

Into the Wilderness - Part 2

Hardly anyone knew him by name, although he had grown up in and around the biker world following World War II. His father had been well known among bikers for many years after the war, gathering numerous friends and admirers and accumulating many enemies as well. It seems that the apple didn't fall far from the tree, because they all said that Jaysee was the spittin' image of his dad. As such, he had inherited both friends and enemies. His friends would always be friends, but his enemies would make his life much more difficult than otherwise, and would try to wreck his carefully laid plans for the future. This he knew without question. Now on the eve of establishing his own unique club, Jaysee was taking time for a personal retreat in the wilderness. It wasn't just about getting away from his enemies, Jaysee needed some time alone to reflect on what he wanted to do with his life, as well as his father's plans for him.

The fact was that Jaysee knew about the spirituality connected to desert areas. From ancient times there had been a special significance attached to the wilderness. Even Jaysee's own cousin had developed great spiritual understanding, as well as personal courage, while spending time alone in the desert. As if the places of physical waste were full of spiritual treasure. There were stories which his dad had told him of encounters with other-worldly entities through what he had called "heavenly portals." He had no doubt that there were such places where great battles between good and evil had been waged through history. Jaysee was not really anxious for war, but he knew that it was inevitable against those who opposed his desire to establish a club that would stand for right and truth. This was his dream, and he had come to this place to fight for it with all that he had at his disposal. That his father's age old enemies would follow him and engage in epic battle, he had no doubt. When, or for how long, he had no clue. But he would be ready.

Three desires would mark Jaysee's quest. First, he needed to master his own physical body. He had known or read of many a heroic figure who had almost won the day but for their lack of self-control. Like snatching defeat from the jaws of victory. The second part of his quest was to learn the proper place and use of power in his life. He was set to be the leader of men - so his father had told him - but he could not fall into the abuse of power like virtually every other leader in history. Each one of them had experienced some defect which had rendered their power ineffective in the end, and their kingdoms had fallen or eroded from within. Finally, it is necessary for every dynamic leader, even of a small club such as Jaysee would start with, to have a clear



understanding of who he is and what he stands for. He can't be hypocritical or try to be someone other than himself. He must be able to convey this identity to others in such a way that they will commit themselves to the common cause. Jaysee had no illusions that the battle he would face in the wilderness would commence a life-long war in which he must be faithful to his cause - even unto death. He looked out into the dark nothingness and said to his unseen enemy, "Bring it on!"

Matthew 4:1 - "Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil."

At the beginning of His public ministry, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was compelled by the Spirit of God to go into the wilderness to do battle for the destiny of the human race. He showed us there that the enemy of our souls is powerful and devious, but that he can be overcome. Jesus was tested in the desert and proved that He was the Son of God, sent to save from their sins those who would trust Him. By winning each battle with Satan out there, He secured victory for us, as we trust in Him for our strength. Of course, the greatest battle was waged on a lonely hill outside Jerusalem's city gates, where Satan raised his arms in victory after killing Jesus on the cross. We know that Jesus died there in our place, bearing our sins upon His own body. Three days later, the once-again-alive-Lord Jesus Christ smashed through the walls of the grave and the gates of hell. Death could not hold onto Him and He is alive once and for all. This He has done on behalf of all who turn to God, repent of their sins, and trust in Him for Eternal life.

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