

Verdict of Lord Vishnu's

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Once upon a time Narad Muni proceeded to Vaikunt to meet Lord Vishnu. As he walked past a dense forest he saw a saint in Tapas, fully covered by the anthill. Narada was curious to see how the saint will emerge out from the anthill. Days passed and one fine morning the saint came out of the anthill as though he was emerging out of a room. When the saint saw Narad Muni he went near him and exchanged pleasantries. Narada Muni told him that he was proceeding to Vaikund to meet Lord Vishnu. The saint requested him to find out from Lord Vishnu still how many mores does he have (Saint). Narada agreed place his request to Lord Vishnu and started his journey.

On way he saw another saint dancing in ecstasy chanting the names of God. When the saint saw Narada, he stopped dancing, he too exchanged pleasantries, and requested for the same information as sought by the first saint. Narad Muni went to Vaikund and conveyed the request of the saints to Lord Vishnu.

Lord Vishnu told Narad Muni that the first saint will have to take several more births while the second will reach Moksha after taking very few births. When Narad Muni went and conveyed Lord Vishnu's verdict, the first saint became furious shouting 'what a pity, even after performing so much of tapas do I deserve only this? '. The second saint however jumped in joy saying 'What good news that I got! I can continue to chant the name of Lord in few more births to keep my mind happy '.

Hearing two diametrically opposite comments, Narada Muni was confused. Therefore he went to Lord Vishnu again and requested him to clear his confusion. Lord Vishnu told him that while the mind of the first saint always centered on him to attain moksha even while he performed tapas, the mind of the second saint was always on God and was also happy to hear that he has some more births to continue thinking God. Therefore in order to mature the mind of the first saint he needed more births, while the second needed only few births to consolidate the gains of the blessings of Gods. Hence justice accorded to them accordingly.

*End note: The contents of this article are the folk tale that I heard.
Photos gathered from different sources.*