

The Bejewelled Sword

Thoughts, p.212

There was once a little child in Persia during the days of Persia's ancient glory. It was the custom in those days that, whenever there was an important feast, the people would share gifts with their friends and loved ones. So this little child prayed very hard and loudly for a bejewelled sword to be his gift.

At the time of the feast, this little boy was waiting eagerly to receive the sword he had prayed so hard for. However, the time passed and the feast was almost over and yet the child did not receive any sword as a gift.

His father, who never believed in God or in any kind of prayers, saw his son's disappointment and said, "My son, can't you see, your prayers were not answered?" The son looked at his father and replied, "Oh yes father, my prayers were answered." The father said, in surprise, "How can that be? You did not receive the bejewelled sword that you desired so much." The little child simply said, "But father, don't you understand? The answer is 'no'. God said 'no'."