

### Into the Wilderness - Unwelcome Inquiry

Lucky dismounted and Jaysee realized that the "smoke" had been an illusion. It was as if Lucky appeared out of nowhere rather than come riding up a dusty desert road. Not a speck of dirt tainted the sparkle of the cycle's shine, and Lucky showed no sign of sweat or exertion from a hot and taxing ride through hell. He certainly was a handsome devil, as all the women thought. Dark features and a seemingly powerful frame gave Lucky the appearance of power and control that he coveted so much. He was ruthless in his dealings with rivals, and, on more than one occasion, had crushed suspected competitors before they had a chance to get started. It seemed that he had lived a charmed life up to now, and there was nothing in his attitude to suggest that anything was going to change. It seemed that the whole motorcycle world was under his control, and no one could do anything without his blessing. His promises of benefits to those who followed him had swayed many into voluntarily doing things his way, and living under his constant influence. Many had adopted his philosophy of life and adapted themselves to pursue their personal pleasures above all else. Jaysee was NOT one of these.

Jaysee had not yet done much in the motorcycle world, although he had established a certain reputation. He was out there doing good to others and living according to a higher standard, and this irritated Lucky and his followers. Jaysee had somehow hit on the idea that if you treated all people with love and respect, you would receive the same in return. His plan was to get everyone to work together and get along for the common good, and the world would be a better place. This just made Lucky want to throw up. He was sure that the only way for the world to be a better place was for him to be in charge, his club to be the only one allowed - or at least the dominant one in a federation - and everybody to do things the way he told them to. He hadn't yet decided on his title yet; King, or maybe Caesar, or . . . god? Right now he had to win over or destroy this namby-pamby upstart who thought you could control the world by being nice to people. What a laugh.

With an evil smile Lucky looked over Jaysee's meager campsite and said, "What's for dinner? Isn't it supposed to be the polite thing to offer food to a weary traveler who comes up to your camp?"

When Jaysee explained the situation to him, Lucky could not believe it. "I have heard of this fasting thing before, but I still don't get how going without food could ever be a benefit to anybody. God knows that this body needs to eat to live, so we live to eat! Fasting! What a joke! If you are really a child of God, he knows you need to eat right now, and you are to show me some hospitality. Your God should be able to turn these rocks into bread on the spot, and we can eat before you die of starvation."

Jaysee carefully considered this challenge, and realized that he was feeling some hunger pangs. But he knew that giving in to those pangs at Lucky's suggestion would do more harm than good. He knew that Lucky had no concept of what it was like to go without anything he wanted. He knew that human nature was under the command of physical and emotional drives to satisfy the Self. He knew that the whole world was subject to base desires for pleasure, power and personal gain, and were following Lucky's footsteps into eternity. But Jaysee was not under the command of his physical pangs nor of Lucky's demands, so his reply had to convey that reality. Jaysee looked into the deep opaqueness of Lucky's soulless eyes, and said, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." (Matthew 4:4) "If

I have to explain that to you, you wouldn't understand."

What do you think of Jaysee's answers? What would YOU do if faced with these challenges?

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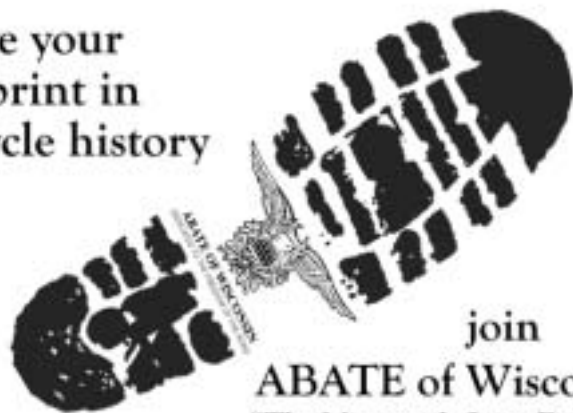
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