

THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF THE MAN IN WHITE

“Arjun, Arjun, stop! Look, over here, its Dilip, your old friend. What a surprise to see you after so many years! What are you doing here?”

Arjun, the nPraxis national ministry leader, was visiting scattered believers in a distant city to encourage them, when Dilip, an old school friend, recognized him as he walked down the street.

Dilip insisted that Arjun must go to his home. “We need to remember old times and catch up on what has happened during the last 25 years.” Arjun explained that he had already checked into a hotel, but that it would be a pleasure to visit.

“Forget the hotel, old friend. Let’s go, get your things and I’ll drive you to my home!”

The next few hours were filled with happy reminiscing about college and friends. “Here, friend, have a drink,” Dilip said as he opened a bottle of very expensive whiskey.

“No thanks, I actually quit drinking some years ago.”

“Oh, come on, you used to out-drink all of us. Surely in celebration of our friendship you’ll join me in a drink. Come on, man! Look I am opening my best whiskey in your honor!” Dilip said as he began to drink the whiskey he had been keeping for a special occasion.

When he left the room some time later, Lulleeta, Dilip’s wife, who had also been an old friend and classmate, confided to Arjun that her husband had taken to drinking more and more. It was affecting not only their marriage but really destroying the whole family. “I just don’t know what to do,” she lamented. “I have pretty much decided to leave him; I wish you could help him to stop drinking.”

When Dilip returned they were still talking about his alcoholism. Lulleeta was saying that they needed some help. Arjun offered, “I actually know Someone that can give you the help you need. He was the one that helped me.” You will remember how I used to be addicted to alcohol.”

“Really! Who is it?” Lulleeta eagerly asked.

“Well, He actually lived a long time ago but His power is still alive today.”

Arjun witnessed about the One who had the power to reach down deep and purify us. Not only has He destroyed the power of Satan in the past, but He gave power to overcome in the future; power that was granted to those who would put their trust in Him. Lulleeta was intrigued, wanting to understand more, so Arjun gave her a New Testament.

Though, Lulleeta was eager to try this previously unheard Man and His ancient book, her husband became irate. He recognized this as the Christian’s book and firmly said that he wanted nothing to do with this heretical propaganda. Arjun sensed that he was no longer welcome, so discreetly looked for a way to make a quick exit while assuring them that if they would take this inspired book seriously, they would find answers to life’s problem.

Arjun went on to visit believers in the city and returned to his hotel to spend the night.

In the morning, an unexpected call reached him at the hotel. It was Dilip. “How glad I am to have found you again,” he said. “I must apologize for the way I acted yesterday. I was wrong and very impolite. Please forgive me. You must return to my home.” Though a bit hesitant, Arjun noticed a change in the expression of his old friend and sensed that he should go with him.

Soon Dilip and Lulleeta begin to relay the events of the night before. They fought for hours after Arjun’s visit. She was desperate for him to find a solution to his alcohol problem. Besides, how shameful had been the manner in which he had welcomed their old friend. Could it be that Arjun was there for a reason invisible to them? Dilip was dogmatic in his refusal to have anything to do with the New Testament. In anger he slammed the book on the floor and stomped angrily out of the room.

Lulleeta ended up spending the night on a recliner in the living room. She kept crying out to the God of heaven to heal her husband and save their family. She was sure that if Arjun could be healed so could Dilip.

During the night Lulleeta had a dream. A Man dressed in dazzling white clothing appeared to her. His message was clear; He invited her to trust Him with their family crisis, and to read the New Testament, for indeed, it would transform their home. As she awoke, she reached out to the book that still lay on the floor. She read it for hours. The longer she read, the more she experienced new hope growing within her. If only this Jesus would be among them, how she would welcome Him, for He had the power to heal their broken home.

As the first light of dawn crept into the living room, Lulleeta drifted off to sleep again. This time she woke up with her husband's loving arms around her. No excuses, no anger, it had just melted. This time Dilip was able to admit to his addiction and bad behavior.

Dilip spoke first, "I must tell you, I had a most amazing dream last night. A Man in white with His face shining like the sun told me that I was wrong and that I needed a change in my life to restore my family. In seconds I understood the horrible pain I have been causing to you and our children. The Man in the dream also said that in the New Testament that I had thrown on the floor, I was going to find the path to this change."

Lulleeta, visibly moved, answered gently, "My husband, I too saw that very same Man. He gave me the same message." Overwhelmed with joy, they embraced each other. Tears and laughter mixed, as the seed of hope seemed not so distant anymore.

"Don't you think we ought to try to find Arjun?" Lulleeta said, "I think that he can help us understand these things better."

"I do, I do. I hope I can find him again." With that Dilip raced to the hotel, hoping to find his old friend before he left.

That day Lulleeta and Dilip found the joy of Jesus' presence; from morning to evening they were consumed by the power of His word. God reached down to them and found in their hearts fertile soil, thirsty soil that could

come alive by the Water of Life. Their story kindled new hope in their home and among their old friends.

Lulleeta and Dilip are people of influence in their city, they are Hindus from the highest caste, and so as their story spread, it resonated with many others. Within three months Dilip and Lulleeta had a home church of eager Brahmin in their living room. These people were also seeking to encounter the One who has the power to save.

It has been three years since the Man in White met them, and they followed him. That first church in their living room has multiplied to a network of house churches among Hindu Brahmins. The Gospel has not only spread within their city, but across their state. Others are now also seeing miracles in their midst.

Many Muslims, Hindus, and others are receiving visions and dreams from the Man in White. These people often become the first link to forming house churches. Families and societies are transformed by the power of His name. Prophet Joel saw this day when he said:

And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions, and also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. Joel 2:28, 29

Many like Dilip and his wife are eager to go into unentered areas to take the incredible message of Jesus and His transforming power where it has not yet been proclaimed. In fact, there are requests for more than 300 workers who are now desperately needed to be able to keep up with what God is doing among some of the traditionally most resistant people groups of the world.

Please pray that God will hold back the winds of strife and protect this work and that God will provide funds for these workers to stand up as light in the darkness.



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