



4강: 사람은 무엇으로 사는가

What Men Live By - Leo Tolstoy

About the book

: "What Men Live By" is one of the short stories included in Tolstoy's collection "What Men Live By, and Other Tales," published in 1885.

About the author

: Leo Tolstoy was a Russian writer who is regarded by many as one of the greatest authors of all time. His books include Anna Karenina, War and Peace, and many others.

Summary

: Simon was a poor shoemaker. One day, he saw a man named Michael sitting naked against a church. Simon felt pity on him and he took him home.

After a year, a big, strong gentleman came with a piece of expensive leather. He wanted Simon to make a pair of boots that would last for one year.

Vocabulary

sew	꿰메다
ruin	망치다
replace	교체하다, 대신하다
mistress	마님, 여주인
carriage	마차
servant	하인
sack	자루, 부대
corpse	시체
apron	앞치마

[Read It Yourself]

Michael sewed on steadily till noon. Then Simon rose for dinner, looked around, and saw that Michael had made slippers out of the gentleman's leather.

"Ah," groaned Simon, and he thought, "How is it that Michael, who has been with me a whole year and never made a mistake before, should do such a dreadful thing? The gentleman ordered high boots, welted, with whole fronts, and Michael has made soft slippers with single soles, and has wasted the leather. What am I to say to the gentleman? I can never replace leather such as this."

And he said to Michael, "What are you doing, friend? You have ruined me!

You know the gentleman ordered high boots, but see what you have made!"

And he was just about to give Michael a stern lecture when someone knocked hard on the front door with the iron ring. They opened the door, and the servant who had been with the



gentleman came in.

"Good day," said he.

"Good day," replied Simon. "What can we do for you?"

"My mistress has sent me about the boots."

"What about the boots?"

"Why, my master no longer needs them. He is dead."

"Is it possible?"

"He did not live to get home after leaving you, but died in the carriage.

When we reached home and the servants came to help him alight, he rolled over like a sack. He was dead already, and so stiff that he could hardly be got out of the carriage. My mistress sent me here, saying: 'Tell the bootmaker that the gentleman no longer needs the boots, but that he must quickly make soft slippers for the corpse. Wait till they are ready, and bring them back with you.' That is why I have come."

Michael took the soft slippers he had

made, slapped them together, wiped

them down with his apron, and handed

them to the servant.

Quest

: Michael smiled only three times while he was with Simon. Find out the reason while reading the book yourself.