

A SILVER LINING

The little boy said, "I'm going to tell God everything", minutes before he left the world.

On reaching heaven, he met God. On seeing God, he jumped off toward him and spoke in a pathetic words, "Father, I was deprived of drinking water nine long days. My death is not a natural death, it is a murder. You have to take revenge for me."

God smiled and replied, "Son come, I will show you a movie".

On listening this, the kid was little confused and disheartened.

In no time, there was large screen in front of his eyes on which he saw life emerging from water where every creature looked alike. They were living in a large nature which they called there house. Slowly and steadily, these living creatures took different forms. Some took form of aquatic animals, some of birds and some of terrestrial animals.

Superior to all these were the most fascinating creatures, human beings with luminous mind. They were living happily with animals in beautiful nature. Suddenly, there was a twist. Humans started growing greedy. They were destroying nature, killing animals and occupying their natural habitat. Some animals were not able to bear these changes and got extinct. Birds were killed by the radiations from tower. The swift rise of human made noise made harder for birds to live. Nature resources were overused and depleted. Air was getting polluted and sky was becoming grey. Forests were replaced by large concrete towers.

Suddenly what that kid saw was unbelievable. There was no meaning of relationships left. Some humans were leaving their parents with one foot in grave while others were crying because their parents were no more. Human were killing humans, women were raped and killed brutally. Some were dooming of hunger while others were wasting food. Some were dying of drug overdose while others were dying of not getting drug for a deadly disease. There was hue and cry everywhere.

Further he was astonished to see himself on the screen where he was crying to get few drops of water and after nine days of struggle, he died.

On seeing this, the kid's eyes were filled with tears. He interrogated, "Father if you know everything, then why are you not doing anything?"

God smiled and responded, "Kid, Karma comes back."

With these words he left the kid in utter confusion.

*PRESENT TIME

God come back to kid.

He said in soothing voice, "Son come, let's watch movie again. A live movie of what is going on earth."

Huge screen again appears where movie is played as if reverse of previous one. The kid comes to know that there is something almost invisible to naked eyes which humans are calling CORONA VIRUS. This creature is creating havoc on earth. Human beings who had left their homes long ago are returning to their homes. They were in LOCKDOWN.

The scenario was reversed. Modern life has largely been put on pause with millions of people cooped up indoors. They are living in confined areas as animals were living before. Crimes are minimized. Peace is returned to nature as almost all hustle and bustle has disappeared.

The lockdown enhances free movement of animals never seen before on road as if they have been given their habitat back which was once taken from them forcefully.

Nature has returned and is taking back possession of the earth. Due to drop in transportation, there is lowering of pollution, the slowdown in traffic has also lowered another big polluter: noise. Smog has given way to blue sky. Forests are blooming with colourful flowers. Some of the world's most vocal animals — birds and whales — are getting benefits from a quieter environment. Birds are flying high showing their possession on sky by chirping aloud. Water bodies are becoming clean and aquatic life has increased its activity. Earth is rejuvenating.

He sees humans suffering and dying due to this deadly disease. At one place, he sees large number of dead bodies. This fills his eyes with tears and reminds him of the time of his death. He requests God, "Please stop it. Don't kill them."

"Why? You asked me to do something to stop these evil happenings on earth." God replies.

"Yes, I asked you but I didn't ask you to kill them."

"Son, everything happens for something good. It is one's way of perception to take it as a boon or a curse. It is nature's way to bring balance in biodiversity and bringing it to its original form. In the thickness of all the gloom and doom, there is always a silver lining. If these human beings follow this lockdown properly and reduce evil, everything will be normal in few days. If they continue harassing their fellow beings and nature, they will have a miserable end."

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