

A good person

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In a village, there lived a boatman who operated a boat. His boat was the only way for people to travel from one bank of the river to the other.
The boatman charged one rupee for every trip. In those days, one rupee was considered a large amount of money. The people, unhappy about it, scolded him.

“They would curse him saying, ‘A man who demands so much money will never prosper! After he dies, hell will be his destiny!’ However, they had no other choice. His boat was the only means to cross the river.

As time passed, One day, boatman fell ill and became bedridden. Realizing that his end was near, he called his son.” “My son, I will not live much longer. Throughout my life, I have worked hard for you, enduring insults and curses from others. But after I die, you must make sure that people speak well of me.” The son silently nodded. A peaceful smile appeared on the father’s face, and with that smile, he breathed his last. Then the son nodded and said, “All right.” The boatman breathed his last with great happiness.

The next day, the son went to operate the boat. He told the people who had gathered there, “From today onwards, I am the boatman. To cross to the other bank in my boat, you must pay two rupees.”

Hearing this, the people were shocked. Muttering angrily, they said, “Oh no! Your father used to take us across for just one rupee. What a good man he was! A man like God! He should not have died so soon. May his soul rest in peace,” they prayed to God.

Hearing their words, the son looked up at the sky, folded his hands, and quietly said:
“Father, your wish has been fulfilled.”

Moral:
People’s words change according to the situation.
The one who seems bad today may be praised as good tomorrow.