin saddlebag. "Well, it was nice meeting you."

The traveler called as he jumped to his feet, "Wait! Where are you going?"

The Prince climbed on his horse. "We're going to walk along this road."

Robespierre called, "I want to come. My heart is burning, too! I want to hear more about this Jesus and see Him one day! Oh...what am I saying? Jesus would have no use for a villain like me."

The Prince smiled. "I serve King Jesus and He loves everyone, even thieves like you. That's why 'Serving the King is the noblest thing!' Would you like to ride with us? Violet is strong and can carry both of us on her back."

"Oui, I would. Do you think we'll meet Jesus on the road?" He asked.

"I believe we already have." Prince Loves-a-lot said thoughtfully as they began walking down the road towards the next town.