



#142 *The Lion and the Flea*



A lion was chewing on a carcass. The meat was delicious. The sun was warm. He was quite pleased with his kingly place in the order of things. Suddenly, an annoying and overly persistent flea came by and alighted on a rock next to him. The subsequent conversation began.

Flea: Are you content to keep that meal for yourself, as you have always done? Why not share your bounty?

Lion, insulted to be questioned in this manner by so small a creature, yet answering so as to indulge the visitor: Yes, I am. I am the king. I do not need to change.

Flea: Do you consider that the wise are ever-changing in order to remain wise?

Lion: I do not need to be wise; I am powerful.

Flea: Although you enjoy a place of power today, and although the old order of things has endured for quite some time, don't you really think that eventually, it should yield to a new order? Do you not become corrupt by trying to stay still?

Lion: There you go again, asking for change! I do not need to share, because it has never been done.

The flea flew. The lion lay. But, before he fell fast asleep, he pushed some meat out of his reach onto a nearby rock.

*WHAT IS GOOD TODAY MUST TRANSFORM
TO STILL BE GOOD TOMORROW*